The Voice of CLUSI

November 2025

Issue 11

Volume 26

www.ctclusi.org

NEWS FROM THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF COOS, LOWER UMPQUA & SIUSLAW INDIANS

41st Restoration Celebration Puts Spotlight on 20th Anniversary of Peacegiving Court



On Saturday, October 11, 2025 The Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians celebrated their 41st Year of Federal Recognition. Thanks to the dedication and hard work of Tribal Citizens and Leadership, the Tribe was once again recognized as a Tribal Sovereign Government with the signing of Public Law 98-481 on October 17, 1984.

In addition to celebrating 41 years of restoration, the Tribe took this opportunity to also celebrate 20 years of Peacegiving Court.

It is important to note that the federal government terminated its government-to-government relationship with the Tribes in 1954. As Chair Brad Kneaper said, "the fact that we were terminated did not cause us to fade away. On the contrary, our People did not allow this to keep us down. The Tribe maintained a Tribal Government that continues to this day." We were once again federally recognized pursuant to an Act of Congress – the CTCLUSI Restoration Act of October 17, 1984. The Restoration Act provided for the establishment of our Tribal Constitution. We adopted our Constitution on June 23, 1987, which provided for a tribal court. And on November 13, 2005, a second restoration took place; the restoration of a culturally responsive way to resolve conflict in the community and beyond which embraces and advances the tribal values – the establishment of the Peacegiving Court.

Chairman Brad Kneaper welcomed attendees and invited Judge Karen Costello to the stage. Judge Costello gave opening remarks as to the history of Peacegiving Court. "The Peacegiving Court is a voluntary dispute resolution alternative, grounded in the Tribal values of generosity, peace and healing." A key takeaway she shared was that it was created by the community for the community according to community vision and values.

"Peacegivers are Tribal members or spouses of Tribal members who have the respect of the Tribal community and a reputation for honesty, integrity, humanity and a demonstrated practice of resolving local problems by means that honor the tribal values of peace and healing... Peacegivers are officers of the Court and, as such, they have a high duty of care to abide by all applicable laws and rules."

Judge Karen Costello then proceeded to introduce the first judge of our Peacegiving Court, "We cannot celebrate our Peacegivers and our Peacegiving Court without talking about the first Chief Judge of your Tribal Court, my husband, Don Costello. As many of you may know, Don served as your Chief Judge from January 1, 2002 to December 31 of 2009... immediately after becoming your judge, he got to work with the community on developing the Peacegiving Court. Perfect timing. He had spent the prior several years working to develop restorative justice projects in both state and tribal courts. His resume is long and impressive, but, most importantly, he has a heart for fairness and justice and a deep belief in the ability of people to work together in small and grand ways for peace and healing."

Judge Don Costello gave remarks on his time as the Chief Judge and the establishment of the Peacegiving Court. At its creation, Peacegiving Court was a joint effort of our Tribe and members of the Coquille Indian Tribe. Together we determined that the Peacegiving philosophy is the restorative way.

Following with the heart of that philosophy, all the Founding Members of

- Story continues on page 10

Confederated Tribes of Coos,
Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians
1245 Fulton Avenue
Coos Bay, OR 97420

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Save the Date:

Tribal Holiday Celebration

Saturday, December 13, 2025

Three Rivers Casino Resort Events Center, Florence, OR

Tribal Council Business

Activity of Elected Tribal Council Members from September 14, 2025 - October 12, 2025

Chief Doug Barrett
09/14 Tribal Council Regular Meeting
09/15 Vacation to Agness Oregon – Moon Complex Cooperation Meeting
09/16 Vacation to Agness Oregon
09/17 Vacation and MHA / LADCP Monthly Meeting
09/18 Vacation and Leaders Circle
09/19-09/20 Agness Pow Wow
09/21 Canoe Races on the Rogue
09/22 Vacation
09/23 Moon Complex Cooperation Meeting
09/24 Tribal Council Business Meeting
09/25 Vacation
09/26 Vacation and Home
09/27 Moon Complex Cooperation Meeting
09/30 NARA NW Monthly Board Meeting and Orange Shirt Day
10/01 ANTI CRC Strategic Development Meeting
10/02 Leaders Circle Meeting – STEP Meeting in Gardner
10/03 Moon Complex Cooperation Meeting
10/06 G to G Meeting with the Governor
10/07 G to G Meeting with the Governor
10/08 Lane Act Monthly Meeting
10/09 Culture Committee Meeting
10/11 Restoration Ceremony and Peace Givers Ceremony
10/12 Tribal Regular Council Meeting and General Council Meeting
Total Hours: 122

Brad Kneaper, Chair
09/14 Budget Committee Meeting (ZOOM due to illness), Regular Council Meeting – CB (ZOOM due to illness)
09/17 Council Site visit to Camp Easter Seal
09/18 Leader's Circle: Hult Dam update by Langdon Group contracted by BLM (ZOOM); Oregon Water Resources Dept regarding Rule Making (ZOOM); Discussions
09/22 Meet with Legal regarding Gaming Operational Review Board Code Amendments Draft (ZOOM)
09/24 Meet with CEO and Staff prior to Business Council, Tribal Council Business Meeting
09/30 Meet with Sovereign Finance (Financial Advisors) to discuss financial planning for TRC and the Tribe (ZOOM)
10/01 Meet with Legal, CEO, Forestry Dept discussing Forestry LLC formation.
10/02 Leader's Circle: University of Oregon President and KoKwel Tribal Chief Jason Younker regarding Higher Education; School District 4J Team regarding Indian Education status and updates (ZOOM); Oregon Representative Boomer Wright (ZOOM); CTCLUSI Tribal Forestry update
10/07- 10/08 Government to Government Summit with the Oregon Governor and Department Heads and the 9 Oregon Tribes
10/09 Budget Presentation (ZOOM)
10/11 41st Annual Restoration Celebration at TRCR
Total hours: 149

Teresa Spangler, Vice Chair
09/14 1st Budget Hearing, Regular Council meeting
09/17 Camp Easter Seal Site Visit
09/18 Leaders Circle
09/24 Business Council Meeting
10/02 Leaders Circle
10/07-10/08 Government to Government Summit
10/09 Budget Presentation Meeting
10/11 Restoration
Total Hours: 85

Debbie Bossley
09/17 Council visit to Camp Easter Seal
09/18 Leaders Circle
09/24 Tribal Council Business Meeting
09/25 North Jetty Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
10/02 Leaders Circle
10/07-10/08 Gov to Gov Summit, with Local and State Officials
10/09 Budget Meeting
10/11 Restoration
10/12 Tribal Council Regular Meeting and General Council Meeting
Total hours: 70

Julie Siestreem
09/14 Tribal Council/General Council Regular Meeting Community Center Coos Bay
09/16 Education Committee regular monthly meeting
09/17 Tribal Council Tribal Government Staff on site visit to Camp Easter Seal
09/18 Council Leaders Circle; Hollee Wood- Langdon Group-Hult Dam Recreation Mitigation, DNRC staff, Oregon Water Resources Department consultation on Water Rights and Rulemaking, DNRC staff, Biz Oregon Christopher Frazier CTCLUSI Blue Earth Federal Corporation President Kerry Brainard
09/20 Fall Equinox Sweat Lodge and Community Center Reservation Lands Coos Bay Mark Petrie, Alycia Cossey, Isaac Dull, Earla Kirk
09/23 U.S. Department Office of Indian Education consultation 2027 Budget
09/24 GFORB, Tribal Council/General Council regular Business Meeting TRCR
09/25 Ribbon Cutting Ceremony North Jetty Repair Bastendorf Beach Colonel Larry D. Caswell Jr. Commander Portland District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Education Department Open House Tribal Hall Reservation Lands
09/29 National Congress of American Indians Understanding Federal Government Shutdown Impacts on Tribal Nations, Tylar Scribner, Liz Carr, critical services, programs, contingency measures, mitigation plans, information, preparedness
10/01 Elders and Families Potluck Tribal Hall, Reservation Lands Coos Bay, Eddie Helms, Arleen Perkins
10/02 Tribal Council Leaders Circle; University of Oregon Jason Younker-KoKwell Chief and Associate Vice President and Advisory on Sovereignty with Gov. to Gov. Relationships, with guests University of Oregon President Karl Schulz and his wife Melissa Schulz, Nadira Rizkallah-Federal Programs Administrator Eugene 4J Team, 4J Eugene Superintendent Dr, Miriam Mickelson and 4j NATIVES Program Director Josh Davies, Rep. Boomer Wright, Tyler Slyter Forestry update
10/06 Department of Early Learning and Care Tribal Consultation Birth Through Five Early Literacy Dr. Paulina Whitehat, Jemiah Wassman
10/06 Government 2 Government State of Oregon and the Nine Tribes of Oregon Annual Summit KoKwell Casino Hotel Economic State Agencies and all Nine Tribes Economic Development Staff, Kerry Brainard-President of CTCLUSI Blue Earth Federal Corporation
10/07 Government 2 Government State of Oregon and the Nine Tribes of Oregon Annual Summit KoKwell Casino Hotel, KoKwell Char Brenda Meade -welcome and introduction of Governor Tina Kotek statement update current responses to Federal shutdown and impacts it may have on both the State of Oregon and the Nine Tribes of Oregon, Invited to read the City of Coos Bay Proclamation honoring, Indigenous Peoples Day
10/08 Government 2 Government State of Oregon and the Nine Tribes of Oregon. Invited to read a statement acknowledging citizens from each tribe's Education Department for the work they did to create HB2815 Tribal Early Learning Fund when I spoke of contributions from our CTCLUSI in addition to myself, I called out our current Education Director Jemiah Wassman, previous Education Director Josh Davies as well as Ellen Hansen
10/09 CTCLUSI Budget Committee meeting, Finance Staff
10/11 41st CTCLUSI Restoration Ceremony, 20th year of services of our Courts and Peace Giving Restorative Justice Givers Recognition and Presentation, Original members, Current members, New Inductees. Theme- "Justice is Healing, Honoring the Past, Celebrating Today, and Building for Tomorrow" Several KoKwell citizens were able to attend and participate who were some of the Original members.
10/12 Tribal Council General Council Regular Monthly Meeting TRCR
Total hours: 130

Iliana Montiel
09/14 1st Budget Hearing Meeting / Tribal Council Regular Meeting
09/24 GFORB / Tribal Council Business Meeting
09/30 NPAIHB Quarterly Board Meeting
10/01 NPAIHB Quarterly Board Meeting
10/02 Leadrs Circle
10/07 G2E
10/08 G2E
10/11 Restoration Event
Total hours: 45

Ashley Russell
09/17 Camp Easter Seal Site Visit
09/17 Reviewed Leader's Circle Packet
09/18 Leader's Circle Meeting
09/24 Reviewed Business Meeting Packet
09/24 Business Meeting
10/01 Reviewed Leader's Circle Packet
10/02 Leader's Circle Meeting
10/07 G2G Meeting at Ko'Kwel Casino Resort
10/07 Meeting with Tribal and Attorney & Lobbyist
10/09 Budget Presentation Meeting
10/11 Reviewed Tribal Council Packet
10/11 Restoration
10/15 Reviewed Leader's Circle Packet
10/12 General Council Meeting
10/15 Drafted and submitted Council Business Report
Total Hours: 80

Information

QUESTIONS OR SUGGESTIONS?
The CLUSI Tribal Council welcomes your ideas, comments, criticisms, etc.
Please write to: Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians
ATTN: Tribal Council 1245 Fulton Ave.
Coos Bay, Oregon 97420

COMMITTEE INTEREST LIST
If you are a Tribal member and interested in being on a committee, please contact Lorin Krossman at 541-435-7178 or enrollment@ctclusi.org
We are currently keeping a list of those interested so that when a committee vacancy occurs we can fill it as soon as possible, so please contact us whether there is a vacancy or not.

ATTENTION VETERANS AND FAMILIES
Veterans we need your help. Veterans are honored at the Salmon Ceremony each year. Please contact Lorin Krossman at 541-435-7178 or at email lkrossman@ctclusi.org for new requirements needed to be honored.

US FOREST SERVICE NORTHWEST FOREST PASSES
Now available at the Tribal Administration Building, Florence and Eugene Outreach offices.
Requirements are: 1. Must be a CTCLUSI Tribal member. 2. Must be over 16 years old. 3. You may only be issued one per year. The passes hang from the rear view mirror and are good for access to some Forest Service fee areas. Area maps available.

CHANGES?
Please let us know if you have a change in address, phone number, name or addition to your family. Changes should be submitted to Enrollment Dept., either online at www.ctclusi.org/enrollment or mail to Enrollment Dept., 1245 Fulton Ave., Coos Bay, OR 97420. Phone: 541-435-7178 or Fax: 541-888-2853.

TRIBAL COUNCIL MINUTES
The full meeting video is available at www. ctclusi.org If you are an enrolled member of CTCLUSI and would like to receive typed copies of the Tribal Council Meeting minutes please submit a written request to Jeannie Miller at 1245 Fulton Ave. Coos Bay OR 97420 or lkrossman@ctclusi.org Please include the meeting date requested, your name, current address, and Tribal Roll number for verification.

CTCLUSI Departments, Services & Offices

Government Office
Lee Ann Wander
Chief Executive Officer
lwander@ctclusi.org

Brian Dubray,
Chief Operating Officer
bdubray@ctclusi.org

1245 Fulton Avenue
Coos Bay, OR 97420
Phone 541-888-9577

Eugene Outreach Office
149 149 W. 12th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97401
Phone 541-744-1334
Toll Free 1-800-877-2718
Fax 541-744-1349

Florence Outreach Office
Physical: 3757 Hwy 101
Mailing: P.O. Box 2000
Florence, OR 97439
Phone 541-997-6685
Toll Free 1-866-313-9913
Fax 541-997-1715

Dept. of Human Resources
1245 Fulton Avenue
Coos Bay, OR 97420
Phone: 541-888-7508
Fax: 541-897-9881
recruitment@ctclusihr.org

Health Services Division
Davon Smith, Chief
Operating Officer
of Health Operations
1245 Fulton Avenue
Coos Bay, OR 97420
Phone 541-888-7515
Fax 541-888-5388
dsmith@ctclusi.org

Community Health
Diann Weaver, Director
1245 Fulton Avenue
Coos Bay, OR 97420
Phone: 541-888-7502
dweaver@ctclusi.org

Purchased/Referred Care
1245 Fulton Avenue
Coos Bay, OR 97420
Phone 541-888-4873
Toll free 1-800-227-0392
Fax 541-888-5388
prc@ctclusi.org

Three Rivers Health Center
150 S Wall Street
Coos Bay, OR 97420
Phone (541) 435-7200
info@threerivers.health

Three Rivers Behavioral Health
250 HullStreet
Coos Bay, OR 97420
Phone (541) 435-7200
info@threerivers.health

Three Rivers Pharmacy
150 S Wall Street
Coos Bay, OR 97420
Phone: (541) 435-7234
Fax: (541) 435-7233

Three Rivers Dental Clinic
1245 Fulton Avenue
Coos Bay, OR 97420
Phone 541-888-6433
Toll free 1-877-688-6433
Fax 541-888-7505

Forestry Department
Tyler Slyter, Director
1245 Fulton Avenue
Coos Bay, OR 97420
Phone 541-888-1311
tslyter@ctclusi.org

Department of Culture and Natural Resources
Ashley Russell, Director
Phone 541-888-9577
arussell@ctclusi.org
1245 Fulton Avenue
Coos Bay, OR 97420

Amanda Craig, Assistant Director
Phone 541-435-7164
acraig@ctclusi.org
149 W. 12th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97401

Jesse Beers,
Cultural Stewardship Manager
Phone 541-997-6685
jbeers@ctclusi.org
1245 Fulton Avenue
Coos Bay, OR 97420

Social Services Department
Kelly Bradley, Director
1245 Fulton Avenue
Coos Bay, OR 97420
Phone 541-888-7537
Toll Free 1-888-280-0726
Fax 541-888-5388
kbradley@ctclusi.org

Tribal Housing Department
Brian Dubray, Interim Director
1245 Fulton Avenue
Coos Bay, OR 97420
Phone 541-435-7150
Fax 541-435-0492
bdubray@ctclusi.org

Education Department
Jemiah Wassman, Director
1245 Fulton Avenue
Coos Bay, OR 97420
Phone: 541-888-1318
Toll free 1-888-280-0726
jwassman@ctclusi.org

Elders Activities
Barbara Black
1245 Fulton Ave.
Coos Bay, OR 97420
Phone 541-888-7532

Tribal Gaming Commission
Rusty Bossley,
Executive Director of the Gaming Commission
5647 Hwy 126, Suite 100
Florence, OR 97439
Phone 541-997-2830
Fax 541-997-7293
rbossley@ctclusi.org

Tribal Police
Brian Dubray, Police Chief
5647 Hwy 126, Suite 100
Florence, OR 97439
Phone 541-997-6011
Fax 541-902-6507
bdubray@ctclusi.org

Tribal Court
Karen Costello, Chief Judge
1245 Fulton Avenue
Coos Bay, OR 97420
Phone 541-888-9577
Toll Free 1-888-280-0726
tribalct@ctclusi.org

Tribal Committee Members

Budget Committee
1. Martin Harris
2. Allen "Butch" Thorn
3. Margaret Corvi
4. Stephanie Watkins
5. Kerry Brainard
6. Sarah Marcial
7. Roseana Perry - Chair

Culture Committee
1. Earla Kirk
2. VACANT
3. Alyssa Lydick
4. Nicole Romine
5. Michael Brainard
6. Patricia Whereat-Phillips - Chair
7. VACANT

Education Committee
1. Lorin Krossman - Chair
2. Julie Siestreem
3. Nicole Romine
4. Ashley Russell
5. Michael Brainard

Elders Committee
1. Arleen Perkins - Chair
2. Laura Fortin
3. Warren T. Brainard
4. Eddie Helms
5. Mike Lent
6. Stan McNutt
7. Teresa Spangler

Enrollment Committee
1. Courtney Krossman
2. Patricia Whereat-Phillips
3. Skip Brainard
4. Vicki Faciane - Chair
5. Teresa Spangler

Housing Committee
1. VACANT
2. Dan Krossman
3. Enna Helms
4. Tyler Slyter - Chair
5. Melinda Sprague

Language Committee
1. Nicole Mendoza
2. Tammy Evarts
3. Ashley Vandevort
4. Jade Fong - Chair
5. Jamie Biesanz
6. Jesse Beers
7. Ayuthea Cisneros

Election Board
1. Jade Fong
2. Michael Brainard - Chair
3. Tes Gagner
4. Mark Petrie
5. Kathy Perkins
6. Kimmy Bixby
7. Ashley Russell

Are you a Tribal member who would like to learn more about a Tribal Committee, or are interested in being on a committee? Reach out to a Committee Chair person or a Tribal Government Staff member.

Committee Chairs are noted at left with current sitting members of the committee at the time of publication of this paper.

For questions, please contact Lorin Krossman, at 541-435-7178 or enrollment@ctclusi.org

The Tribe maintains a list of those interested so that when a committee vacancy occurs we can fill it as soon as possible, so please contact us whether there is a vacancy or not. Letters of interest remain on file for one full year. Members can serve on up to three committees simultaneously.

THE VOICE OF CLUSI

If you or anyone in your Tribal family has had any recent special awards or achievements that you would like to share, please submit your information and photos to the newsletter. I look forward to hearing from you!
-Morgan Gaines, Communications Specialist
mgaines@ctclusi.org or 541-888-7536

Upcoming Events

Turn to page 19 of this publication for a monthly calendar of upcoming events or visit the Events Calendar on the tribal website at https://ctclusi.org/events/

Tribal Council

Doug Barrett, Chief
541-297-2130 (cell)
doug.barrett@ctclusi.org

Ashley Russell
Position #1 Council
541-808-4455 (cell)
ashley.russell@ctclusi.org

Brad Kneaper, Chair
Position #2 Council
541-808-5178 (cell)
brad.kneaper@ctclusi.org

Julie Siestreem
Position #3 Council
541-294-6055
jsiestreem@ctclusi.org

Teresa Spangler, Vice Chair
Position #4 Council
541-294-3972
tspangler@ctclusi.org

Iliana Montiel
Position #5 Council
541-217-4613(cell)
iliana.montiel@ctclusi.org

Debbie Bossley
Position #6 Council
541-808-5580(cell)
debbie.bossley@ctclusi.org

Council Meeting

November 9, 2025
Regular Meeting 10:00 a.m.
Coos Bay Community Center
338 Wallace Ave.
Coos Bay, Oregon 97420

Please login to the citizen portal of www.ctclusi.org and click Council Meetings for the zoom link to this meeting.

Agenda:
1. Call to Order
2. Invocation
3. Approval of Minutes as needed
4. Tribal Council Reports
5. Tribal Chief Executive Officer Report
6. Chief Financial Officer Report
7. Old Business
8. New Business
9. Other
10. Good of the Tribes
11. Executive Session as needed

Council meeting video available to view at www.ctclusi.org

Council Corner

Greetings all, I hope all are doing well and are prepared for the fall season.

I would like to take this time to provide everyone with an update of the State of the Tribe, considering the federal shutdown.I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our Tribal Government Employees, executive management team, committee members, staff and volunteers for all of their hard work throughout the year providing services to our tribal membership. Staff just completed an extensive audit process with one of the top 10 audit companies, which included a thorough review of our new health clinic operations, and the audit came back clean with no findings. Our staff have done an excellent job adhering to our codes, procurement processes, policies and grant guidelines.

I have heard many staff complain over the complexity of the procurement process since the implementation of our compliance department. Though these stringent processes may feel challenging, even daunting at times, we can be assured that ALL our Tribal funding and assets are completely accounted for and managed appropriately as was just shown through the audit reports. Despite some possible confusion or misleading information being sent out on social media.

In response to some of these concerns, I wanted to clear up some of the misunderstandings. It was stated in Facebook and elsewhere that only 0.2% of the budget funding goes to direct services for membership. These calculations are inaccurate as in fact, in the general fund and compact dollars 23.43% of budget funding provides direct services to membership, 36.54% goes towards labor and 40.02% is overhead cost (utilities, supplies, fixed costs, debt service, legal fees, etc). Additional direct services are provided to membership through grant funding. NOTE** You can find the actual budget totals and what is spent for direct services on the CTCLUSI website attached to a copy of this document on the citizen side of the portal.

"general fund and compact dollars 23.43% of budget funding provides direct services to membership"

There have been questions around where funding will go now that the casino has been paid off, and where funds from health revenue and Forest Management LLC proceeds will go. We have previously created an ad hoc committee to lay out the framework for the New Visions committee and that work has been completed. A code will soon be presented to be able to implement the new committee which will be tasked with creating the framework for where the Tribe would like to be in future years. This will lay the groundwork for the strategic planning moving forward. We will be looking for letters of interest from the membership to fill in the committee seats once everything is approved.

While in the process of finalizing the committee, revenue that comes to the Tribe will go to the operational reserve and endowment accounts per the code. The health clinic is generating revenue and those revenues, as required, will go back into health care programming and the development of additional healthcare options for our membership. The Forest Management LLC which is new Tribally owned business, will initially utilize revenue to build capital, 10% of royalties are mandated for forest management activities/reforestation efforts and all other additional funds will get allocated to the general fund.



However, while working to get the committee in place, I can assure you that we are not on hold for building up our culture, programs and services to the membership. We are continuing to build up our social and housing program availability and seeking funding to build a new education facility. As part of educational programming, staff are in the beginning stages of creating a culture and language immersion program.

Due to leadership, membership and staff, we are in a good state in light of the chaos and challenges that surround us today by the federal and state governments. Through the various topics discussed above, the Tribes are able to sustain programming and services to membership during the shutdown. So far, Medicaid/Medicare and Tribal Trust responsibilities are not affected by the shutdown. Health programming receives IHS advanced appropriations, and all of the grant portals remain open at this time to accept awards, submit reports, submit new applications though adjudication may be delayed and request drawdowns of funding.

The CEO has placed restrictions on all out-of-state travel, all large capital expenditures and new staff hirings are under review for the Tribal Government Staff. Additionally, we as Council have also restricted our travel and expenses. Any travel and/or expense requests by Council will be evaluated, by consensus vote of the council, if it is determined to be critical. Additional strategies are being explored as the shutdown continues. The Tribal Council and Administrations main priority is to ensure that tribal programs, services and benefits are maintained. Tribal members are encouraged to please use the members to council email address to continue to communicate directly with council to hear any individual questions or concerns.

Thank you.

Brad Kneaper, Tribal Chairman

Hidden Image Search: Can You Find Me?

In this edition of The Voice of CLUSI there is a hidden image of an **OAK LEAF exactly like the one pictured here**.

It could be any size and on any page, but will look exactly like the one shown here.

If you find it, email mgaines@ctclusi.org to have your name entered into a prize drawing. **In your email you must include your name, age, address (for mailing purposes) and contact phone number.**

In your email you must also let us know what page and where on the page you spotted the OAK LEAF hiding!

Must email by November 14th to be included in the raffle drawing.

Winners will be notified by phone or email and their name will appear in an upcoming edition of the Voice of CLUSI paper. Prizes will vary and are provided by different CTCLUSI Government departments.



October Hidden Pumpkin Winners

Adult Winner: Marie Petrie
Youth Winner: Elayna and Justin McGuire

The pumpkin was hidden on page 20 of the October 2025 issue, in the Three Rivers Casino advertisement, on top of a headstone near the black cat, under the word "seat" in white font.



NOTICE RE BASIC ROLL

November 1, 2025

Dear Enrolled Tribal Member,

In January of each year a Basic Roll is created to be posted publicly in the Coos Bay, Florence and Springfield Government offices managed by the Tribes. This notice is to inform you that our current membership is now **1366 members.** Your name, and the names of your enrolled children, will be posted on this roll as directed by the Enrollment Code unless you don't want this to occur. There is a provision that allows you to "Opt Out" of this process. **You must submit your request in writing if you DO NOT want you or your children names to be posted to:**

Enrollment Department
1245 Fulton Ave.
Coos Bay, Oregon 97420
enrollment@ctclusi.org

In accordance with CLUSITC 7-1-142:

(a) The Enrollment Coordinator will develop a Basic Roll for the Tribes. This Roll will contain all of the names, in alphabetical order, of those Members who were enrolled from the date of the Tribes' Restoration until the Constitution was adopted on May 23, 1987. Numbers will be assigned on an alpha/numerical basis of this Basic Roll (i.e., the first person on the Roll will have the number 0001, and the tenth Member will have the Roll number of 0010).

(b) All Members added after the date of the adoption of the Constitution will have his or her name put on the Roll in alphabetical order but will be given a Roll number consistent with the order of his or her entry into the Tribes as a certified Tribal Member.

(c) Tribal Member Names, Base Ancestors, and Date of Enrollment shall be posted at all Tribal Offices unless a Tribal member submits a written request to "opt out" of the posting of his/her name.

The entire Enrollment Code is located on CLUSI website www.ctclusi.org. Under Government, then Tribal Code, Title 7 Chapter 7-1.

Sincerely,
Lorin Krossman, Enrollment Specialist
Confederated Tribes Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians
541-435-7178
Enrollment@ctclusi.org

CTCLUSI Officer Fleming Assists in Recovery of Stranded Kayaker



On Friday, September 12th, 2025, at approximately 1605 hours, Officer Fleming responded to the area of Sunset Bay State Park after overhearing on the radio of an overturned kayaker screaming for help. The kayaker was last reported to be clinging to rocks north of Sunset Bay but the reporting party could no longer see him from the shore. Officer Fleming responded to Gregory Point and launched CTCLUSI PD's M350 drone to search for the missing kayaker. Utilizing the drone, Officer Fleming was first able to locate the overturned kayak. Officer Fleming and a US Coast Guard Boat Team then located the kayaker clinging to rocks outside of Sunset Bay. The US Coast Guard was able to rescue the kayaker off of the rocks.

CTCLUSI Tribal Police strongly urges everyone to wear a life jacket/vest when engaging in any sort of water activity, including canoeing, fishing, kayaking, paddle boarding and others. CTCLUSI Tribal Police recommends members use brightly colored or high visibility life jackets with a safety whistle attached to them.

Important Reminders & Oregon's Life Jacket Laws

- Make sure your life jacket is U.S. Coast Guard-approved.
- Double-check that your life jacket is appropriate for your favorite boating activities.
- Children should wear the right fitted life jacket for them. Do not buy a life jacket for your child to "grow into." Remember snug fit!
- Children 12 and under must wear a U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket when the boat is underway. They do not need to wear one if they are below decks or in an enclosed cabin. Life jackets are mandatory to wear in Class III or higher whitewater rapids.
- Life Jacket laws: OAR 250-010-0154



CTCLUSI Honored with Oregon State University Extension Service Cooperator Award

On Tuesday, September 30, 2025 the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians (CTCLUSI) were honored with the OSU Extension Service Cooperator Award in recognition of significant contributions to the Oregon State University Extension Service.

Representatives from the CTCLUSI Education Department and Department of Culture and Natural Resources accepted the award on behalf of the Tribe. Education staff Daylen Cossey, Morgan Cloud, Tribal Youth Ray and Education Director Jemiah Wassman accepted the award alongside Alycia Cossey and Jesse Beers from Culture and Natural Resources.

The OSU Extension Service shared that "CTCLUSI are a vital partner in OSU Extension's New Beginnings for Tribal Students (NBTS) program, contributing leadership, cultural guidance, community connections, and hands-on support…The program collaboration also offers the six-day Environmental Leadership for Indigenous Youth Camp. This camp is intended to increase interest in the environmental sciences and access to higher education for Indigenous youth…

CTCLUSI's involvement in these efforts is central to NBTS initiatives. Their partnership makes it possible to connect with youth and offer these immersive learning opportunities."



Pictured left to right: Daylen Cossey, Alycia Cossey, Jesse Beers, Morgan Cloud, Tribal Youth Ray, and Jemiah Wassman





Education Departments New Transportation

New Transportation = More Access

Thanks to this partnership, Native youth attending Coos Bay schools can ride the bus directly to our program site. This means more opportunities for connection, growth, and cultural learning in a safe and welcoming environment.

After-school Program Schedule

- **Mondays & Wednesdays**: *Tutoring and Homework Help*
  We're excited to welcome **Kimberly Mandel** as our onsite tutor on these days. Kimberly is a substitute teacher for both Coos Bay and North Bend school districts and brings a wealth of experience and a supportive approach to student learning.
- **Tuesdays & Thursdays**: *Experiential Learning & Hands-on Cultural Activities*

Each day is designed to support academic success while connecting students to cultural identity, peer relationships, and personal development through project-based learning and enrichment activities.

Who Can Participate?

Our after-school programming is open to:

- **CTCLUSI-enrolled youth**
- **Youth from CTCLUSI Tribal households and families**
- **Children of CTCLUSI Government staff**

We strive to create a welcoming, inclusive space for learning, cultural connection, and community support.

Interested in Enrolling?

If your student attends a Coos Bay school and would like to participate, please reach out to us to **enroll** and coordinate **transportation arrangements**. We're so excited to welcome more youth into the program!



How to Register

- **For Experiential Learning (Tues/Thurs):**
  https://laserfiche.ctclusi.org/Forms/ExperientialLearning
- **For Academic Tutoring (Mon/Wed):**
  https://laserfiche.ctclusi.org/Forms/ED-Tutor-Request

For more information, please contact:
Brandy Lauby
Education Specialist II
CTCLUSI Education Department
541-888-1314
blauby@ctclusi.org

Baldija Memorial Project Update

Contributed by
Tabitha Messenger, Project Coordinator

We are excited to share a major milestone in the Baldija Memorial Project— on Monday, October 6th, we successfully poured the footings!

As you can see in the photos, we used a concrete pump truck to place the concrete. This method allowed us to avoid disturbing the ground with heavy trucks and helped keep the site clean and free of debris. It was an important step in protecting the integrity of the space while moving the project forward.

Next, we'll move into the delivery and placement of the memorial walls, which will be lifted into position by crane. With each phase, we come closer to completing this project and honoring the memory it represents.

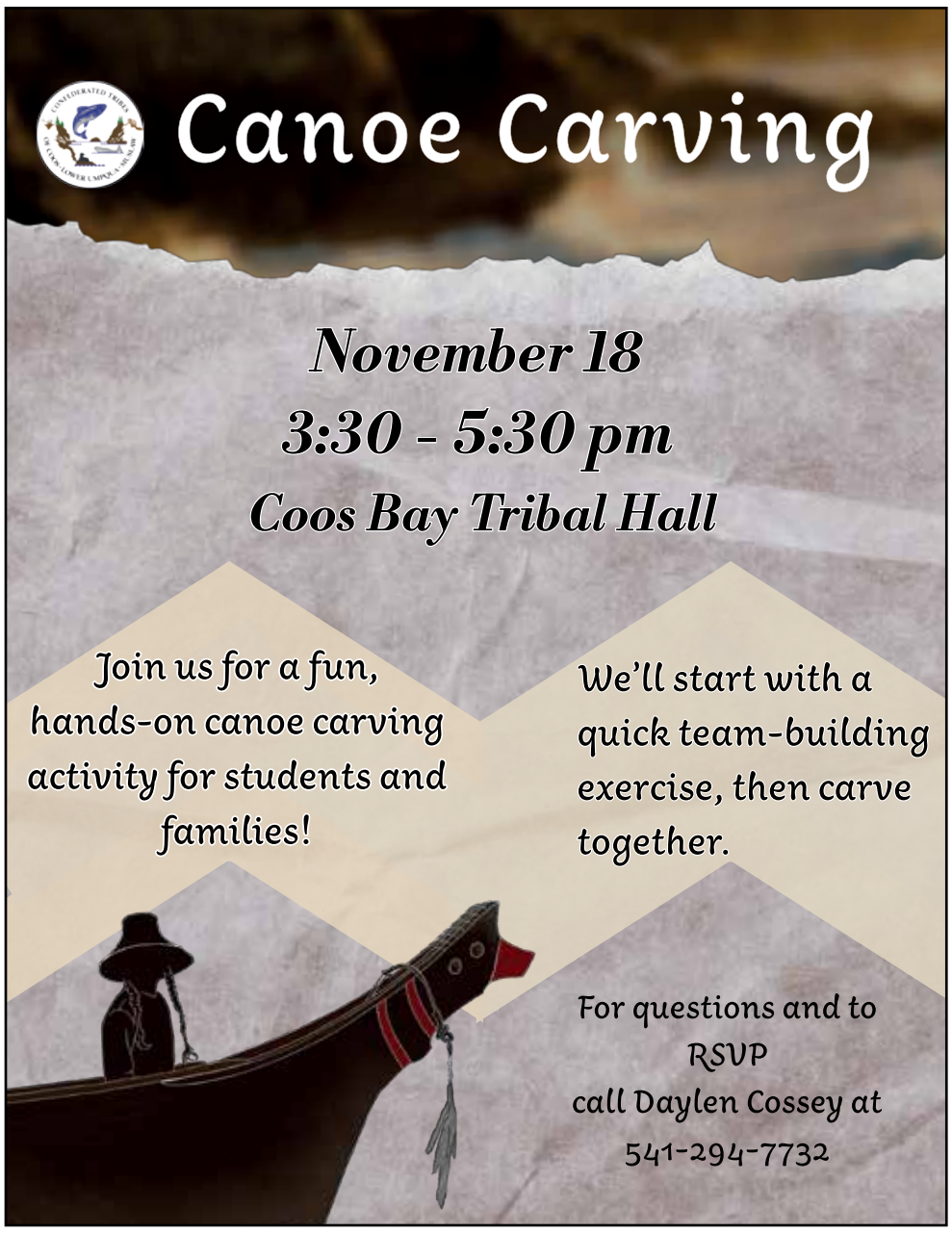
We are so grateful for the ongoing support and encouragement from everyone. Stay tuned for more updates as we near the finish line and prepare to bring this meaningful memorial to life.





Baldija Short Term Closure Notice:

We would like to inform you that the Baldija Memorial Site will be closed to all visitors from November 3rd through November 7th.
During this time, a crane and construction crew will be on-site to place the memorial walls. Due to the limited space and the nature of the work, we kindly ask that everyone refrain from visiting the site throughout the week.
This request is made to ensure the safety of all community members and to allow the contractors to complete the work without interruption.
We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we take this next important step in completing the memorial.





UPCOMING EVENTS

CULTURAL-DCNR
Fall 2025 - Summer 2026

October 24th
Roots and Vision's Exhibition (Coos Art Museum)

October 25th
Haunted Hall-oween (Tribal Hall Coos Bay)

November 4th
Youth Prevention Event (Eugene)

November 15th
Harvest Celebration (Tribal Hall & Community Center Coos)

November 22nd-23rd
Cedar Cape Workshop Series (Florence)

December 19th-21st
Winter Solstice & Cedar Cape Work Shop Series

January 17th & 18th
Cedar Cape Workshop Series (Eugene)

March 7th
all-gender sweat

April 18th & 19th
invasives removal + planting dahai, daha, chiiyuusan

May 22nd & 23rd
medicines, basketry, and Cedar gathering

June 5th & 6th
Maple Bark Gathering/processing

June 19th - 21st
Summer Solstice + Cedar Bark Cape Workshop

Find out more

More to Come...
Look for more events and event information in the coming months newsletter.
OR
email Alycia Cossey- **acossey@ctclusi.org**
if you would like to sign up to have direct communication about upcoming cultural events.

Please Note:
Dates *and locations are subject to* ***change*** *as we work with community schedules, weather, and the natural seasons. These gatherings are* ***guided*** *by* ***availability*** *of materials, teachers, and the* ***flow of community life*** *— thank you for your* ***understanding*** *and willingness to* ***adapt*** *as we move together in a good way.*

Native Innovation

EXHIBIT

Honoring the Knowledge of Our Ancestors
CTCLUSI Citizens are encouraged to visit the North Bend Public Library to experience the Native Innovation exhibit — a celebration of the creativity, science, and problem-solving of our ancestors and coastal relatives.
This exhibit was created in past years with input from CTCLUSI Cultural Staff, sharing stories and traditions that reflect our living heritage.

Information on the exhibit can be found on the website Museum of natural and cultural history https://mnch.uoregon.edu/museum-adventures-traveling-exhibits

Monday, November 3 - Saturday, November 29
Children's Room, North
Bend Public Libary
Open House: Wednesday, November 5, 4:00–6:00 PM

ALYCIA COSSEY
acossey@ctclusi.org
541-294-1237



The Florence Area Chamber of Commerce is honoring CTCLUSI by having Tribal Council be the Grand Marshall in the 2026 Rhododendron Festival Parade!

In building relations between the Tribe and the City of Florence, The Florence Area Chamber of Commerce has also chosen to extend the Rhododendron Festival logo contest to an artist from CTCLUSI!

Deadline: Submit design by November 30, 2025 for consideration!
Theme: təmuu hiisəch hai
(a gathering with a good heart)

Scan QR code to view full details and rules for submission.
E-mail a valid file version of your design to mgaines@ctclusi.org, include the subject line: "Logo Concept".

Grand Prize Awarded to Artist whose design is selected:

- From Florence Area Chamber of Commerce - $250 cash prize, two tickets to the carnival. Winner will also receive mention in community wide publicity, online posts at florencechamber.com, and press releases related to the festival.
- From CTCLUSI – Gift basket containing food items, Ocean Dunes Golf Links Certificate, and a hotel certificate to be used at Three Rivers Casino Hotel in Florence, Oregon. Winner's name and design will also be published in The Voice of CLUSI tribal paper.



Seeking Submissions for Amanda Trail Peace Hike Artwork

As one of the Tribes whose history and ancestors are honored through this commemoration, your voices and artistry hold a very special place in this gathering.

For the past 15 years, Yachats has hosted the tribally led annual New Year's Day Peace Hike—a commemoration of the tragic history of the Alsea Subagency and the Amanda story. This meaningful event honors the legacy of Indigenous peoples who endured immense suffering under government-sponsored genocidal policies of the 19th century. The gathering serves as both a solemn remembrance of those who were lost and a recognition of the strength and resilience of their descendants. (Attached you will find a brochure with more details.)

Each year, a different artist contributes an original artwork to the Peace Hike. That artwork is then graphically adapted into the annual Peace Hike button, which is distributed to all volunteers, Tribal guests, and participants. (Attached are examples of past buttons.)

The selected artist is recognized in our press release and at the Peace Hike itself, which we hope they and their family can attend. In addition, the artist is welcome to host a table at the Yachats Commons (our community center and starting point for the Hike) to display or sell their art. Last year's Peace Hike welcomed well over 250 participants of all ages.

For the 2026 Peace Hike button, we are inviting submissions from CTCLUSI artists, and the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians will also be submitting artwork. Because of printing deadlines,

submissions must be received by
November 11, 2025

If multiple submissions are received, we may select artists not only for 2026 but also for future Peace Hikes (2027, 2028, etc.).

If you are interested, please email your artwork submission (created specifically for the Peace Hike) to both:

- Joanne Kittel, Peace Hike planning organizer: joannekittel@viewthefuture.org
- Alycia Cossey, CTCLUSI Cultural Stewardship Associate: acossey@ctclusi.org

With gratitude,
Joanne Kittel
Peace Hike Organizer
joannekittel@viewthefuture.org
www.viewthefuture.org



2025-2026 Cedar Cape Workshop Series

Hosted by the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians
Join us in community to learn the traditional art of creating cedar bark capes — from identifying and gathering cedar to making cordage and constructing finished capes for all genders.

Workshop Series Dates & Focus

November 22–23, 2025 – Florence Canoe House
Focus: Cultural teachings, Processing Cedar & Making cordage

December 19–21, 2025 – Coos Bay, Tribal Hall
(Winter Solstice, Specific Dates TBD)
Focus: cultural teachings, Processing cedar & Making Cordage

January 17 & 18th 2026 – Eugene Outreach
Focus: Cultural teachings, Cape assembling

May – 22nd & 23rd - Focus: cultural teachings, gathering cedar (location TBD)

June 19–21, 2026 – Coos Bay, Tribal Hall Cedar Bark Cape Workshop
(Summer Solstice, Specific Dates TBD)
Focus: Cultural teachings, Gathering Cedar & processing, making capes

Locations:
Florence Canoe House
Coos Bay Tribal Hall
Eugene Outreach

2025-2026 Cedar Cape Workshop Series

Open to:

- CTCLUSI Tribal Members & Tribal Families
- All ages welcome
- **Materials provided – no experience needed**
- **The goal is at the end of June 2026 all who participate in each event will either have a completed cape to wear or have processed cedar needed as well as instructions and confidence to construct their own cape.**

What Tribal Members & Tribal Families Will Learn:

- How to **identify and gather cedar**, including where it grows, best times of year, and weather considerations.
- How to **build a respectful relationship with cedar** guided by cultural teachings.
- **Processing techniques:** preparing bark by hand and with leather strippers.
- How to **make cedar cordage** for regalia construction.
- Step-by-step guidance on **assembling cedar bark capes** for all genders.
- **Language and cultural teachings** related to gathering, processing, and cape making.
- Work towards becoming an honorary **Ceremonial Harvester**

Scan QR Code to RSVP



Registration & Contact:
Please RSVP by scanning the code and filling out the attached form
https://laserfiche.ctclusi.org/Forms/Cedar-Cape-Workshop

Questions?
Contact: Alycia Cossey
acossey@ctclusi.org or 541-294-1237
for any questions or assistance with filling out the form

Space and materials are limited – register early!

Beading alternative activity will be available.

Restoration and Peacegiving...continued from cover page

the Peacegiving Court were sent special invitation to be honored in a Blanket Ceremony during our 41st Restoration Celebration.

In a ceremony, the Founding Peacegivers, or their representatives, were blanketed by CTCLUSI Chief Doug Barrett, Chairman Brad Kneaper and Vice Chair Teresa Spangler. They were each wrapped in the Oregon Potlatch blanket designed by Shirod Yonker (Ko'Kwel) and Tony Johnson (Chinook), it's symbolism fitting for the occasion as Peacegiving is grounded in generosity and giving.

The Founding Peacegivers and current Peacegivers were also gifted with a Four Directions Peacegivers Necklace, designed with the guidance of the Culture and Natural Resources staff and Tribal citizens Amanda Craig and Alycia Cossey. Special thanks to all who helped bead these necklaces created only for Peacegivers; Jeannie Miller, Lorin Krossman, Courtney Krossman, Susan Rodley, Amanda Johnson, Tiffany Rose and Diane Whitson. The Four Directions Peacegiver Necklace symbolism includes; North – represented by the dark blue beads to symbolize – beginning and acknowledgement; East – light blue – vision, clarity, and hope; South – light green – renewal, growth and compassion; and West – dark green, reflection, closure and wisdom. The center piece of abalone and dentalium represent justice and balance while the dentalium throughout the necklace represents movement through the restorative justice process returning to community balance.

In addition to recognizing the Founding Peacegivers and Current Peacegivers, New Peacegivers were officially sworn in and given a necklace and lapel pin designating them an Officer of the Court and to honor them for their commitment to restorative justice.

Special recognition was then given to Ms. Diane Whitson. Whitson is the longest serving officer of the Tribal Court. To honor her for her 16 years of dedication and service, she was presented with cedar rose hair clips and earrings and was also blanketed by Tribal Council.

Tribal Council honored both Judge Karen and Don Costello with a blanket in special recognition of their work. Our hands go up in thanks to them and to all of our Peacegivers.

In closing, Tribal Council member Ashley Russell led a song to honor our Peacegivers, the Chief Daloose Jackson dream song that translates to "we will not fall down".

hiisa (thank you).



Judge Karen Costello and Diane Whitson

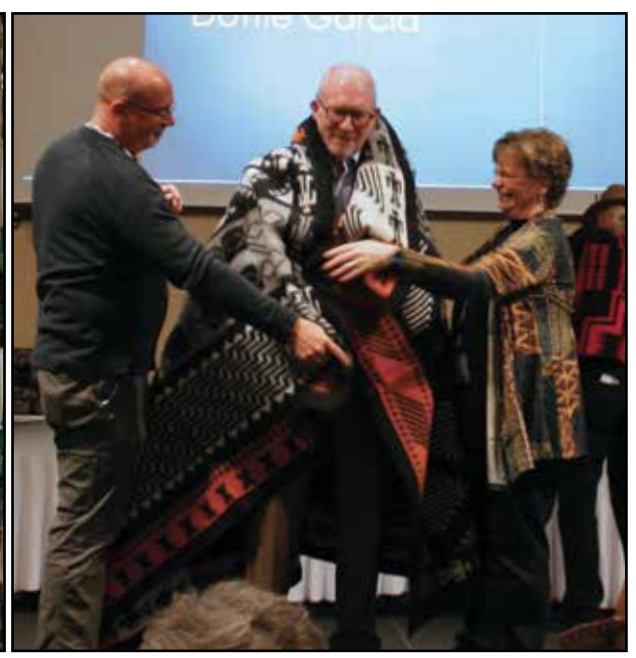


Rocky Doyle and Chief Doug Barrett



Chief gives the new Peacegivers their label pins





Brad Kneaper, Judge Don Costello, Teresa Spangler



Judge Karen Costello swears in new Peacegivers (front row) with current Peacegivers (back row) alongside them



Tribal Council, Iliana Montiel and Judge Don Costello



Scott McNutt, Stephanie McNutt, Stephanie Watkins, and Arron McNutt

Founding Peacegivers

Chief Doug Barrett
Jesse Beers
Rocky Doyle
Laura Beth Barton
Ed Metcalf
Stephanie McNutt
Beverly Bowen
Michelle Burnette
Sharon Parrish
Tom Younker
Cassie Ross
Joe and Lindsay Ward
Dottie Garcia

In Memoriam Founders

Carolyn Slyter (represented by her daughter, Debbie Bossley)
Edgar Bowen (represented by daughters, Tara, Angela, and Beaver Bowen)
Don Ivy (represented by son, Jon Ivy)
Evelyn Moore (represented by daughter, Judy Rocha)
Joan Metcalf

Current Peacegivers

Ashley Russell
Morgan Gaines
Mark Petrie
Kristy Petrie
Stephanie Watkins
Enna Helms
Laura Fortin
Sam Sprague

New Peacegivers

Roy Brainard
Alycia Cossey
David Glenn
Rachel Schaefer Glenn
Angela Henry
Cy Henry
Ashley Vandervort
Daniel Vandervort
Cythia Hovind

Help Us Tackle Trash and Debris Issues

Participate in Our Community Survey!

Your voice matters! Share your thoughts about **trash, debris,** and **dumping** in our community. Are there spots you avoid for recreation because of litter? Trash near a favorite fishing spot, hiking trail, or beach? Let us know!

Participation in this survey is voluntary and open to all CTCLUSI Tribal members and community members who use or visit lands and waters within the Tribe's five-county service area. Respondents are encouraged to share observations of dumping, abandoned materials, or debris, such as household waste, construction materials, fishing gear, or litter, whether on Tribal property, public lands, or near waterways. Participants may include photos or descriptions of the site location, type of debris, and any potential hazards to people, fish & wildlife, or cultural resources. The information collected will remain confidential and will be used solely to guide cleanup planning, coordinate with environmental partners, and strengthen Tribal environmental protection efforts.

Tribal Government and Tribal Housing waste is collected by Les County Sanitary in Coos County, and Central Coast Disposal in Lane County. Tribal members living on Tribal lands are encouraged to take their recycling to appropriate recycling facilities, such as transfer stations. See below for options for recycling within the five-county service area.

Coos County: Beaver Hill Disposal Site and West Coast Recycling and Transfer Station.
Curry County: Curry Transfer & Recycling (CTR)
Douglas County: 10 transfer stations across Roseburg, Reedsport, Myrtle Creek, Canyonville, Glide, Yoncalla, Glendale, Elkton, Camas Valley, Tiller, and Oakland.
Lane County: Short Mountain Landfill in Eugene, and 14 other transfer stations available.
Lincoln Transfer Station: Schooner Creek Refuse Transfer Station, Thompson's Sanitary Transfer Station, and Dahl Disposal Transfer Station in Toledo and Waldport.

Raffle

Cabela's

Win! Enter raffle for filling out survey. Two $50 dollar gift cards to Cabela's will be awarded. Fill out entire survey and include your contact information to be entered to win.

SURVEY

THANK YOU!

https://forms.office.com/r/AVbwzfnjHJ

PEACEGIVING

Peacegiving is a traditional Restorative Justice option available to you for the resolution of conflict.

All Peacegiving issues are confidential.



Photo by Jesse Beers

For more information about Peacegiving, please visit the Peacegiving Website or contact the Peacegiving Coordinator at the address listed below.

Peacegiving Coordinator
1245 Fulton Avenue
Coos Bay, OR 97420
PHONE: (541) 888-1306 or (541) 888-1316
EMAIL: Peacegiving@ctclusi.org Website: http://ctclusi.org/peacegiving

WELLNESS COURT

Are you in trouble with the law?
Are you suffering with drugs, alcohol or addiction?
Are you ready to make a change?
What does true Wellness look like for you?
A life without drugs or alcohol is possible for you.
Make the choice for a better life.



Confidential

Contact Tribal Wellness Court.
(541) 888-1307

Spotlight on Three Rivers Health Center

Medical Primary Care

At the heart of Three Rivers Health Center is our Primary Care Services, where we provide comprehensive healthcare for all ages.

Whole Family Primary Care
Our team of experienced healthcare professionals is dedicated to ensuring our community's health and well-being by providing the following services:

- recognizing and preventing illnesses from developing,
- chronic disease management, and
- providing acute care

Pediatric Care
Our Pediatric Care team is devoted to the health and happiness of our future generation. We focus on creating a warm, welcoming environment where children and their families feel supported and informed. Offering a range of services from:

- Care to our most fragile children, our newborns
- Yearly well child checks to prevent long term illnesses (2-18 years old)
- Providing care for your child's immediate illnesses (e.g. fever, sore throat, ear pain, cuts, falls and more)
- Providing care for children of all ages who have chronic illnesses (e.g. asthma, allergies, diabetes, depression, anxiety and much more)
- Providing care for our children with developmental challenges
- Providing care for our children with learning problems in school
- Providing care for our children with worries, anger, irritability, or other challenges with their lives
- Providing comprehensive care for our adolescent children



Three Rivers Behavioral Health is now located at 250 Hull Street, Coos Bay, OR.

Behavioral Health

Our Behavioral Health team is passionate about providing a healing space for individuals, families, and groups where you can share your story and receive trauma-informed and culturally responsive behavioral health services. Our providers are here to support you through life's challenges, offering strategies for coping, healing, and growth. We provide a range of services to meet the behavioral health needs of tribal families and community members, including:

- Psychotherapy for children, youth, adults, and families, including individual, couples, and family therapy
- Primary Care Behavioral Health, where behavioral health providers are integrated into the primary medical care services at TRHC
- Psychiatric Evaluation and Medication Management services for adult and pediatric patients
- Care Coordination services to help you connect with services available from us but also in the community outside our clinic
- Behavioral Health Deflection, including case management and peer support services delivered in collaboration with tribal law enforcement to help individuals with behavioral health needs focus on recovery and avoid the criminal justice system
- Coming soon: support groups and wellness classes to meet our community needs. Check the website for updates as groups are announced!

Pharmacy

Our unique pharmacy model leans heavily on convenience and affordability, allowing you to access medications easily and affordably while prioritizing your health and well-being. We understand that convenience is key when it comes to managing your health. That's why we offer a range of convenient services to make accessing medications easier than ever.

Coos Bay's one stop pharmacy offers:
- Mail Order
- Local Delivery
- Drive-thru pickup
- Walk-in pickup

About Our Mail Order Service
- Convenience - With our mail-order service, you can conveniently order your medications from the comfort of your own home.
- Time-saving - Skip the trip to the pharmacy by having your medications delivered directly to your doorstep.
- Accessibility - Access to a wide range of prescription medications and over-the-counter products.
- Cost-effectiveness - Save money on your prescriptions with competitive pricing and potential discounts.

Dental Clinic

Welcome to a place where your smile is our mission. At Three Rivers Health Center, we are dedicated to providing exceptional oral health care to our Tribal Members and the broader community.

Our dental providers have extensive experience and training in minimally invasive, patient-centered, trauma-informed care. We provide a full range of preventive, pediatric and general dental services including:

- cleanings
- treatment planning
- fillings
- crowns
- bridges
- dentures
- root canals
- extractions
- and more

With state-of-the-art technology and a team of caring professionals, we strive to make every dental visit comfortable and anxiety-free.

Contact Three Rivers Health Center:

541-435-7200
threeriversheath@ctclusi.org

Primary Health Care and Pharmacy
150 S. Wall Street, Coos Bay, Oregon 97420

Behavioral Health New Location Now Open
250 Hull Street, Coos Bay, Oregon 97420

Dental Clinic
541-888-6433
1245 Fulton Avenue, Coos Bay, Oregon 97420

Elders Corner



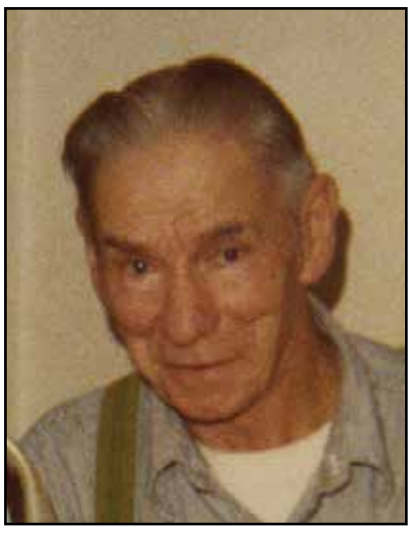


Welcome New Tribal Elder
Kimberly Krossman - Romine

Uninterrupted Self Governance

Contributed by Chief David Brainard

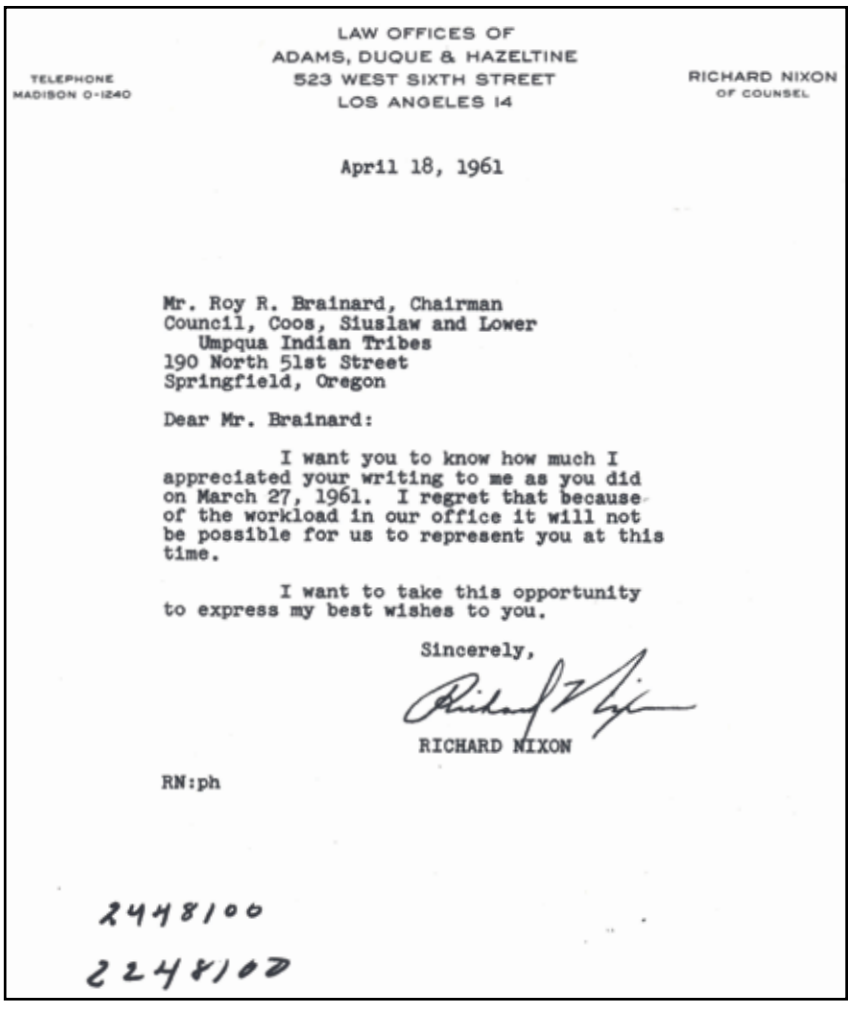
In 1954 Congress passed the Western Oregon Termination Act. We were told that none of the promises made to our tribe by the Federal Government would be honored. Also, since our treaty had never been ratified, we would not receive any compensation. This was bleak news for our tribal population. Most Indians disagreed with this unilateral decision by congress. Howard Barrett Sr., our long-time tribal chairman passed away a few years later, and attendance at tribal meetings shrank. My father, Roy R. Brainard, was one of the few who refused to give up, and he agreed to be chairman and hold regular meetings to write letters to politicians and continue the fight. For the next several years monthly meetings were held, many at Cushman, I believe. My father had two of my sisters compose letters and one of the letters was to Richard Nixon after he had been Vice-President to President Eisenhower. At that time, he was practicing law in California. Although Nixon could not help, he did respond, and I found his letter among my dad's things after he passed.



Roy R. Brainard

Several years later, after my cousin Bill took over the Chairmanship and after our restoration was finally approved, congress wrote that the "uninterrupted self-governance" of the tribe was essential to the restoration of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians.

In 1961 when this Nixon letter happened, I was a senior in a new high school. I apologize for my memory, but 1961 was a long time ago and I had a lot of distractions at that time in my life.



LAW OFFICES OF
ADAMS, DUQUE & HAZELTINE
523 WEST SIXTH STREET
LOS ANGELES 14

TELEPHONE
MADISON 0-1240

RICHARD NIXON
OF COUNSEL

April 18, 1961

Mr. Roy R. Brainard, Chairman
Council, Coos, Siuslaw and Lower
Umpqua Indian Tribes
190 North 51st Street
Springfield, Oregon

Dear Mr. Brainard:

I want you to know how much I appreciated your writing to me as you did on March 27, 1961. I regret that because of the workload in our office it will not be possible for us to represent you at this time.

I want to take this opportunity to express my best wishes to you.

Sincerely,

RICHARD NIXON

RN:ph

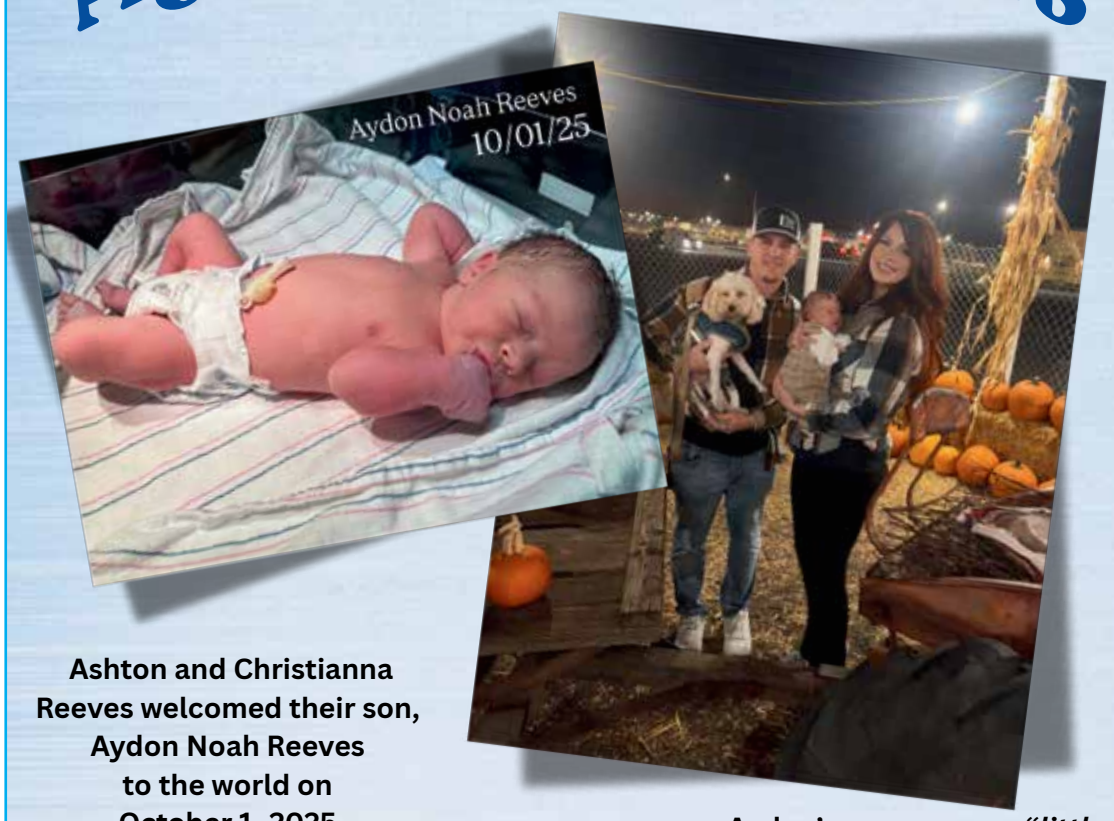
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I know how hard dad worked for our tribe and I know he was a part of the "uninterrupted self-governance" during the most frustrating early years of "termination". I am sharing this information so that my father's contributions to tribal history will not be forgotten.

Tribal Member Birth Announcement

Aydon Noah Reeves



Ashton and Christianna Reeves welcomed their son, Aydon Noah Reeves to the world on October 1, 2025 at 2:21 a.m.

At birth, Aydon weighed 8.15 pounds and measured in at 21.45 inches.

Aydon's name means "*little fire, or Fiery One*", keeping the flames burning from his father Ashton's Tribal name of Brave Fire. A name given to him by his Grandma Cheryl Coleman-Parrett.

Investing in Growth for a Brighter Future!

Tribal Member Brett Parrett-

On October 5th, I embarked on an incredible journey to Washington for essential training at Polish and Punish Detail Academy, a step I knew was crucial for my growth as a business owner. With limited funds, I reached out to the amazing Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians. Thanks to Morgan and Jemiah in Hire Education, I secured the funding needed to seize this invaluable opportunity.

In just one week, I've already seen a remarkable turnaround in my business! While the implementation is up to me, having the right tools and understanding has transformed my experience completely.

A heartfelt thank you to Jemiah Wassman and Morgan Cloud (CTCLUSI Education) for believing in me and lifting me up to something greater. Your support has been truly priceless!

Let's keep pushing boundaries and making a difference together!



Native Son Cellars Uncorks a Legacy

A new player has arrived on the Oregon wine scene. Native Son Cellars, a tribal-member owned company, was founded by Warren "Brad" Brainard, a Hanis Coos Elder and decorated Service-Disabled Veteran, and his wife, Kelley. After three decades of military service, Brad and Kelley have shifted their focus. Owners of Oregon Roots Vineyard, they maintain a direct connection to the land, ensuring every bottle expresses the quality and character of the region.

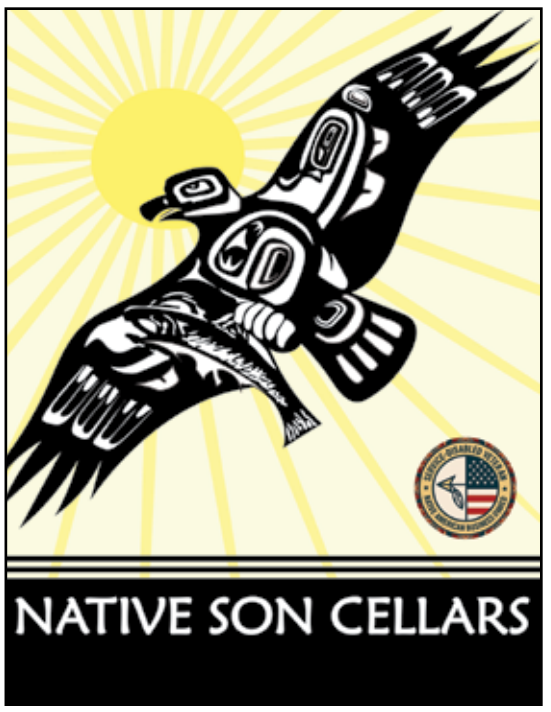
Whether you are savoring the intricate layers of the Pinot Noir, the refreshing crispness of the Pinot Gris, the vibrant character of the Chardonnay, or the distinctive notes of the Rose, their wines offer a harmonious blend of tradition and modern innovation. These exceptional wines can be found in Oregon Native American businesses, at select Eugene wine shops and in the refrigerated section of the casino gift store. "As a tribal member, we are especially proud to have our wine served at Three Rivers Casino & Resort restaurants and were pleased to hear that Native Son came out on top in the tasting survey the gift store conducted against some of the big names in the industry."

More than just attractive packaging, the label is a visual story of heritage, honoring water, earth and sky. The powerful soaring eagle pays tribute to Brad's distinguished Air Force career and the honor and strength of Native Americans. Salmon is sacred to coastal indigenous people and represents sustainability and life, a nod to the annual Salmon Ceremony. The black and white palette, reminiscent of charcoal drawings, brings tradition to each bottle.

Native Son Cellars invites you to explore their wines and experience the fusion of history and art poured gracefully into every glass. Enjoy Oregon's culture and craftsmanship one unforgettable bottle at a time. Cheers!



Kelley and Brad Brainard, owners of Native Son Cellars



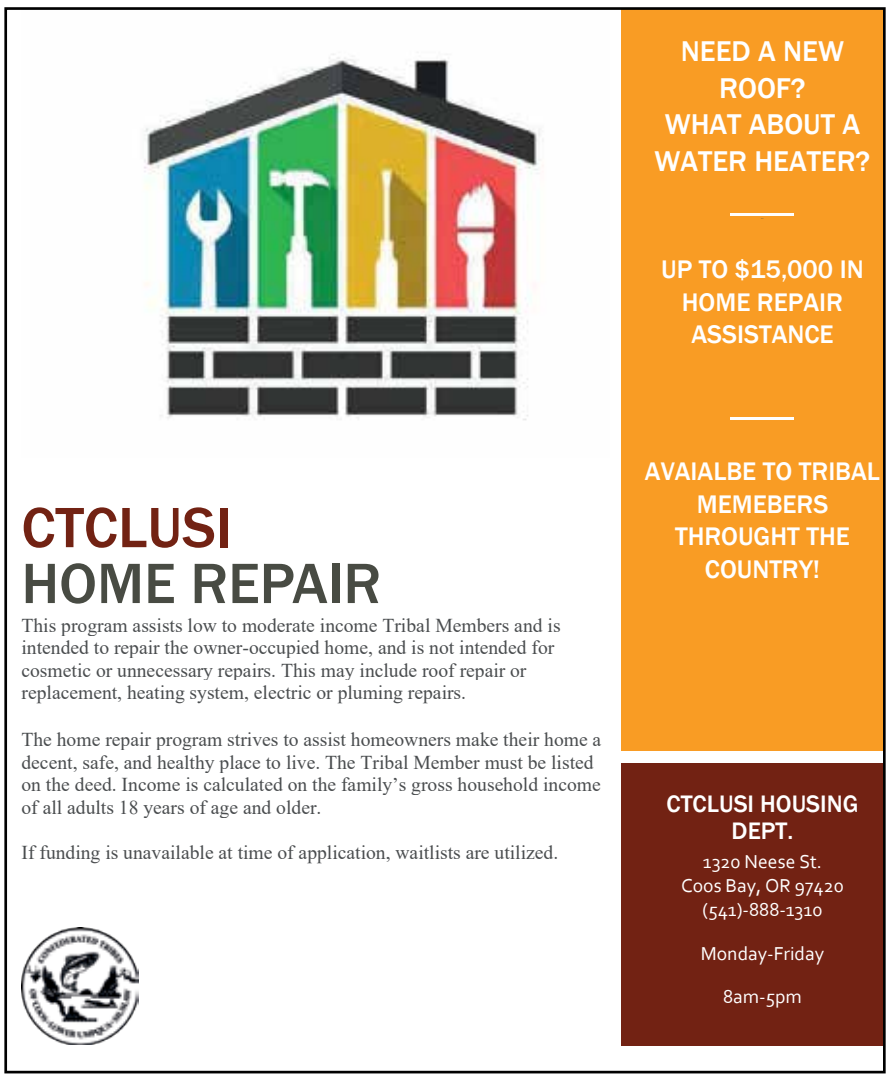


Winterizing Your Home

Contributed by Leslie Thompson, Housing Assistant

The cold weather came in fast this fall, and shocked all of our systems, especially our homes. November is a good time to get the home and yard cleaned up and ready for the cold months. Here are some ways to winterize your home, before it gets too cold and the wet weather sets in.

1. Now is the time to clean your gutters of any leaves, twigs, or plants that have put down roots in those soon to be water ways. Although this can be a time-consuming and tedious task, doing this now can prevent bigger problems down the road.
2. While you're up there, check out that roof: are there any leaks, missing shingles, or damaged flashing? Also don't forget to check the attic or crawl space and look for water damage or leaks, ensure that space has proper ventilation to aid in the prevention of mold and mildew growth.
3. Give your lawn one last mow, and rake/sweep up any remaining debris. Is your lawn damaged from the summer? Seeding it now before the first frost allows the seeds to begin taking root and gives it a jump start for spring. Prepare your garden by clearing out all the dead stuff. Cover/ store any outdoor furniture to avoid wear and tear on upholstery.
4. Insulate your pipes to prevent them from freezing in the winter. Turn off and flush-out outside water faucets and hoses.
5. Test smoke and/ or CO detectors along with changing their batteries. It is also a good time to check your fire extinguisher's pressure gauge. The needle should be in the green if the extinguisher is still good. Checking the nozzle and hose for cracks is a good idea too.
6. Clean out those dryer vents! You can prevent buildup in your dryer vents by cleaning the lint trap after every use. Having your dryer close to an exterior wall, without a lot of corners to snake around decreases the risk of a clog, which also decreases the chance of a fire.
7. We've all heard of spring cleaning, but what about fall cleaning? Fall is a good time to dust all those commonly forgotten areas like baseboards, lampshades, tops of cupboards, shelves, curtains, blinds, and screens. Open up the windows and give your home a good airing out while cleaning before old man winter comes.
8. Getting your fireplace ready for the winter includes cleaning out any creosote and soot buildup in the chimney, along with repairing any chips or cracks in it. Checking the chimney cap and damper is also a good idea, ensuring it is free from debris. Trimming away branches or limbs from the chimney is a good idea for several reasons. It helps prevent fire hazards, damage to the cap, and aids a good draft flow.
   Even if you don't have a fireplace, having your heating system checked is a good idea. Whether you use a pellet stove, propane, or have an HVAC system – completing an annual maintenance review of the system you will mostly likely be using, is a good idea.
9. Last, but certainly not least, are you prepared for a winter storm or an emergency in cold weather? This can include stocking up on food, batteries, emergency radio, flashlights, blankets, alternative heat source, first aid kit, jumper cables, water, snow shovel and/ or ice scraper if necessary.



CTCLUSI Social Services Identifies Programs that Help Keep Power Costs Low

Contributed by Abbigail Thomas, Circles of Healing Outreach Advocate - Coos Bay

As summer months come to an end and fall begins, many people start to see a rise in their power bills. Social Services would like to provide information on possible programs to help with managing the rise in costs. Social Services has put together a list of programs that local power companies offer. This month, we will be highlighting Pacific Power, Portland General Electric, and Central Lincoln PUD. Please also remember that the tribe has a Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) that tribal members could apply for to potentially access assistance. Assistance is contingent upon eligibility. Currently LIHEAP funds for the new year have not been awarded to date, and with government deferment, it is unknown when funds will be available. Continue to apply and we will let you know if funds are or are not available at that time.

Pacific Power:

- The Oregon Low-Income Discount Program allows you to receive a discount between 20-40% off your monthly bill. You can apply for this on the Pacific Power Website, or call Pacific Power Customer Support at 888-221-7070.
- The Equal Pay Program takes an estimate of your yearly cost of power and then divides it into 12 months so that you pay roughly the same amount each month instead of a high bill here or there. This would average your bill out to a reasonable amount all year long instead of high fall/winter bills. You can apply for this online or by calling their customer support at 888-221-7070.
- While Pacific Power has a payment plan option, there is information that you need to know before doing this. The payment plan will take the total amount you are paying off and divide it between the 12 months in a year. That smaller amount is added to each month's bill along with the power that you used that month. If your account becomes disconnected due to nonpayment, that payment plan is ended and the full amount owing comes due all at once. This leads to a very high bill as it is all your past due and your reconnect fee that you must pay to restart service.

Portland General Electric:

- The Income-Qualified Bill Discount Program allows customers to receive a discount of between 15-85% from their monthly bill. You can apply for this on their website or by calling their Customer Service line at 503-228-6322.

Central Lincoln PUD:

- The Project Care Campaign is an assistance program where people donate or round up their bill to fund the program. Local service agencies receive the money in the form of vouchers to hand out, which you must apply for. To apply, you must contact the agency closest to where you reside

- **Florence Area Assistance**
  Siuslaw Outreach Services
  541-997-2816
- **Newport Area Assistance**
  Community Services Consortium
  541-265-3293
- **Reedsport Area Assistance**
  Lower Umpqua Ministerial Association
  541-662-0926

PLEASE PROVIDE THE ENROLLMENT DEPARTMENT WITH ALL CURRENT CONTACT INFORMATION

General Membership;

In our continued efforts to provide all the General Membership with important news we need to ensure that we have your correct contact information. The Enrollment Department is the central location that all Departments within the Tribal Government obtain contact information to send you important updates and news.

We work closely with our Communications Department to provide this vital information by:

- ► Valid Address (both mailing and physical)
- ► Phone (both cell phone and land line)
- ► Email

The Tribe sends important information about current news, services, benefits, elections or events and activities by USPS in the form of letters, flyers, or postcards to you. It is very important that we also have your current physical address, if different than mailing or if you have a P.O. Box, so packages may be shipped and received.

Another form of communication we provide is by phone. This is either by cell phone and/or land line if you have them. We send important messages via text message and voice calls to announce important events or activities or general information for opportunities for the membership to access various services or benefits.

So you don't miss any upcoming or future important information please reach out to ensure all these areas of communication are current with the Enrollment Department.

Please update your information through the Tribal website at www.ctclusi.org under the Government tab, then Tribal Enrollment tab and complete the "Tribal Member Change of Contact Information" form. You may contact the Enrollment Department at enrollment@ctclusi.org or call Lorin Krossman at 541-435-7178.

Join a Tribal Committee

Chapter 7-5 GENERAL COMMITTEE CODE 7-5-1; General Policy; Committees are established to assist the Tribal Council in carrying out its responsibilities, to provide quality services to the Tribal membership and to develop, maintain and protect the assets and interests of the Tribes.

Tribal Committee appointments are made by Tribal Council and are for a four (4) year term. Tribal Code allows for you to be on no more than three (3) committees at a time and you may only server two (2) terms, unless special consideration is necessary. You must compete a Letter of Interest Form to be considered by the Tribal Council. Below is a list of Committees you may be interested in becoming a member of:

Culture Committee	Election Board
Education Committee	Budget Committee
Elders Committee	HousingCommittee
EnrollmentCommittee	Language Committee

Letters of Interest are only kept on file for one year.

Letters of Interest forms can be found on the Tribes' website: www.ctclusi.org or requested through any Tribal Government Office located in Coos Bay, Florence and Springfield. Questions? If you would like to know any further details, please contact:

Lorin Krossman
1245 Fulton Ave. Coos Bay, Oregon 97420
By email, lkrossman@ctclusi.org
541-888-9577

FY26 Budget Process Timeline

The following is a tentative schedule for the FY26 Budget Process. This schedule will provide programs and departments with a timeframe of how the budget process will operate. Except for dates in red, this schedule is not firm and is subject to change by the Tribal Council, CEO or Budget Committee.

November 3rd, 2025
2nd Budget Hearing Notice published and revised budget posting to CTCLUSI website and outreach locations. See 7-10-6(b).

November 17th – November 21st, 2025
2nd Budget Hearing (time and date to be established by Tribal Council) see 7-10-6(a).

Nov 24th – Dec 5th , 2025
Final reviews by CEO/COO and Budget Committee.

December 14th, 2025
Tribal Council to review and approve final budget at Regular Meeting or Business Meeting. See 7-10-8(b).

The Budget Committee may schedule non-public meetings and/or work sessions as needed.

Why RSVP for Tribal Events?

Tribal Department staff who plan events and activities for the benefit of Tribal Member need membership to "please reply" when asked to RSVP when wanting to attend Tribal events. This ensures the right amount of supplies and food and beverages to meet the needs of those in attendance. Thank you in advance for making future events as successful as possible by always calling to RSVP when asked.



RSVP for events by calling 1-541-435-7155

Circles of Healing Program on Healthy Relationships

It is important to know what a healthy relationship looks like, and an unhealthy relationship. A healthy relationship includes communication, respect, trust, honesty, and other qualities along this line. An unhealthy relationship can look like dishonesty, not trusting each other, trying to take control, spending time with only each other, and other qualities that could lead to a repressed or controlled feeling. An unhealthy relationship can very easily venture into an abusive relationship, which is why we want you to know the signs of an unhealthy relationship. A relationship can become abusive when things like mistreatment, isolation, belittling, threatening or causing physical violence, damaging your property, and other qualities that could make you fear them enter the relationship.

We highly encourage teaching your younger family members what a healthy, unhealthy, and abusive relationship can look like. If you or a loved one is experiencing domestic violence, please reach out to the Circles of Healing team.

What Can Dating Abuse Look Like?

Power & Control
- Tracking you
- Needing to know who you're talking to
- Monitoring your relationships with other people
- Controlling where you can be and when

Emotional & Verbal Abuse
- Putting you down
- Embarrassing you in public
- Threatening you
- Telling you what to do/wear
- Accusing you of cheating and being jealous of your friends

Internet Abuse
- Sending threats via text, social media, or email
- Stalking or humiliating you on social media
- Logging into your social media or email accounts

Financial Abuse
- Taking your paychecks
- Not paying bills
- Preventing you from working
- Controlling where and how you work
- Making you buy them things but not for yourself

Sexual Abuse
- Pressuring or forcing you to do anything sexual without your consent or to watch/create sexual content
- Forcing you to sext
- Restricting access to birth control

Physical Abuse
- Hitting
- Punching
- Slapping
- Kicking
- Shoving
- Biting
- Choking

We are here to help. To reach a confidential Advocate, call 541-294-8624 or 541-808-8152.



THE VOICE OF CLUSI MONTHLY TRIBAL PAPER

If you or anyone in your family has had any recent special awards or achievements that you would like to share, please submit your information and photos to the newsletter.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Visit www.ctclusi.org/events to view the online event calendar

Morgan Gaines, Communications Specialist
Office: (541) 888-7536
Cell: (541) 808-7918
Email: mgaines@ctclusi.org

November is National Diabetes Awareness Month!

Contributed by Elizabeth Escobedo, MS, CHES, Diabetes Educator

November is a great time to pause and check in on your health. Whether you are living with diabetes or supporting someone who is, small daily steps can make a big difference. Try this cozy recipe to celebrate the season!
This fiber- and protein-rich soup is diabetes- and vegan-friendly. Chili powder adds a soft heat to this filling soup that is balanced with creamy lite coconut milk. This healthy soup is also great to use as leftovers or for meal prep for a week of easy lunches or dinners.

5 min prep time 30 min cook time 8 servings ½ cup

Step-By-Step Instructions:

1. Preheat a large pot over medium heat.
2. Add olive oil, onion, garlic and ginger to the pot. Cook, stirring occasionally, until onion softens, 4-5 minutes.
3. Add black beans, sweet potatoes, broth, coconut milk, tomatoes, and chili powder. Brint to a simmer and cook, covered, for 15-20 minutes, until the potatoes are tender.
4. Stir in baby spinach until wilted.



Ingredients:
1 tsp olive oil
1 small yellow onion (minced)
2 cloves garlic (minced)
1 tsp fresh ginger
22 oz low sodium black beans (drained and rinsed)
2 large sweet potatoes (peeled and medium diced)
3 cups no salt added chicken broth
7 oz lite coconut milk
1 tblsp chili powder
5 oz baby spinach

TCHPP
TRIBAL COMMUNITY HEALTH PROVIDER PROGRAM
NPAIHB

Behavioral Health Aide (BHA) Education Program

Now recruiting!

Your opportunity to pursue a holistic, culturally relevant, and relational higher education program.

Northwest Indian College (NWIC) offers a culturally-specific behavioral health pathway for Indigenous students.

★ **NPAIHB funding will be prioritized to prospective students currently working in a tribal behavioral health clinic in OR, ID, and WA.**

★ **Prioritization also given to students who currently have a Clinical Supervisor and are interested in receiving National Certification as a BHA.**

What is the Application Process?

- There is a 2-step application process.
  1. Complete the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (NPAIHB) BHA Stipend Application. **Link to apply:**
     - https://form.jotform.com/tchppbha/bha-education-program-application
  2. Academic Institution Application & Enrollment
- Reference letter *(preferrably from a Clinical Supervisor or Behavioral Health Department)*
- Current Resume & Cover Letter



Contact:
Katie Hunsberger
BHA Program Manager
khunsberger@npaihb.org
971-347-7888

Application due date:
November 26, 2025
Cohort start date:
January 5, 2026

https://www.tchpp.org/students

Three Rivers Casino Resort Wins National Theo Award for Excellence in Casino Marketing

FLORENCE, Ore. – Three Rivers Casino Resort was honored with a national Theo Award at the Global Gaming Expo (G2E) in Las Vegas, recognizing excellence and creativity in casino marketing. The resort earned the award for Best Promotion/ Giveaway for Medium Casinos for its Mad Hatter's Tea Party campaign.



"Creativity is part of who we are. We love finding playful ways to bring our guests together. Whether it's a whimsical Mad Hatter Tea Party or a themed event dreamed up by our team, we're all about creating moments that let people laugh, connect, and escape the everyday. Our staff and our guests feel like one big family, and that energy is what makes this place so special," said Rich Colton, director of marketing at Three Rivers Casino Resort.

Presented by the Casino Direct Marketing Association, the inaugural Theo Awards spotlight the year's most effective, innovative, and results-driven marketing across the gaming industry. Winners were announced Oct. 8 at G2E's Networking Lounge, celebrating strategic and imaginative campaigns that elevate brand engagement and customer loyalty.



The Mad Hatter's Tea Party promotion delighted guests with a fantasy-inspired event featuring costumed characters, interactive games, and custom prizes that brought the casino floor to life.

"I had such a great time at the Mad Hatter's Tea Party, and I took a trip with the money I won!" said Eva W., a Three Rivers Casino guest.

"The Mad Hatter event was absolutely fabulous! It was an event you could dress up for and I did! The hosts and event staff were incredibly accommodating. I had so much fun. I've travelled all around to different casinos, Three Rivers Casino has the best events and staff," added Karen Fruetel, a Three Rivers Casino guest.

To watch the promotion, visit: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1wwU3PV5idw

CTCLUSI Human Resources
recruitment@ctclusihr.org

THREE RIVERS HEALTH CENTER

COOS BAY JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Department	Job Title	Status	Age	Starting Wage
Health Services	Behavioral Health Therapist	FT	18+	$61,360/yr - $90,960/yr
Health Services	Charge Capture Specialist	FT	18+	$60,640/yr - $90,960/yr
Health Services	Clinic Manager	FT	18+	$95,000+/yr DOE
Health Services	Community Health Nurse*	FT	25+	$83,430.00/yr - $111,230/yr
Health Services	Nurse Practitioner	FT	26+	$124,656/yr - DOE
Health Services	Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner	FT	21+	$145,000/yr - $200,000/yr
Special Events	Depends on Assignment	OC	14+	Depends on Assignment

FLORENCE JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Department	Job Title	Status	Age	Starting Wage
Special Events	Depends on Assignment	OC	14+	Depends on Assignment

EUGENE JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Department	Job Title	Status	Age	Starting Wage
Health Services	Public Health Nurse*	FT	25+	$83,200/yr. - $124,000/yr.
Special Events	Depends on Assignment	OC	14+	Depends on Assignment

*Position requires a valid driver's license and ability to be insurable by CTCLUSI's insurance agency.

Please visit Job Opportunities on the Tribes website for full job descriptions and benefits available.
You may also apply for any position online. https://ctclusi.org/human-resources-job-opportunities/
Tribal Members please log in to your Citizen Portal to access additional CTCLUSI Tribal Member Job Opportunities as they become available.
Updated: 9/19/2025



Upcoming Events

RSVP for events by calling

1-541-435-7155

November 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28 miluk language class 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	29 hanis language class 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	30	31 sha'yuushtɬ'a uɬ quuiich 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	1 Littles Language Class Online 9am-10
2	3	4 Youth Prevention Event Eugene Office miluk language class 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	5 Elders Potluck@noon TH Native Innovations Exhibit Open House, North Bend Public Library 4pm hanis language class 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	6	7 sha'yuushtɬ'a uɬ quuiich 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	8 Littles Language Class Online 9am-10
9 Regular Council Meeting 10:00 am	10	11 Veteran's Day Offices Closed miluk language class 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	12 hanis language class 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	13 Elders Luncheon Three Rivers Casino Florence, 11:30 a.m.	14 sha'yuushtɬ'a uɬ quuiich 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	15 Fall Harvest & Drum Making Event
16	17	18 Canoe Carving 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Tribal Hall, Coos Bay miluk language class 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	19 hanis language class 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	20	21 sha'yuushtɬ'a uɬ quuiich 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	22 Cedar Cape Workshop Series, Florence Littles Language Class Online 9am-10
23 Cedar Cape Workshop Series, Florence 30	24	25 miluk language class 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	26	27 Thanksgiving Day Tribal Offices Closed	28 Native American Heritage Day Tribal Offices Closed	29 Littles Language Class Online 9am-10

December 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 Holiday Celebration Three Rivers Casino Resort
14 Regular Council Meeting 10:00 am	15	16	17	18	19 Winder Solstice Event Cedar Cape Workshop Series, Coos Bay	20 Winder Solstice Event Cedar Cape Workshop Series, Coos Bay
21 Winter Solstice Day Winder Solstice Event Cedar Cape Workshop Series, Coos Bay	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Staff Appreciation Day Tribal Offices Closed	25 Christmas Day Tribal Offices Closed	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3

Hiis Haiyach – with a good heart

Coos Bay North Jetty Completion Ceremony

Speech by USACE Colonel Larry Dale Caswell Jr. delivered at Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on September 25, 2025

Good morning, everyone—and welcome.

We are deeply honored to have with us individuals representing leadership and commitment to our shared community. Please join me in giving a warm welcome to: Dahna Black from Senator Merkley's office; Molly McCarthy from Senator Wyden's office; Zak Otjen from Representative Hoyle's office; Chief Bossinger for USCG Commander Harris; Shelley Estes from the Coquille Indian Tribal Council; representatives from the Confederated Tribes of Coos Bay, Lower Umpqua, and Siletz; and Brad Kneaper, Chairperson.



As we celebrate the completion of the Coos Bay North Jetty today, I'd like to take a moment to honor the memory of Chief "Doc" Slyter, who passed away in 2023. I met Chief Slyter of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Tribe at our first stone ceremony two years ago. During the short time I knew him, he invited me to visit him and CTCLUSI often. Doc invested time in helping me understand the importance of balancing the economic growth of the region while preserving the cultural resources and uniqueness of its people. I'd like to acknowledge his efforts to ensure that projects like this reflect the needs and values of our Indigenous communities.

Today we gather to celebrate the completion of the Coos Bay North Jetty repair—the first full overhaul of this critical structure since 1929. That's right—this jetty has lasted nearly a century before requiring a complete renovation.

This project is a major achievement for the Portland District and a milestone in protecting our community, commerce, and coastline. Construction began in 2023, and thanks to the dedication of our team and partners, the final stone was set this past July. We hit a few bumps along the way, mostly due to the sheer magnitude of the amount of stone required and the overall complexity of the project. However, we are proud to say that despite these challenges, we were able to deliver a strong and resilient jetty. This accomplishment is a testament to the hard work and dedication of everyone involved, and we're excited to celebrate this milestone with all of you today.

As we celebrate the completion of the Coos Bay North Jetty today, we also want to take a moment to honor the memory of Chief "Doc" Slyter, who passed away in 2023. Chief Slyter, of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Tribes, was a passionate and vital advocate for this project, ensuring that it reflected the needs and values of our Indigenous communities. During the ribbon-cutting for the first phase, we acknowledged his invaluable contributions, and today we continue to honor his legacy in the successful completion of this project.

The $84 million project—including $34 million in disaster relief and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act funding—shows a strong national commitment to resilient infrastructure.

Now, if you look back at the original jetty construction, the records are… let's say, a little fuzzy. Some claim it was finished in 1897. Others say 1901. My personal theory is that the engineers just kept saying, "We're done!" and then someone would add, "Well, and hear me out on this—what if we...?" Anyone who's ever remodeled a kitchen knows that feeling.

But through the challenges—bad weather, shifting currents, and an unforgiving coast—the importance of this harbor was never questioned. In fact, an 1890 report called Coos Bay "without exception the best and most important harbor on the Oregon coast, excepting the Columbia River." That statement still holds true today.

The rebuilt jetty now sits on its original foundation but with modern upgrades: a 200-foot toe berm and jetty head, plus a 1,000-foot curved end that improves sediment control, navigation safety, and erosion protection. Altogether, the jetty now stretches about 4,900 feet—that's nearly a mile of rock standing guard over this harbor.

I want to give special recognition to Trade West Construction, our prime contractor. As a small business executing their first project with Portland District, they rose to the challenge with innovation and determination—finishing physical construction safely with zero lost-time accidents. Additionally, they made sure beach access remained open for the community throughout construction. That's building not just a jetty, but trust with the people who live here.

I would also like to recognize and honor the Coquille Indian Tribe and the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, Siuslaw, and the Siletz for their deep connection to these lands—a history marked by both care and hardship, and above all, remarkable strength. Our work in Coos Bay—through navigation, shoreline restoration, habitat protection, and flood control—happens on lands and waters that hold cultural, ecological, and spiritual importance to these tribes. To honor that heritage means committing to genuine consultation, respecting and integrating traditional ecological knowledge, and supporting tribal sovereignty—while understanding that we all share responsibility for the impact our projects have on this shared environment.

This project also comes at a special time—USACE's 250th birthday. For two and a half centuries, our mission has been to safeguard communities, support navigation, and strengthen infrastructure. The Coos Bay North Jetty is part of that proud legacy, standing as a resilient, mission-ready structure that will protect commerce and coastal communities for generations to come.

So today, as we cut this ribbon, we're not just celebrating an engineering accomplishment. We're honoring the people, the partnerships, and the perseverance that made it possible.

Thank you all for being here to share in this important moment.

