The Voice of CLUSI

December 2025

Issue 12

Volume 26

www.ctclusi.org

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

təmuu hiisəch hai *(a gathering with a good heart)*

Drum Making and Fall Harvest Celebration



Contributed and Photographed by Morgan Gaines, Communications Specialist

On the beautiful and sunny afternoon of Saturday, November 15, 2025, over 144 Tribal Citizens, their families, and friends gathered at the Tribal Hall and Community Center for a Drum Making and Fall Harvest Celebration.

The day kicked off in a good way with 20 hand drums being assembled by the participants who signed up in advance. Drum making was led by members of the Department of Culture and Natural Resources (DCNR) with kits purchased from Centralia Fur & Hide. These beautiful hand drums were constructed from pulling deer hide around a round wooden frame and tightened to the frames with hide lacing. Laughter rang in the air and smiles spread across the faces of those enjoying this time in Tribal Hall together. Hands worked in unison to tighten drums, making quick work out of the task set before them. Once every drum had been made and found a home, everyone gathered on the front steps of Tribal Hall for a group photo. Hands drums were held high and on display. We look forward to hearing their drumbeats in coming ceremonies and celebrations.

Following drum making, everyone meandered on over to the Community Center. The room was lined with activities stations where everyone was invited to join in and make some goodies to take home. Many departments staffed craft tables: Finance – bookmarks, DCNR – Simmer Pots/ Potpourri/ and Teas, DCNR – Cedar Reindeer/Roses, Enrollment – Glass Ornaments and Bottles, Dental and DCNR/ Cedar Boughs and Smudge Sticks, Tribal Court – Apple Cider Press, Forestry – Youth Crafting including Wood Ornaments. Many thanks to all the amazing staff that gathered to help host this event. This celebration would not be possible without all the helping hands.

A special announcement was made before the fall harvest feast was served. Aydon “Little Fire” Reeves was welcomed to the Tribal Community with a naming ceremony performed by Chief Doug Barrett. Chief and Little Fire’s parents, Ashton and Christianna Reeves traveled up from their home in California to celebrate with friends and family and welcome their son to his Tribal community. It was an important moment for the family and a happy and emotional ceremony for all to partake in. Hands up in thanks to all that made the moment happen.

A bountiful meal of turkey, ham, with all the sides and accoutrements was served up by Wildflour Restaurant located in North Bend, Oregon. Families feasted together, enjoying every morsel and delicious desserts. Many youth and those young at heart continued to make crafts following their meals.

To close out the celebrations, a youth and adult raffle was held. Items ranging from travel beading kits, hot sauces, deer dressing kits, games, gift cards and much more were selected by the winners, one after the other. Hearts and bellies left happy and full, having enjoyed the day together and looking forward to seeing each other again at the next gathering.

Turn to page 11 for more photos from Fall Harvest

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Eugene, OR
Permit #481

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

New Year’s Day Peace Hike

January 1, 2026

Amanda Trail in Yachats, Oregon

turn to page 10 for more information

Tribal Council Business

Activity of Elected Tribal Council Members from October 12, 2025 - November 9, 2025

Chief Doug Barrett
10/12 Tribal Regular Council Meeting and General Council Meeting
10/13 Sea Otter Recovery Tribal Engagement Meeting
10/13 DOC/Tribal Advisory Committee Meeting
10/14 Moon Complex Cooperator Meeting
10/15 MHA/LADPC Monthly Meeting
10/16 Posting of Tribal Flags in Salem – Leaders Circle in Coss Bay
10/17 Restoration Day Ceremony
10/20 Data Canoe Planning Meeting
10/21 Moon Complex Cooperator Meeting
10/22 OYA Position in OIIR
10/23 Data Canoe Program Meeting – Budget Presentation
10/24 Roots & Visions Celebrating Tribal Artist
10/27 New Years Day Peace Hike Planning Meeting
10/28 Canoe Carving – Education Afterschool Data Canoe Program
10/29 GFORB Meeting – Tribal Council Business Meeting
10/30 Budget Presentation Meeting
11/03 Coast Range Stewardship Research Co-Production Meeting
11/04 Data Canoe (maniis hap') Planning Meeting
11/05 STEP Meeting at the ELKs
11/06 Leaders Circle
11/08 Visit Don Wilbor Estate and Farm
11/09 Budget Presentation – Tribal Council Meeting
Total Hours: 164

Brad Kneaper, Chairman
10/12 Regular Council Meeting, General Council Meeting. (Quorum not reached, a Talking Circle was held)
10/16 Special Council Meeting (To hear business left from Regular Council Meeting on Sunday October 12, 2025 because of time restraints at that meeting), Leader's Circle Meeting: Meet with Department of Land Conservation Department (DLCD) to discuss the State's Wind Energy Roadmap; Presentation on Child Care Infrastructure Fund.
10/20 Budget Committee Presentations.
10/29 Gaming Operational Review Board (GFORB) Meeting, Tribal Council Business Council Meeting.
10/31 Special Council Meeting: Resolution for Emergency Tribal Member General Welfare Assistance FY 2025.
11/03 ZOOM Meet with Staff and Finance to discuss upcoming Budget Presentation (11/9/25).
11/04 Legislative Commission Indian Services (LCIS), at Oregon State University Campus.
11/05 Meet with Blue Earth President, Legal, and CEO (ZOOM).
11/06 Leader's Circle: Consultation request with Oregon Housing and Community Services; Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) Consultation on Grand Ronde Tribal Cooperative Agreement; Elliot State Research Forest discussion; Plank House discussion.
11/09 2026 Budget Presentation with Finance and Budget Committee, Regular Tribal Council Meeting.
Total Hours: 107

Teresa Spangler, Vice Chair
10/12 Regular Council meeting, General Council Meeting
10/16 Special Council Meeting, Leaders Circle
10/20 Budget Presentation Meeting
10/23 Budget Presentation Meeting
10/24 Roots and Visions Celebrating Tribal Art at the Coos Art Museum
10/29 Business Council Meeting
10/30 Budget Presentation Meeting
10/31 Special Council Meeting
11/04 Legislative Commission on Indian Services meeting at OSU Longhouse
11/06 Leaders Circle
Total Hours: 74.5

Debbie Bossley
10/16 Special Meeting and Leaders Circle
10/20 Budget Meeting
10/29 Tribal Council Business Meeting
10/31 Special Meeting
11/09 2nd Budget Hearing
11/09 Tribal Council Regular Meeting
Total Hours: 70

Julie Siestreem
10/12 Tribal Council General Council Regular monthly meeting Events Center Three Rivers Casino Florence OR.
10/14 4j IPC meeting NATIVES Program/Josh Davies Eugene OR.
10/15 17th Annual Native Caring Conference/ Doug Morrison Events Center Three Rivers Casino Florence OR.
10/16 17th Annual Native Caring Conference/ Doug Morrison Events Center Three Rivers Casino Florence OR.
10/16 Oregon Department of Education/Dr. Charlene Williams, Raising and permanent installation of the Nine Federally Recognized Tribes of Oregon Tribal Flags in the Oregon State Capitol Education Public Service Building Room 251 Salem OR.
10/16 Department of Early Learning and Care Workforce Registry Sidney Traen, RAC zoom
10/16 Tribal Council Special Meeting Community Center Coos Bay OR.
10/16 Tribal Council Leaders Circle meeting Community Center Coos Bay OR.
10/17 Department of Early Learning and Care Workforce Registry/Sidney Traen RAC zoom
10/20 Budget Presentation meeting Denise Layton, Christa Hernandez, Don Moos, Budget Committee members
10/21 Education Committee meeting Jemiah Wassman, Education Committee members
10/22 US Department of Agriculture SNAP update
10/23 Budget Presentation meeting Denise Layton, Christa Hernandez, Don Moos, Budget Committee members
10/24 Roots and Visions: Celebrating Tribal Art Coos Art Museum/ Lydia Heins, Alicia Cossey, Coos Bay OR.
10/25 Roots and Visions: Celebrating Tribal Art Coos Art Museum/ Lydia Heins, Alicia Cossey, Coos Bay OR.
10/27 Budget Presentation meeting Denise Layton, Christa Hernandez, Don Moos, Budget Committee members
10/29 Gaming Facility Organizational Review Board monthly meeting Three Rivers Casino Florence OR.
10/29 Tribal Council Regular Council regular monthly Business meeting Three Rivers Casino Florence OR.
10/30 Budget Presentation meeting Denise Layton, Christa Hernandez, Don Moos, Budget Committee members
11/05 Oregon Department of Education/ April Campbell Invitation to discuss Implementation of HB 3953 Public Charter School Sponsorship zoom
11/06 Tribal Council Leaders Circle Community Center Coos Bay OR.
11/09 2nd Budget Hearing Tribal Council General Council Community Center Coos Bay OR.
11/09 Tribal Council General Council Regular Monthly meeting Community Center Coos Bay OR.
Total Hours: 130

Iliana Montiel
10/12 Tribal Council Regular Meeting
10/14 GFORB Special Meeting
10/16 TC Special Meeting / Leaders Circle
10/20 Budget Presentation Meeting
10/23 Budget Presentation Meeting
10/24 Roots & Visions: Celebrating Art Coos Art Museum
10/27 Budget Presentation Meeting
10/29 GFORB / Tribal Council Business Meeting
10/30 Budget Presentation Meeting
10/31 TC Special Meeting
11/05 Special GFORB Meeting
11/06 Leaders Circle
Total Hour: 55

Ashley Russell
10/15 Reviewed Special Meeting Packet & Leader's Circle Packet
10/16 Special Meeting
10/16 Leader's Circle Meeting
10/20 Budget Presentation Meeting
10/21 Environmental Response to Federal Action Workgroup Meeting I
10/23 Budget Presentation Meeting
10/24 Roots and Visions Exhibit Grand Opening at Coos Art Museum
10/25 Hall-oween Party
10/27 Budget Presentation Meeting
10/28 Reviewed Business Meeting Packet
10/30 Budget Presentation Meeting
10/29 Business Meeting
10/31 Special Meeting
10/31 Environmental Response to Federal Action Workgroup Meeting II
11/05 Reviewed Leader's Circle Packet
11/06 Leader's Circle Meeting
11/08 Reviewed Tribal Council Packet
11/09 2nd Budget Hearing & General Council Meeting
Total Hours: 77.75

Council Meeting

December 14, 2025

Regular Meeting begins at 10:00 a.m.

CTCLUSI Community Center
338 Wallace Avenue,
Coos Bay, OR 97420

Join by Zoom link by logging in to the Citizen Portal of www.ctclusi.org

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
Mary Gordon, Director
1245 Fulton Avenue
Coos Bay, OR 97420
Phone 541-435-7150
Fax 541-435-0492
mgordon@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, Tribal Navigator/ Community Health Aide
1245 Fulton Ave.
Coos Bay, OR 97420
Phone 541-888-7532
bblack@ctclusi.org

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

December 14, 2025
Regular Meeting 10:00 a.m.
CTCLUSI Community Center
338 Wallace Avenue,
Coos Bay, OR 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

Hello everyone,

I hope all are doing well and are prepared for the upcoming holiday season. Council would like to address a couple of things that have been coming up at Council Meetings and other forms of communication.

First, we received an email from an Elder thanking staff for the Elder's Meal support. I know staff appreciate hearing this. She also mentioned the Thanksgiving and Christmas boxed meals from Safeway or Fred Meyer from a few years ago and asked if that would happen again. This had been done during Covid with funding the Tribe received from the federal government to help provide assistance to our Elders among other things. These funds are no longer available. However, council approved on October 31, 2025, a one-time payment to all Tribal Adults that can demonstrate a need by completing the application form that has been made available both through the website and by hard copy mailed to each Tribal Adult. The purpose of this payment is to help address food insecurities or other unmet needs of the membership. The announcement was made on Friday, October 31 by text message. Within a few days, more than 650 applications were received. Staff are working hard to get the funds delivered as soon as possible.

Disabling the "chat" function on the ZOOM virtual council meetings has been another topic of discussion. The decision was made for several reasons. First, it is difficult for council to keep up with the chat while participating in the meetings with the actual verbal discussions going on between Council, Staff and Membership. Trying to go back and forth between the chat and the verbal discussions is a distraction, and things can be missed. Council wants to make sure that all are heard for productive conversation and meetings. There have been a number of instances where disrespectful and rude comments are being placed in the chat. This is not productive and does not accomplish anything.

Another comment has been made a few times surrounding Tribal Council pay and some want to know who made the decision that Council "had" to take the pay. The General Membership approved Tribal Council pay and the rules around the pay were placed in the Tribal Council Rules and Procedures, section 5.7 based on IRS requirements. Research from the Tribal Attorney indicates that the IRS will consider the pay as taxable regardless of whether it is rejected. Below is a direct quote from his research:



Chairman Brad Kneaper

"An employee generally cannot decline salary that has already been earned and made available to them for the purpose of deferring taxes without the IRS applying the constructive receipt doctrine. The core principle is that if a taxpayer has an unrestricted right to receive income, they are taxed on it in that year, even if they choose not to physically take possession of it."

In closing, I wish everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday. Stay safe!!

Constitutional Amendment - Secretarial Election

Contributed by Lorin Krossman, Enrollment Specialist & Election Clerk

Tribal Council would like to update you and provide information on the current efforts to amend the Tribes Constitution. Our Tribe's Constitution is one of the few that have never been amended since its original final recorded date of June 23, 1987. This process currently requires the United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to facilitate the process called a "**Secretarial Election"**. There will be several areas called "**Proposed Constitutional Amendments**" you will be able to vote on.

A Secretarial Election Board will be established under the BIA to assist with this Election process; this will allow some representation from our Tribe.

All CTCLUSI members will be contacted directly by the BIA. First, you must register and then the BIA will create and send those who registered a ballot to vote. The BIA will also make the final determination of result of this Election.

Previously, the Tribal Council directed outreach to membership, held question and answer forums and collected comments about various areas of proposed amendments. Council has worked with legal Counsel and submitted proposed language for amendments to the BIA to seek a technical review and ensure all suggested language meets legal sufficiency. The BIA brought back an approval to the request.

We will begin again to provide you with information through various methods. Please review these communications when they are received as we move through this historic process together.

Please update your information through the website, www.ctclusi.org or contact the Enrollment Department at enrollment@ctclusi.org for more information.

Hidden Image Search: Can You Find Me?

In this edition of The Voice of CLUSI there is a hidden image of **CRANBERRIES 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 Cranberries hiding!
Must email by December12th 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.



November Oak Leaf Raffle Winners:
Adult - Shawna Wright
Youth - Elijah Henry
The oak leaf was hidden in the photo on page 12 (look in the shade)

Important PRC Application Deadline

The Purchased and Referred Care department is now accepting applications for the Purchased/Referred Care (PRC) program for 2026. You must submit a new application each year for each PRC-eligible Tribal member in your household.

This year, the deadline for applications is Friday, January 30, 2026. Failure to apply for the program will result in denial of eligibility for the PRC program. If an application is received after January 30, 2026, PRC will only pay claims 90 days prior to the date the application was submitted for that calendar year.

You can apply online at www.ctclusi.org. You will see a link at the bottom of the home page that will take you to the online form (or look under Member Services, Purchased and Referred Care). Please be sure to upload the front and back of your insurance card(s) to ensure we have the most current information. You must complete a separate form for each PRC-eligible family member. Please call PRC at (541) 888-4873 or (800) 227-0392 to have a hard-copy application mailed to you or with any questions.

New Limited Benefit

PRC is pleased to announce that both Massage Therapy and Acupuncture have been added to your annual Limited Benefits. Starting January 1st, 2026, you will be able to seek Massage Therapy and Acupuncture with a licensed provider. The facility you chose must bill all insurances and be willing to work with the PRC billing requirements. Each benefit will be limited to one visit per month for a total of 12 visits in a calendar year.
All remaining Limited Benefits remain the same.

NOTICE - IMPORTANT ELECTION INFORMATION

TRIBAL COUNCIL ELECTION DATE: APRIL 12, 2026

POSITION NUMBER	INCUMBENT
Position #2	Brad Kneaper
Position #4	Teresa Spangler
Position #6	Debbie Bossley

Tribal Council Guidelines per Chapter 7-3 Elections

7-3-22 Public Notice of Upcoming Elections

(a) The Election Board must publish in the Tribal Newsletter and post at the Tribes' Administrative Building, Tribal Hall, Outreach Offices, on the Tribes' website and in the office of the Gaming Commission, a notice of upcoming regular Tribal Council elections. This shall be done no later than **one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the scheduled date** of a regular Tribal Council election.

7-3-5 Voters List: no later **than 90 days prior to an election**, Chief Executive Office or the Enrollment Clerk shall furnish a list to the Election Board a list of eligible voters.

7-3-23 Candidate Eligibility

According to the Tribal Constitution (Article VIII, Section 4(a), in order to be eligible for election to a Tribal Council position, candidates shall meet the following qualifications:

(a) Be a duly enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes.

(b) Be at least twenty-one (21) years of age; and

(c) Never have been previously removed from office for good cause after the date the Tribal Constitution was ratified. (May 23, 1987).

1-1-24 Candidacy Procedures

(a)Statements of Candidacy (1) Candidates shall file Statements of Candidacy **no later than thirty (30) days** before the scheduled date of the election. (3) Each candidate shall indicate the position (#2, #4, or #6) for which he or she is filing. Once a person has filed for a position, he or she will not be allowed to change positions or to withdraw and refile for the same election. (All Gov. Offices have this form)

The Candidate Filing Deadline for the 2026 Tribal Council Election

Friday, March 13, 2026, by 5:00 p.m.

7-3-24(b) Public Notices and Position Statements

(1) Per Article VII Section 4(c) "A Public list of candidates shall be published **no later than 20 days** before elections for the calendar year. March 23, 2026- in all offices and website.

(2) Election Board shall publish in January 2026 issue a notice of Tribal Council Election Deadline for this posting

(3) Position Statements: Candidates will be given the opportunity to present a **Position Statement** for inclusion **in February, March or April Tribal Newsletter**. The statement must be submitted before the paper's deadline and shall be no longer than one (1) sheet of 8-1/2" x 11" paper printed on both sides, capable of being copied on a black and white copier.

February 2026 Newsletter – deadline is January 15, 2026; March Newsletter – deadline is February 15, 2026; April Newsletter – deadline is March 13, 2026

Ballot Mailing: Once a person has declared to run by filing a "Statement of Candidacy"; if a "Position Statement" is submitted by the final deadline March 13, 2026, it will be included in the ballot mailing.

For the complete Election Code and other information please see www.ctclusi.org Tribal Code, Chapter 7-3 Elections or visit the Elections Page. For questions, please email enrollment@ctclusi.org.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CODE AMENDMENTS

The following proposed Code has been proposed to be established that was passed for First Reading and 28 Day Comment Period by Tribal Council on November 9, 2025

TITLE: 7 ENROLLMENT, COMMITTEES, ELECTIOND AND REFEENDUMS

Chapter 7-16 Visions Committee

The Tribal Council has determined the need to establish a new committee under the Planning Department to guide the Council in future decisions with the consideration of the desires and needs of the General Council both inside and outside the service area. The draft Code has been approved for 28 day comment period.

The following proposed Code has amendments that were passed for First Reading and 28 Day Comment Period by Tribal Council on November 9, 2025

TITLE: 7 ENROLLMENT, COMMITTEES, ELECTIONS AND REFERENDUMS

Chapter 7-8 Gaming Facilities Operational Review Board (GFORB)

The Tribal Council has determined the need to make amendments to clarify the role of the Gaming Facility Operational Review Board and Three Rivers Casino operations. The draft has been approved for 28 day comment period.

The following proposed Code has amendments that were passed for First Reading and 28 Day Comment Period by Tribal Council on November 14, 2025

TITLE: 7 ENROLLMENT, COMMITTEES, ELECTIONS AND REFERENDUMS

Chapter 7-3 Elections

The Tribal Council has received recommendation from the Election Board on some suggested amendments to several areas of the Election Code and has approved this draft for 28 day comment period.

DATE OF THE TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING AT WHICH ALL THE PROPOSED CODES IS EXPECTED TO BE CONSIDERED AGAIN:
January 11, 2026

Please visit www.ctclusi.org for complete draft to all Codes above.*The notice of the proposed amendment/creation of Code/ Ordinance shall be published in the Tribal Newsletter and the text will be posted for public comment for twenty-eight (28) days in the Administration Building, Tribal Hall, Outreach Offices, on the Tribes' website and at Three Rivers Casino (Office of the Gaming Commission). Written comments should be sent to the Tribal Council in care of Jeannie Miller, CTCLUSI, 1245 Fulton Avenue, Coos Bay OR 97420 or email: jmiller@ctclusi.org.*

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

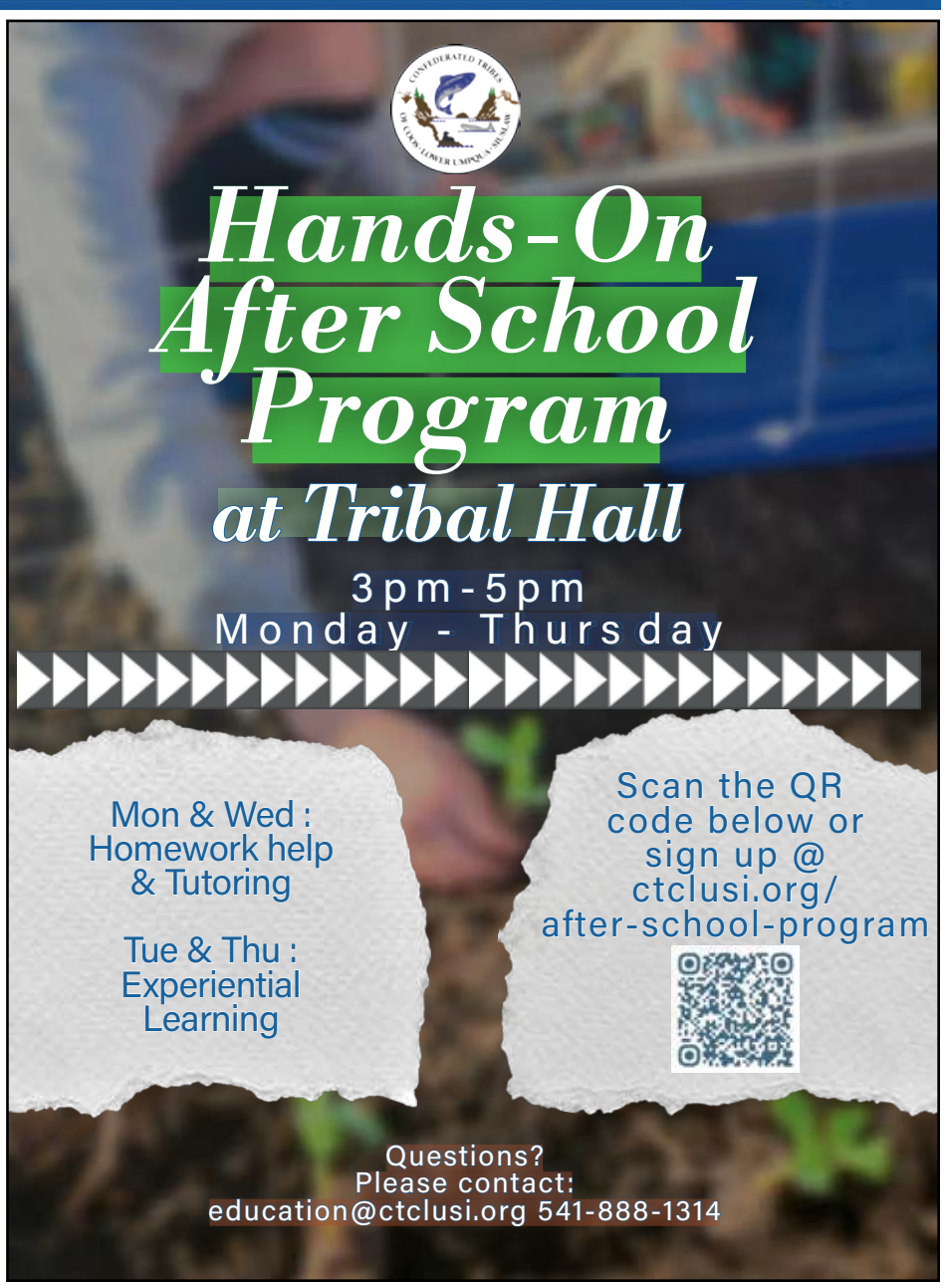
- **For Experiential Learning (Tues/Thurs):**
  https://laserfiche.ctclusi.org/Forms/ExperientialLearning
- **For Academic Tutoring (Mon/Wed):**
  https://laserfiche.ctclusi.org/Forms/ED-Tutor-Request

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









Tsalila Education Days

Contributed by Tyler Slyter, Director of Forestry

Tsalila Education Days is an annual event for third and fourth graders held at the Umpqua Discovery Center in Reedsport, Oregon. The program, which celebrated its 28th year in 2025, focuses on teaching local students about watershed and cultural resources through hands-on activities. Partnering organizations like the U.S. Forest Service Umpqua Field Office and the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians provide learning opportunities by sponsoring educational stations that teach students topics such as Culture, Language, Fishing Weirs, Splitting Planks, Crafting Tulle Ducks, Beading, and more over the years.

In 2008, Amy Kronsberg attended the event as a 4th Grader from Hillcrest Elementary in North Bend, OR. Amy went on to complete both bachelor's and master's degrees in Sustainable Forest Management from Oregon State University and now works as a Field Forester for CTCLUSI. This year, she was able to participate in the event from the other side of the table, as she led students through a discussion on the topic of how trees grow and how we have different uses for different types of wood.

In addition to Amy, other CTCLUSI staff that participated in this year's Tsalila festival includes Jesse Beers, Alycia Cossey, Kristianna Wing, Courtney Krossman, Isaac Dull, Nicole Romine, and Samuel Riding In.

Many departments and employees within CTCLUSI support youth activities throughout the year.The time and energy invested in these activities is greatly appreciated! You may not always see the reward, but this example demonstrates the positive outcome that comes from those efforts.



Pictured above, Tribal Elder Sue Olson working with children during the Tsalila Education Days program in 2008. Amy Kronsberg is also pictured (youth in back, far rigth).



Jesse Beers and Amy Kronsberg pictured above, leading demonstrations during the 2025 Tsalila Education Days.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CULTURAL-DCNR

Winter 2025 - Summer 2026

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

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.

Find out more

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.*

"Welcoming the return of the light and longer days."

DECEMBER 19TH-22ND

WINTER SOLSTICE

CAMPING OUTSIDE ON TRIBAL HALL PROPERTY AVAILABLE

RSVP by Dec, 12th
Contact:
Alycia Cossey
acossey@ctclusi.org
541-294-1237

19 FRI
- 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. — Arrival & Camp Setup
- 2:00–4:30 p.m. — Men's Sweat
- 4:30–6:00 p.m. — Dinner
- 6:00–8:00 p.m. — Songs & Dancing

20 SAT
- 8:30–9:30 a.m. — Breakfast
- 9:30–12:30 pm — Welcoming the day & Cedar Cape Workshop
- 12:30–1:30 p.m. — Lunch
- 1:30–3:30 p.m. — s'a Sweat & Self-guided activities
- 4:00–5:30 p.m. — Dinner
- 5:30–8:00 p.m. — Lighting & Blessing of the Ceremonial Fire

21 SUN
- 11:00 A.M.–1:00 P.M. — WOMEN'S SWEAT
- 1:00–2:00 P.M. — LUNCH
- 2:00–5:00 P.M. — FREE TIME
- 5:00–7:00 P.M. — FEAST, GIFTING, & DANCING

22 MON
- 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM BREAKFAST
- CLOSING
- CAMP TEARDOWN

please note as this is ceremony, time is just a guideline and is subject to change

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 Time & Focus: 10 am - 4 pm

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

Registration & Contact:
Please RSVP by scanning the code and filling out the attached form

Locations:
Florence Canoe House
Coos Bay Tribal Hall
Eugene Outreach

Open to:

- CTCLUSI Tribal Members & Tribal Families
- All ages welcome *no childcare will be provided*
- **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.



Food Provided!



Registration & Contact:
Please RSVP by scanning the code and filling out the attached form

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.

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

maniis tei hap' data canoe with CTCLUSI Education

Contributed by Desiree Acosta, Cultural Technologist
Photographs by Daylen Cossey, Education Administrative Assistant

On October 28, 2025 at Tribal Hall in Coos Bay, OR, a group of Native youth and their families all stood in a circle to kick off a special carving event. This is a small canoe they're working on is not meant for people but for holding sensors that are used to test the water. The activities are building something called maniis tei hap' (healing our waters) data canoe and this mini canoe will one day hold sensors for testing things like temperature, pH, and turbidity. This little canoe also carries something deeper: the deep-rooted community desire to heal what's been separated. That means young people from land and water, culture from science, and sometimes community from itself as life happens.



This little canoe also carries something deeper: the deep-rooted community desire to heal what's been separated



Three tribal Chiefs are joining in: Chief Doug Barret (CTCLUSI), former Chief David Brainard (CTCLUSI) and current Ko-Kwell Chief Justin Futch. They didn't just appear for a photo, no. These men carved, laughed, and most of all, taught the next generation of Tribal young people. Chief Brainard brought his binder bursting with old carving photos, Chief Doug and Chief Justin guided the youth in carving with traditional tools with care. The October event was incredible. Around them were familiar faces to CTCLUSI but also were native kids from many other Nations who came to learn from CTCLUSI: Choctaw, Inupiaq, Pomo, Wailaki, Miami, Shawnee, Cherokee, and Karuk. Twenty kids showed up, double what we thought would! Numbers can't measure that feeling knowing that when a young person goes home after carving, community, and learning that they somehow understand deep down, their land and their home still knows them.

This is what happens when everyone joins together with purpose: Elders lead with patience and programs bring smiles and fun, making room for joy. School partners like North Bend and Coos Bay TAPP program students joined, and the OSU STEM Hub is bringing scientists and educators to make opportunities like this easier for the Tribe by joining everyone on Tribal grounds. Healing happens when all hands lift the paddles together to move the community canoe forward, again, and again, and again.





This is what the SAMHSA Native Connections grant work looks like in action. It's more than planning meetings and spreadsheets organizers use. It's laughter bouncing off a tent roof, shavings on the ground, pizza, and young people always remembering where they belong. Federal language describes this work by the Education Department and Department of Culture and Natural Resources as "reducing suicidal behavior, substance misuse, and the impacts of trauma." At Tribal Hall it looks like families having a moment to breathe together, full bellies, and youth carving alongside chiefs teaching them persistence builds arm, brain, heart muscles.

INVITATION FOR TRIBAL ARTISANS

At the **Tribal Holiday Celebration Event** at **Three Rivers Casino & Resort** on **December 13th 2025**, any CTCLUSI Tribal Artisan is invited to bring any works they wish to sell to the Community.
Doors Open at 11:00 a.m.

CONTACT

Please reach out to Teresa Spangler at **tspangler@threeriverscasino.com** or Jeannie Miller at **enrollment@ctclusi.org** to reserve your space during this event.

Deadline for submission is December 10, 2025.

Space is limited and we will be offering both inside and outside the Event Center, so first come first serve for your preference and reservation of space. You may request either a full 3x6 Table or to reserve ½ table and share with another Tribal Artisan. Due to space, only enrolled CTCLUSI members are eligible to participate, and you will be responsible for your items and any method of payments for your merchandise.

16th Annual Peace Hike:
A Commemoration of Resilience and Remembrance

Yachats Commons – 441 Highway 101 N, Yachats, Oregon

New Year's Day 2026, Yachats, Oregon, will host the **16th Annual Peace Hike**, a meaningful event that honors the legacy of the indigenous peoples who endured immense suffering under government-sponsored genocidal policies during the 19th century.

The Peace Hike commemorates the tragic history of the Alsea Subagency (1860–1875), highlighting the story of Amanda, a blind Native American (Coos) woman who was forcibly separated from her daughter and marched barefoot with other captives over 80 miles of rugged terrain to the Alsea Subagency prison camp in Yachats in 1864. This annual gathering serves as a solemn remembrance of those who lost their lives and a celebration of the resilience of their descendants, many of whom participate in the event each year.

A Time for Reflection and Education

The Peace Hike invites participants to reflect on the atrocities faced by the Coos, Lower Umpqua, Siuslaw, and Alsea Peoples and to deepen their understanding of this painful history. To support learning and reflection, participants are encouraged to:

- Watch the video **"The Genocide of the Alsea Subagency"**, narrated by Patricia Whereat Phillips, Miluk Coos, and the late Chief Donald Slyter of the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians: www.youtube.com/watch?v=N6D-wkqXGy0.
- Explore the detailed **Amanda's Trail Curriculum**, created by the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians: https://ctsi.nsn.us/sb-13-curriculum/#7th-grade . **Schedule of Events January 1, 2026** The day will be filled with ceremonies, reflections, and guided trail walks designed to honor the past and bring the community together:

8:30 – 9 AM – Doors Open at the Commons– Welcome - Yellow Bear (Yachats /community Drum) story.

9:00 AM – Mayor's welcome Greeting -Origin of Hike – Physical Safety - Emotional Support Instructions.

9:30 AM – Opening Prayer – Story Telling -Amanda Story.

10:30 AM – Ceremonial cedar distributed - a fire will be lit at the Commons Park - the longer 2.2-mile Amanda Trail hike commences.

10:45 AM – Shorter trail walk commences, followed by the offering of cedar to the fire.

12:00 PM – Fire closing at the Commons Park.

12:00 PM – Amanda Gathering Area ceremony begins with a second fire, and cedar offering, prayers, songs, and stories from Tribal members.

Water, energy bars, and cookies generously prepared by the **Yachats Ladies Club** will be available at both the Commons and the Amanda Gathering Area.

DURING THE ENTIRE CEREMONIES, PLEASE ADHERE TO NO PHOTOS, AUDIO NOR VIDEO.

- All participants will receive a beautifully crafted Peace Hike button designed by Terri Theisen, Hanis Coos, Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians.

Join the Community in Honoring the Past

The Peace Hike is a testament to the strength of the human spirit and a call to remember and learn from the past. Everyone is welcome to join this meaningful event in Yachats, a community dedicated to honoring its history while fostering healing and unity for the future.

Acknowledging Our Sponsors

For more information, please contact: joannekittel@viewthefuture.org or yachatstrails@gmail.com

IMPORTANT FITNESS PROGRAM REMINDER:

Receipts for July-December 2025 are due no later than January 14, 2026.
Late submissions will not be accepted.
QUESTIONS? Contact fitnessprogram@ctclusi.org

2026 Peace Hike Featured Artist: Terri Theisen

We are happy to announce that **Terri Theisen's artwork has been selected as the featured piece for the 2026 Peace Hike**. Her beautiful and heartfelt submission is truly stunning and will be showcased throughout this year's event, including on the 2026 Peace Hike button.

We also want to recognize the other talented artisans whose artwork will be featured in the consecutive years ahead:

- **2027:** Cody Theisen
- **2028:** Ashley Vandevort
- **2029:** Morgan Gaines

Each artist will be highlighted in the year their artwork is featured, and we look forward to honoring their stories and creativity in the years to come.

A warm reminder that the **Peace Hike will take place on January 1st in Yachats**, and we would love to see more Tribal members join us as they feel comfortable. It's a meaningful way to welcome the new year together—in community and in good heart.

For more information and details on this event,
Contact: Alycia Cossey
Cultural Stewardship Associate
acossey@ctclusi.org
541-294-1237



CTCLUSI Tribal Citizen Terri Theisen pictured above in front of one of her art pieces.

CTCLUSI Tribal Citizen Terri Theisen's artwork for the 2026 Peace Hike pictured below.

Original: Acrylic on Canvas



Roots and Visions: A Celebration of Our Art, Culture, and Resilience

Contributed by Alycia Cossey, Culture Stewarship Associate





The *Roots and Visions* exhibit opened on October 24th with an outpouring of community, pride, and love. Over 100 tribal members and families gathered at the Coos Art Museum for the Tribal Member & Family Grand Opening — filling the space with laughter, connection, and a few tears of gratitude and joy.

Tribal leaders Chair Brenda Meade (Coquille Indian Tribe), Peter Hatch (Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians), and Chief Doug Barrett (CTCLUSI) shared heartfelt words about the power of this exhibit and what it means to see our culture represented so beautifully.

Across Friday and Saturday, more than 300 people visited *Roots and Visions* — marking the largest opening the Coos Art Museum has ever hosted. The energy of the weekend carried on as visitors from across the region came with open hearts and curiosity. Many of our artisans even returned with their families, proudly sharing their work and stories with loved ones.





This exhibit is a true celebration of who we are — our creativity, our teachings, our technologies, our stories, and our resilience. To see our art and stories shared and honored in a public space like this is powerful. It shows that our people and our culture continue to live and grow — rooted in the teachings of our ancestors and reaching forward with strength and vision.

Even for those who couldn't attend the opening, the feeling has been the same — this exhibit carries something healing. It's a moment of visibility, pride, and collective strength for our people, right here on our homelands.



Photographs courtesy of CTCLUSI Council member Julie Siestreem whom attended the Grand Opening



Hands up to all the artisans who made *Roots and Visions* possible:

iila (Earla) Kirk, Terri Theisen, Cody Theisen, Jessica Olson, Morgan Gaines, Mark Petrie, and Ayuthea LaPier-Kipp.

Your talent, heart, courage and generosity of spirit brought Roots and visions to life. k'ele, luuwii, hiisa, for sharing your gifts, your stories so openly. You have created something that honors our ancestors and uplifts our community — a gift that will continue to inspire all who walk through these doors.

Roots and Visions will remain on display at the Coos Art Museum through **January 25, 2026**. We hope all Tribal members take time to visit, reflect, and feel the pride of seeing our art and stories represented in this way.

Fall Harvest and Drum Making...continued from Cover Page















CTCLUSI Hosts Native Caring Conference

Contributed by Kimmy Bixby, Community Health Representative

Our 17th Annual Native Caring Conference was held on October 15th and 16th, at Three Rivers Casino Resort in our Events Center. Many Tribes attended, including our partnering Tribes - The Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indian Reservation, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Coquille Indian Tribe, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, and Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians. Tribal people came from as far as Nevada and North Dakota, surely to experience the greatness of Wilson and Mitch! Mitch Factor would make a great game show host as he took to the mic with poise and finesse, leaving our audience in fits of laughter. Wilson Wewa was the cherry on top with his comedic genius wit.

We opened with a blessing from Chief Barrett, followed by Guest Speakers Russ Jones with Adult Protective Services, and Wilson Wewa speaking on Elder Abuse. The entertainment, games, and banter between sessions was a great way to lighten the mood. We all enjoyed the delicious food during breaks and lunch and then took to the outdoors for a refreshing walk around the golf course. Everyone who joined the walk earned a raffle ticket for some amazing prizes.

As our walk concluded and evening drew near, we gathered for dinner, blessed by Wilson, and had a blast engaging in games, singing contests and joke contests (none of which became too inappropriate!). Day one came to an end after a wild and crazy game of unrolling a ball of plastic wrap for candy and a grand prize in the center! Congrats to the winners!

The next day started off with some delicious bacon and sausage for breakfast as people trickled in for the opening blessing. Our first guest speaker, Sonya Begay, began with Culture and how to connect and heal. Next up we had Armando Martinez, Eli Grove and Danny Martinez on Emergency Preparedness- what a great presentation! Before we gathered for lunch we enjoyed a very interactive presentation from Carolyn Cruz, on Learning more about ourselves.



CTCLUSI Staff left to right, seated row: Armando Martinez, Diann Weaver, Kimmy Bixby, and Barb Black. Standing, TPD Chief Brian Dubray and Doug Morrison



MC Mitch Factor and Wilson Wewa



CTCLUSI Vice Chair Teresa Spangler with Elder Pam Davies

After lunch, everyone broke into three different workshop sessions. These sessions were on Fraud and Financial abuse, by Karla Martinez; Effective Communication for Dementia, by Lori Stanton; and the 'Sandwich Generation', by Lualhati Anderson. These workshops were very well put together, and we all gained great knowledge on the topics.

We closed this wonderful conference with some fun little activities led by Mitch and Wilson. We ended the day with laughter, smiles, more raffle prizes, and lots of farewell hugs.

A huge thank you goes out to everyone who made this event as amazing as it was, including our guest speakers, hosts, partnering Tribes staff, and Three Rivers Casino staff and catering. THANK YOU! We look forward to next year's Native Caring Conference; location and hosting Tribe to be announced at a later date.



Armando Martinez leads Emergency Preparedness presentation with Eli Grove and Danny Martinez

Elders Christmas Luncheon
December 19th - Florence, OR.
Three Rivers Casino Resort Events Center
RSVP by 12/5 to 541-888-7520

Welcome New Tribal Elder
Nicole Van Mulligen

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

Elders Corner

Tribal Elder Dee Dee Plaep Walks On



Dianna Laurie Plaep, affectionately known as Dee Dee, passed away peacefully on October 18, 2025, at the age of 69, in her home in Westlake, Oregon. She was the beloved daughter of the late Edwina Siestreem Clarkson and Carl Clarkson.

Dee Dee graduated from Marshfield High School in Coos Bay where she was born and raised. In Coos Bay, she met and married her first husband Thomas Warrick. They later moved to Florence, Oregon for work and to raise a family. Throughout her life, she was dedicated to her community and worked in varies roles that reflected her commitment and versatility. Her career journey included positions at Western Bank, where she served as a teller and personal banker, and at the Siuslaw Middle School as a teachers assistant. She also worked at the Sportsman sporting goods store, handling sales and bookkeeping. Dee Dee retired from her role as a receptionist at the Florence Outreach Office and helped with the Elders Activities and Fitness Program with the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians, where she made significant contributions to her community.

Beyond her professional life, Dee Dee was deeply passionate about the outdoors and animals. She especially enjoyed horses which she owned most of her life. She raised several donkeys and always had a dog or two. She also had a passion for quad riding, a walk on the beach, gardening, knitting, sodoku puzzles and everyone's favorite, baking desserts.

Dee Dee's life was characterized by her humorous, kind, loving and creative personality. She was a family-oriented individual who cherished moments spent teasing and tormenting her coworkers and loved ones all in good spirits. Above all, her greatest joy was her two sons, Walker and Logan Warrick, and granddaughter Kinsley.

She is survived by her husband Bruce Plaep; children, Logan and Walker Warrick; siblings, Mary Byer, Sharon Arnold and Richard Clarkson; and granddaughter Kinsley Warrick. She had numerous nephews and nieces and families that she so cherished.

Celebration of Life will be held at 2:00pm on December 7, 2025, at Three Rivers Casino in Florence, Oregon.

Baldija Memorial Project Update

Contributed by Tabitha Messenger, Project Coordinator

The Baldija Memorial Project continues to make exciting progress. Recently, the project reached a major milestone with the installation of the memorial walls. Each wall weighs an impressive 18,000 pounds, requiring a large crane to lift and position them safely. Thanks to careful planning and coordination, all of the walls were successfully set in place within a single day.

To accommodate the heavy equipment needed for installation, the crew temporarily widened the roadway using rock and metal slabs. This precaution helped protect the existing road surface and shoulders from damage during the crane operations.

With the walls now standing, the Contractor has begun backfilling and grading the surrounding area to prepare the site for the next phase. The upcoming work includes the installation of the Oyster Shell pathways, which will help define the space and enhance the memorial's overall design.

We look forward to sharing more updates as the Baldija Memorial Project continues to take shape.







CTCLUSI Elders Honor Day

Contributed by Barbara Black, Tribal Navigator

The Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians hosted the 26th Anniversary Elders Honor Day. This year's event was held at the Three Rivers Casino Resort in Florence, Oregon on Friday, September 12, 2025.

Registration began promptly at 10:00 am. Guests made their way to their table to find a beautiful gift bag. Inside was a sage smudge kit, Cranberry Sweets personalized cranberries, a can of CTCLUSI salmon, and other miscellaneous items. The room was decorated in fall colors such as gold, red, and yellow.



Opening welcome and invocation was given by Chief Doug Barrett, while Tribal Council Chairman Brad Kneaper hosted as Master of Ceremony for the morning portion of the event. Tribal Council members and Elder Committee members were asked to stand to be recognized. Elder Veterans were also asked to stand and were thanked for their services.

The announcement was called for the King and Queen. This year for King was our own Warren A Brainard and our Queen Nellie Zimmer. The beautiful crowns were made of cedar bark crafted by Morgan Gaines. The incredible necklaces were crafted by Arleen Perkins. Each was blanketed with either a Pendleton blanket or an 8th Generation blanket.

The oldest male was 97-year-old Edmond Ben from Confederated Tribe of Siletz. Oldest female was 92-year-old Maxine Marlow from CTCLUSI.

Raffle tickets were sold throughout the day for 1 ticket for $1.00 or 6 tickets for $5.00. The profits from raffle sales go back into the Elders program to help fund the Elders Scholarship for Tribal students.

The lunch social was the Heceta Beach BBQ Buffet. BBQ chicken and pork ribs, buttered corn on the cob, baked beans, mixed green salads and much more. Delicious.

10 Bingo games were played, as players had the excitement of anticipation to win the lucky card.

Dinner was another buffet. This time the meal consisted of the baked Salmon, beef pot roast, rice pilaf, and roasted vegetables – enjoyed by all.



The raffle had great prizes this year. It consisted of beautiful handmade necklaces, blankets, purses, backpacks, handmade Diamond Art pictures, and many more special items.

This concluded the main event. Elders were able to check out and pick purchases from the three vendors outside the event room. There were great items for sale.

A shout out to Tru Furniture & Co. for the lending of the King and Queen chairs.

Breakfast the next morning was good; however, this writer learned a lesson to always have bacon on the breakfast menu. I can still hear the voices calling out, "Where's the bacon?"















Finding Comfort and Balance During the Winter Season

Contributed by Elizabeth Escobedo, MS, CHES, Diabetes Educator

The winter season brings family, friends, and celebrations. Moments filled with joy, laughter, and good food. These times can also bring changes that affect your routine, sleep, meals, or stress. Stress can influence blood sugar. Taking care of your mind, body, and spirit supports your well-being and helps you stay balanced.

Simple Ways to Reduce Stress
(Inspired by the Indian Health Service, The American Diabetes Association, and diaTribe)

- **Begin with the calm and honor traditions:** Start your day with prayer, meditation, a warm cup of herbal tea, or other practices that bring meaning and comfort. Celebrate traditional foods, gathering berries, traditional herbs, mushrooms, or cultural practices that help you feel centered and supported.
- **Move with joy:** Walking, dancing, playing a sport, creating art, or bead working. Movement is also medicine. Find joyful movement that you like to do.
- **Breath and reset:** Try "box breathing" Inhale for 4 counts, hold for 4, exhale for 4, hold for 4. It helps your body relax and your heart rate slow.
- **Connect with others:** Spend time with friends, family, or reach out to a traditional adviser. Join community events, volunteer at a cultural center, or elder program. Connection builds strength.
- **Set health limits**: It's okay to say "No" to things that feel overwhelming. Protect your energy.
- **Rest deeply**: Aim for 7-8 hours of sleep so your body can recharge and support stable blood sugars.

Every small step toward balance counts. Keep things simple and stress-free, even in nourishment.

Recipe Corner: Simple Comfort for a Calm Day

Butternut Squash with Apples, Cranberries, and Walnuts*
**Adapted from Diabetes Self-Management*

Yield: 4 servings **Serving size: 3/4 cup**

Ingredients:

- 2 teaspoons of butter
- 3 cups cubed (about 1/2 inch) peeled butternut squash
- 1 tablespoon packed brown sugar or low-glycemic alternative Swerve, Splenda, Truvia
- Cinnamon, salt, black pepper to taste (add nutmeg or ginger also to taste)
- 1 cup of cubed (about 1/2 inch) peeled Granny Smith apple
- 2 tablespoons. dried cranberries (unsweetened if possible)
- 1 cup of water
- 2 tablespoons chopped walnuts

Directions: Melt butter in large skillet over medium heat. Add squash, sweetener, cinnamon, salt, and pepper; stir to coat. Add water, cover and simmer for 10min. Add apples and cranberries, cover, and cook for 10 more minutes until squash is tender. Stir in walnuts before serving.

Keep it simple: Use your favorite nuts or skip them if you like, season to taste, use spices you enjoy! Skip adding extra sugar. Let the natural flavors of spices and ingredients shine! The goal is comfort and nourishment, keeping it simple and stress-free.

Resolution Summaries

RESOLUTION NO.: 25-111
Date of Passage: June 25, 2025
Subject (title): Unmanned Aircraft Systems Purchase for Tribal Police Department
Explanation: Tribal Council approves this purchase for the Tribal Police. **Vote 7-0-0**

RESOLUTION NO.: 25-112
Date of Passage: June 25, 2025
Subject (title): Personal Service Contract
Explanation: Tribal Council approves the agreement for the Forestry Department. **Vote 7-0-0**

RESOLUTION NO.: 25-113
Date of Passage: June 25, 2025
Subject (title): DCNR Request for Approval to Submit an Application to the Spirit Mountain Community Fund, Oregon Tribal Grand for 2025-2026 Funding Year
Explanation: Tribal Council approves and supports this grant. **Vote 6-0-1**

RESOLUTION NO.: 25-114
Date of Passage: June 25, 2025
Subject (title): Task Order 2025-2027 with Siuslaw Watershed Council for haich ikt at uu (formerly Waite Ranch) Tidal Wetland Project
Explanation: Tribal Council approves and supports this project. **Vote 6-0-1.**

RESOLUTION NO.: 25-115
Date of Passage: May 28, 2025
Subject (title): Personal Service Contract
Explanation: Tribal Council approves this contract for the Education Department.
Vote 7-0-0

RESOLUTION NO.: 25-116
Date of Passage: June 25, 2025
Subject (title): Gaming Machine Order and Financing and Security Agreement
Explanation: Tribal Council approves this agreement for Three Rivers Casino Florence and Coos Bay. **Vote 6-0-1**

RESOLUTION NO.: 25-117
Date of Passage: June 25, 2025
Subject (title): Gaming Equipment Order
Explanation: Tribal Council approves this order for Three Rivers Casino Coos Bay. **Vote 6-0-1**

RESOLUTION NO.: 25-118
Date of Passage: June 25, 2025
Subject (title): Gaming second Amendment Machine Order
Explanation: Tribal Council approves the amendment for machines at Three Rivers Casino Florence. **Vote 6-0-1**

RESOLUTION NO.: 25-119
Date of Passage: June 25, 2025
Subject (title): Professional Service Contract
Explanation: Tribal Council approves the contract for Three Rivers Casino Florence. **Vote 6-0-1**

RESOLUTION NO.: 25-120
Date of Passage: June 25, 2025
Subject (title): Gaming Machine Order
Explanation: Tribal Council approves the order for four new machines at Three Rivers Casino Florence. **Vote 6-0-1**

RESOLUTION NO.: 25-121
Date of Passage: June 25, 2025
Subject (title): Master Gaming Device Purchase and Lease
Explanation: Tribal Council approves this agreement for Three Rivers Casino. **Vote 6-0-1**

RESOLUTION NO.: 25-122
Date of Passage: June 25, 2025
Subject (title): Master Gaming Device Purchase and Lease
Explanation: Tribal Council approves this agreement for Three Rivers Casino. Vote **6-0-1**

RESOLUTION NO.: 25-123
Date of Passage: June 25, 2025
Subject (title): Approval of Expenditures from the ODE Tribal Early Literacy for Early Literacy Books
Explanation: Tribal Council approves this to further support DCNR Language Program. **Vote 7-0-0**

RESOLUTION NO.: 25-124
Date of Passage: June 25, 2025
Subject (title): Payment Processing Agreement
Explanation: Tribal Council approves this agreement for Three Rivers Health Center and Three Rivers Pharmacy. **Vote 6-0-1**

RESOLUTION NO.: 25-125
Date of Passage: June 25, 2025
Subject (title): Insurance Renewal
Explanation: Tribal Council approves this agreement for Tribal Government. **Vote 7-0-0**

RESOLUTION NO.: 25-126
Date of Passage: June 25, 2025
Subject (title): Baldija Memorial Phase 3 Funding
Explanation: Tribal Council approves and supports this project and additional resources. **Vote 7-0-0**

RESOLUTION NO.: 25-127
Date of Passage: July 13, 2025
Subject (title): CTCLUSI and Coos Bay School District Credit Recovery MOU Approval
Explanation: Tribal Council approves this agreement for the Education Department.**Vote 7-0-0**

RESOLUTION NO.: 25-128
Date of Passage: July 13, 2025
Subject (title): Revised Tribal Forest Access Policy
Explanation: Tribal Council approves this policy for the Forestry Department. **Vote 7-0-0**

RESOLUTION NO.: 25-129
Date of Passage: July 13, 2025
Subject (title): Oregon Housing and Community Service Amended Grant Agreement
Explanation: Tribal Council approves this amendment for the Housing Department. **Vote7-0-0**

In this public paper, some Resolution titles and explanations will not be displayed or minimal details due to confidentiality.

Posted December 1, 2025

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TRIBAL MEMBERSHIP

Below is a list of proposed Enrollment. Besides publication in the Tribal Newsletter, according to CLUSITC 7-1-36(i), this information will be posted in the Administrative Building, Tribal Hall, Outreach Offices, on the Tribes' website and at Three Rivers Casino for twenty-eight (28) days from the date listed above.

Easton Wade O'Brien	**Evelynn Faye O'Brien**
Parent: Emily Anderson	Parent: Emily Anderson
Lineal Descendant: Charlene Billings	Lineal Descendant: Charlene Billings
Tribe: Coos	Tribe: Coos
Karen Lorraine Dearman	**Tayvon Khalen**
Parent: Sherill Powell	Parent: Sherill Powell
Lineal Descendant: Mabel Bennett-Barney	Lineal Descendant: Mabel Bennett-Barney
Tribe: Coos	Tribe: Coos
Michael Jerome Powell II	**Regan Skyler Powell**
Parent: Tayvon Khalen	Parent: Tayvon Khalen
Lineal Descendant: Mabel Bennett-Barney	Lineal Descendant: Mabel Bennett-Barney
Tribe: Coos	Tribe: Coos
Damoni Miguel Powell	**Ziah Jordan Napier**
Parent: Tayvon Khalen	Parent: Rebecca Napier
Lineal Descendant: Mabel Bennett-Barney	Lineal Descendant: Mae Hattie Spencer
Tribe: Coos	Tribe: Lower Umpqua
Koda-Sky Jade Grimmbane	**Ryleigh Grace Bass**
Parent: Tiffany Bolling	Parent: Kaila Bass
Lineal Descendant: Amy Ona Belle Bolling	Lineal Descendant: Jane J Jordan
Tribe: Coos	Tribe: Coos
Donovan Christopher Dull	
Parent: Galen Dull	
Lineal Descendant: Roy Robert Brainard	
Tribe: Coos	

In accordance with CLUSITC 7-1-37(a), Tribal Members shall have the right to protest the recommendation of the Committee approving an application and must file a written, signed protest with the Committee stating their reasons for believing that an Applicant(s) is not entitled to enrollment. The protest must be filed with the Committee within twenty-eight (28) days after notice of the proposed enrollment is posted as described in CLUSITC 7-1-36(i).



Honoring the Service of Native American Veterans

To all CTCLUSI Members who may have served in any branch of the military, we 'Thank You'.
November was Native American Heritage Month, a time to honor the military service of Native Americans, who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces at the highest rates of any racial or ethnic group.
If you or a Tribal family member has served in any military branch of service please reach out to enrollment@ctclusi.org and provide us with this important information so you or your loved one can be honored in the Tribal Hall.

North Bend Public Library Display – *Language Revitalization*

Contributed by Alycia Cossey, Culture Stewarship Associate

In honor of Native American Heritage Month this November, the North Bend Public Library hosted the traveling Native Innovations Exhibit, which celebrates the creativity and ingenuity of Oregon Tribes. The exhibit was originally developed in collaboration with CTCLUSI Culture staff and other tribes of Oregon.

As part of this year's celebration, the library invited our Tribe and The Tribe of Coquille Indians to contribute additional displays during the exhibit. We were excited to feature our Early Literacy Language Books, developed by the Language Revitalization Program and rolled out this past summer and fall. To complement the display, Morgan Gaines created posters showcasing the artisans, their artwork, and the sounds of our languages. It's wonderful to see miluk, hanis, and sha'yuushtɬ'a uɬ quuiich continuing to take up space in public across our homelands—and growing in presence and visibility for all to experience.

On November 13th, Patty shared storytelling with attendees, bringing our languages and stories to life for everyone who came to experience the exhibit.

The display was a meaningful way to share our languages and traditions, and we're glad to see them continue to grow and take up space in the community.



CTCLUSI Social Services Guide to the Holiday Season

Contributed by Nichole Benner, ICWA Case Manager

As the holiday season begins, it can bring both joy and challenge. While we gather to celebrate family, community, and tradition, many carry the weight of financial stress, grief, and food insecurity. It's okay to admit that this time of year can be hard especially when expectations feel heavy.

In the face of adversity, we can also find strength. This community has always found ways to care for one another, share with others, and walk together through difficult times.

1. Remember the Heart of the Season

The holidays aren't about how much we spend; they are about connection, love and gratitude. For many, this time is a chance to honor ancestors, share stories, and be thankful. A warm meal, laughter with family, or a quiet moment in nature can mean far more than anything money can buy.

2. Give with a good heart.

Even when resources are few, we can still give in ways that matter. A home-cooked dish, a handmade gift or time spent helping an Elder are all acts of generosity that reflect traditional ways. Sharing from the heart keeps spirits strong and serves as a reminder that giving doesn't always come from the pocket, it comes from the heart.

3. Lean on Community and Resources

It's okay to ask for help. Many Native organizations, tribal programs, and local food banks offer support during the holidays. Whether it's a food box, a community meal or help with heating or clothing, these programs exist because there is strength in community. If you know someone struggling, reach out. Sometimes just checking in or offering a ride to a food distribution site can make a big difference.

Need A Little Extra Support?

Contributed by Abbigail Thomas, Circles of Healing Outreach Advocate

CTCLUSI Social Services sees many tribal members for various reasons, but as the holidays approach, we start to see tribal members who are struggling with feelings of being alone. We acknowledge that this time of year can be especially hard. We wanted to address this and let tribal members know that they aren't alone. They have supports all around them. If you, or someone you know, are struggling and you need someone to talk to, please text the word NATIVE to the Crisis Text Line at 741741 and they will respond. This is a 24/7 text line that you can text for culturally encouraging support.



Free, 24/7, confidential crisis support by text.

In crisis?

Text NATIVE to 741741.

Food & Meal Assistance

South Coast Food Share (Coos & Curry Counties)
- Regional food bank distributing to pantries and community meal sites.
- Find pantry locations: .
- Phone: 541-888-1574
- Address: 1855 Thomas Ave, Coos Bay, OR 97420

Coos Food Cupboard (Downtown Coos Bay)
- Open: Mon/Wed/Fri 12–2 pm | Thurs 5–7 pm
- Location: 4th & Market Ave (Episcopal Church)
- Offers walk-in food boxes, no long forms required.
- Website: episcopalcoosbay.org/coos-food-cupboard

Salvation Army "Hope Market" Pantry (Coos Bay)
- 1155 Flanagan Ave, Coos Bay | 541-888-5202
- Open Tues–Thurs 9–11 am, one visit per month per household.
- coosbay.salvationarmy.org

FOOD for Lane County (Eugene & Surrounding Areas)
- Main regional food bank with dozens of partner pantries and meal sites.
- Address: 770 Bailey Hill Rd, Eugene | 541-343-2822
- Website: foodforlanecounty.org

Burrito Brigade (Eugene/Springfield)
- Free food boxes ("Waste to Taste") + neighborhood "Little Free Pantries."
- Address: 1775 W 6th Ave, Eugene | burritobrigade.org
- No ID or proof of income required.

Catholic Community Services of Lane County
- Food Pantry & Emergency Support
  Eugene: 1464 W 6th Ave | Springfield: 1025 G St
  541-345-3628 | ccslc.org
- Mon/Wed/Fri 8 am–4 pm (Eugene site).

Financial & Basic Needs Help

Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance Program
- Monthly assistance for food, clothing, shelter, and utilities for eligible tribal members.
- Contact: BIA Salem District Office | 503-231-6702
- Info: bia.gov

Lane County Human Services Energy & Rent Assistance
- 541-682-4038 | lanecommunityaction.org
- LIHEAP energy aid and emergency rent/utility help.

Mental Health & Emotional Support

SAMHSA National Helpline
- 1-800-662-HELP (4357) | Free & Confidential 24/7
- Connects callers with local counseling, treatment, or support.

988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline
- Call or text **988** for immediate help from trained counselors.
- Native callers can press "4" to connect with the **Native & Strong Lifeline**, staffed by Indigenous counselors who understand Native culture and values.
  More info: 988lifeline.org

Disaster Distress Helpline
- 1-800-985-5990 | For people feeling overwhelmed by stress, grief, or hardship.

White Bird Clinic (Crisis & Counseling, Eugene)
- Walk-in crisis center, phone & mobile support.
- 341 E 12th Ave, Eugene | 541-687-4000 | whitebirdclinic.org

CTCLUSI Social Services and Circles of Healing

541-435-7183

socialservices@ctclusi.org

CTCLUSI Human Resources
recruitment@ctclusihr.org

COOS BAY JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Department	Job Title	Status	Age	Starting Wage
DNRC	Camp Director**	FT	25+	$83,000/yr - DOE
Health Services	Clinic Manager	FT	18+	$95,000/yr - DOE
Health Services	Community Health Nurse*	FT	25+	$83,430.00/yr - DOE
Forestry	Forestry Program Coordinator*	FT	25+	$26.59/hr - DOE
Health Services	Nurse Practitioner	FT	26+	$124,656/yr - DOE
Health Services	Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner	FT	21+	$145,000/yr - DOE
Special Events	Depends on Assignment	OC	14+	Depends on Assignment
Natural Resources & Culture	Tribal Archaeologist**	FT**	25+	$68,000/yr - DOE

FLORENCE JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Department	Job Title	Status	Age	Starting Wage
DNRC	Camp Director**	FT**	25+	$83,000/yr - DOE
Gaming Commission	Licensing Associate	FT	21+	$22.30/hr - DOE
Special Events	Depends on Assignment	OC	14+	Depends on Assignment
Natural Resources & Culture	Tribal Archaeologist**	FT**	25+	$68,000/yr - DOE

EUGENE JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Department	Job Title	Status	Age	Starting Wage
Health Services	Public Health Nurse*	FT	25+	$83,200/yr. - DOE
Special Events	Depends on Assignment	OC	14+	Depends on Assignment
Natural Resources & Culture	Tribal Archaeologist**	FT**	25+	$68,000/yr - DOE

*Position requires a valid driver's license and ability to be insurable by CTCLUSI's insurance agency.
** This posting represents one full-time position offered across multiple locations; applicants may select their desired location.

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: 11/19/2025

Excellence Report
Three Rivers Health Center Dental Department

I would like to take a moment to thank you, and your staff, for all that you did for me.Your kindness and professionalism goes above and beyond, and I appreciate it! I recommend you, your staff, and the clinic to anyonewho asks me. Please sharewith your team members, and once again,thank you guys!

Sincerely Aaron Gentry

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.

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

What is Fair Housing?

Contributed by Leslie Thompson, Housing Assistant

What is Fair Housing?
Fair housing is the right to choose where you live without facing discrimination based on protected classes. Under the Federal Fair Housing Act, it is illegal for landlords, leasing agents, property management agencies, maintenance staff, insurance companies, and government bodies to discriminate against anyone based on a protected class status.

Where is Fair Housing covered?
The Fair Housing Act was voted on and passed by Congress in 1968, making it applicable nationwide. This means it does not matter whether you live in Maine, Nebraska, Oregon, or Alaska, providers of housing cannot practice discrimination based on protected classes.

What are the federally protected classes anyways?
While the federally protected classes include race, sex, national origin, religion, familial status, and ability level, Oregon has chosen to add the protected statuses of sexual orientation, source of income, marital status, and domestic violence survivorship.

Why is Fair Housing important?
Fair Housing is important because it promotes equal opportunity for citizens to access safe and healthy homes. Fair Housing also aids in creating inclusive and diverse environments that reflect the communities that make up our great state of Oregon.

How do you report housing discrimination?
If you believe that you have been discriminated against while trying to access housing, or are currently in housing, you can go to the FHCO (Fair Housing Council of Oregon) website at fhco.org, you can email questions to them at information@fhco.org, or you can reach them by phone at (503)-223-8197 Ext. 2.

Would you like to know more information or how to get involved?
The FHCO has a great website that hosts a wealth of information and resources. They provide education, training, host events, post newsletters and updates related to Fair Housing in Oregon. You can access their website at fhco.org.



CTCLUSI RENTAL ASST.

This program assists low income Tribal Families maintain a rental home such as an apartment, house, duplex, or other approved rental unit by paying a portion of the rent directly to a private landlord and/or property management company. This program is only available in the State of Oregon.

Student rental assistance is also available to full time college students who are enrolled with CTCLUSI's Education Department and who meet the program criteria. Student Rental Assistance is available throughout the United States.

Waitlists are utilized if funding is unavailable at time of application.

FULL-TIME COLLEGE STUDENTS ***INQUIRE NOW!***

FIRST COME - FIRST SERVE

STATEWIDE TENANT BASED ASSISTANCE

CTCLUSI HOUSING DEPT.
1320 Neese St.
Coos Bay, OR 97420
(541)-888-1310
Monday-Friday
8am-5pm

Upcoming Events

RSVP for events by calling

1-541-435-7155

December 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Three Rivers Casino Resort Food and Toy Drive				
7	8	9	10	11 Culture Committee Meeting 4pm	12	13 Holiday Celebration Three Rivers Casino Resort
		Three Rivers Casino Resort Food and Toy Drive				
14 Regular Council Meeting 10:00 am	15	16	17	18	19 Elders Christmas Luncheon, Florence 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 New Year's Eve	1 Peace Hike Yachats, Oregon New Year's Day Tribal Offices Closed	2	3

January 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve	1 Peace Hike Yachats, Oregon New Year's Day Tribal Offices Closed	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 Culture Committee Meeting 4pm	9	10
11 Regular Council Meeting 10:00 am	12	13	14 2025 Fitness Program Reimbursement Deadline	15 Deadline for Tribal Council candidate to run Position Statement in February paper	16	17 Cedar Cape Workshop Series,Eugene
18 Cedar Cape Workshop Series,Eugene	19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day All Tribal Offices Closed	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Hiis Haiyach – with a good heart

Three Rivers Casino Resort Hosts Annual Food and Toy Drive to Support Families in Need

FLORENCE, Ore. — Three Rivers Casino Resort is holding its annual Food and Toy Drive from **Nov. 3 to Dec. 14.** The drive benefits local families in need as it strengthens partnerships between the casino, the Florence Police Department, and community organizations.

Guests can bring in a new, unwrapped toy or three nonperishable food items to Player Services. They will receive $5 in free play once a week. Donors who bring both a toy and food can receive up to $10 total each week.

"We really appreciate working with Three Rivers for the toy and food drive program that we have here in Florence," said Florence Police Department School Resource Officer Hailey Coons. "They're a big part of the service we're able to offer our community during the holiday season. Community organizations nominate families who've been struggling or just having a rough year, and it's such a rewarding experience to make sure every child has a happy holiday."

"I think it's fabulous when businesses give back to the community they serve," said Food Drive recipient Beth Bolles. "My wife and I live on Social Security, and it was becoming increasingly difficult to decide what bills to pay. Discovering we were eligible for the food share helped us immensely. Foodshare has given me so much more than food; it's a wonderful community of caring humans."

Coons said Legos, sports equipment, and books are among the most popular gifted items. When it comes to food donations, coffee, cereal, peanut butter, canned fruits and vegetables, and macaroni and cheese are especially needed for families.

Over the last five years, Three Rivers Casino Resort has helped to give out more than 2,500 toys and cans of food. "We'd love for everyone to help donate so we can make every family have a fantastic holiday season," added Coons.

For more information, visit www.threeriverscasino.com







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 complete a Letter of Interest Form to be considered by the Tribal Council.

Below are two NEW committees:

1. Chapter 7-15 Cultural Coalition Committee-FINAL

On Sunday November 9, 2025, Tribal Council passed for second reading and final approval of the creation of the Culture Coalition Committee. This Committee Code may be found on the Tribes website. Members may submit letters of interest for consideration to be involved in this newly established Committee at this time.

2. Chapter 7-16 Visions Committee-28 Day Comment Period

On Sunday November 9, 2025, Tribal Council passed this new committee code for first reading and 28-day comment period and at this time we are seeking interested people to become a member of the Visions Committee, if approved on January 11, 2026. Members may review the draft code now on the Tribes Website. If interested in joining or have any comments during the comment period, please email enrollment@ctclusi.org.

Letters of Interest forms can be found on the Tribes' website: www.ctclusi.org. Questions? If you would like to know any further details, please contact: Lorin Krossman by email, enrollment@ctclusi.org or call 541-888-9577.

