The Voice of CLUSI

February 2026

Issue 2

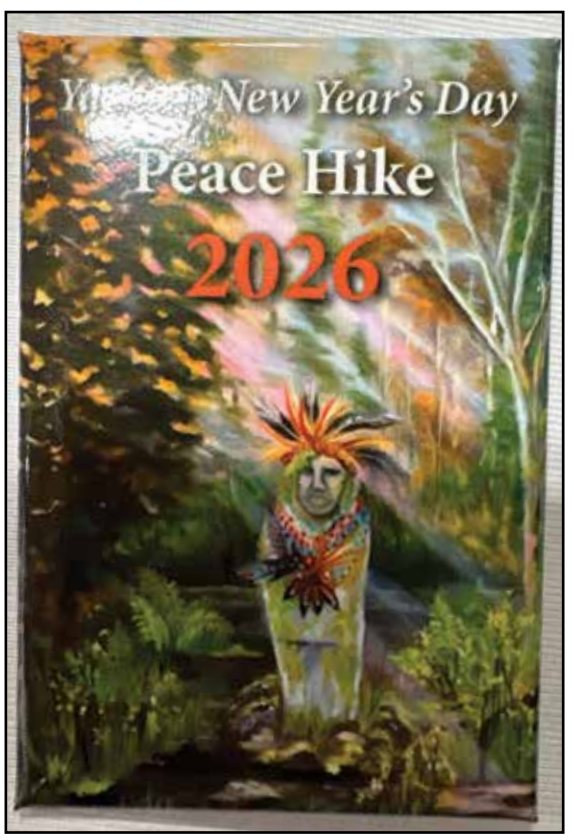
Volume 27

www.ctclusi.org

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

16th Annual Peace Hike Brings in the New Year
k'ele nəluwehe, luuwii niluwechise, hiisəch hai (with a good heart)







YACHATS, Ore. -

The Commons Welcome Gathering was a heartfelt coming together of community members, visitors, and tribal guests. The commemoration of the 16th Annual Yachats Peace Hike felt especially resonant this year, carrying a depth of connection and intention from the very beginning.

The morning opened with the steady rhythm of Yellow Bear, the Yachats Community Drum, inviting all who gathered to take a seat and join in a welcoming beat. A series of speakers then helped set the tone for the day, offering guidance on the options for participation, either the hike or a village walk, along with the Mayor's welcome, a tribal prayer, the telling of the Amanda story, and reflections and offerings from tribal members that grounded the gathering in shared history and purpose.

A ceremonial fire was then ignited by Chief Barrett of the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw. Fire and Healing songs were shared, and a palpable sense of weaving together emerged as people settled into the shared experience.

From there, hikers were ceremonially sent off to the Amanda Grotto, while others remained to tend the fire or set out on a village walk to the Peace Pole and Bench. As we overlooked the ocean, impressions and stories were exchanged, and grey whale visitors accompanied our return to the Commons. The gathering concluded around the fire, where cedar was placed into the flames, carrying collective visions and prayers for the year ahead.

[during the Peace Hike, the] telling of the Amanda story, and reflections and offerings from tribal members... grounded the gathering in shared history and purpose

Terri Theisen, Coos, our 2026 Peace Hike artist was warmly welcomed and shared her magnificent art pieces.

Despite the rainy weather, one hundred and forty plus participants of all ages either hiked the 2.2 miles or took the new Yachats City trolly to the Gathering Area where Amanda was waiting with a second fire ignited by Chief Barrett. With cedar placed on the flames participants gathered to hear Tribal members from Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians , The Coquille Indian Tribe, an Indigenous woman from Mexico and a Navaho tribal member speak and perform prayer songs.

During the entire Peace Hike Commemoration, the portrait of our beloved and late Chief Doc Slyter graced us all, a man who believed deeply about forgiveness and reconciliation.

The Peace Hike and Ceremony would not have been possible without the hard work of the Peace Hike Planning Committee and over 70 local volunteers and tribal members who made this a most heartfelt and safe commemoration.

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

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

Save the Dates:

baldija Naming Ceremony
February 7, 2026

hanisiich Naming Ceremony & First Canoe Pull of 2026
March 7, 2026

more information on pages 6 & 7

Tribal Council Business

Activity of Elected Tribal Council Members from December 14, 2025 - January 11, 2026

Chief Doug Barrett
12/14 Tribal Council Regular Meeting
12/15 STEP Trap Maintenance at Whittaker Creek, Opening of Painted Horse Recovery in Medford – Philip Archambo Recovery
12/16 Blue Earth Board meeting
12/17 MHA / LADPC Monthly Board Meeting
12/18 Leaders Circle, Special Meeting, NARA Northwest Board Meeting
12/19 Elders Lunch – Winter Solstice start
12/20 Winter Solstice – Events and Start of Fire
12/21 Winter Solstice – Dinner
12/23 NAIC Monthly Board Meeting
12/24 Staff Appreciation Day
12/29 GFORB Meeting, Tribal Council Business Meeting
12/31 NARA New Years Eve Pow Wow in Portland
01/01 Amanda Trail Peace Hike in Yachats
01/05 Special TC Meeting
01/08 Culture Committee Meeting, STEP Trap cleaning at Whittaker Creek, Culture Items Task Force Meeting
01/09 Diane Whitson Retirement Gathering
01/10 Senator Merkley Town Hall in Coos Bay
01/11 Tribal Council Regular Meeting
Total Hours: 147

Brad Kneaper, Chair
12/14 Tribal Council Regular Meeting
12/16 Meeting (ZOOM) with CEO, Legal and Staff regarding Project Management
12/18 Special Council Meeting: Resolution to increase Elders Pension Program; Resolution to approve Software and Maintenance Program; Resolution to Assign Project Management to the Planning Department for all tribal, and business projects; Initial discussion on expansion of Health Care for Tribal Membership outside the Five County Service Area, Leader's Circle (ZOOM): Forestry Department Update; Director Lovell Oregon State Lands regarding Elliot State Forest Board Participation
12/22 ZOOM meeting with the Projects Team regarding updates on Three Rivers Casino Projects
12/29 Gaming Operational Reviews Board (GFORB), Meet with CEO and Staff for updates, Tribal Council Business Meeting
12/31 Meeting regarding Constitutional Amendment process and status
01/05 Special Council Meeting: Call for Secretarial Election (BIA) for the proposed constitutional amendments
01/08 Oregon 9 Tribes Meeting: discussion on Role of Legislative Council on Indian Services (LCIS); Discussion on Consultation with State Agencies and Government and status of the Consultation Work Group
01/09 Attend Retirement gathering for Court Clerk Diane Whitson. Diane worked for the Tribal Court for 17 years
Total Hours: 129

Teresa Spangler, Vice Chair
12/14 Regular Council meeting
12/18 Special Meeting (Zoom), Leaders Circle (Zoom)
12/29 Business Council Meeting
01/05 Special Meeting
01/09 Diane Whitson Retirement Party
Total Hours: 45

Julie Siestreem
12/13 Annual Christmas Celebration Three Rivers Casino /Florence
12/14 Tribal Council General Council Regular Monthly Meeting/ Coos Bay
12/16 Education Committee meeting / zoom
12/18 Tribal Council Special Meeting: Elders Pension, Tribal Data Software support Agreement/zoom and Coos Bay, Tribal Council Leaders Circle: DSL/zoom and Coos Bay
12/18 -12/21 Winter Solstice Ceremony: Tribal Hall, Community Center, Plank house, Sweat Lodge, Tribal Lands
12/19 Elders Luncheon Three Rivers Casino/Florence
12/23 Department of Early Learning and Care Preschool Promise Discussion Dr. Paulina Whitehat, Jemiah Wassman, Lyndsay Carroll, Brandy Lauby, Daylen Cossey/zoom
12/29 Gaming Facilities Operational Review Board monthly meeting / Three Rivers Casino Florence, Tribal Council monthly Business meeting/ Three Rivers Casino Florence
01/01 Amanda Trail Peace Hike
01/05 Tribal Council Special meeting Call for Secretarial Election/zoom
01/09 Diane Whitson Retirement Ceremony/Coos Bay
01/11 Tribal Council General Council Regular Monthly Meeting Coos Bay
Total Hours: 130

Debbie Bossley
12/18 Leaders Circle 3 hours
12/29 Tribal Council Business Meeting
01/05 Tribal Council Special Meeting
01/09 Diane Whitson Staff Retirement Party
01/11 Tribal Council Regular Meeting
01/13 LCIS (virtually)
Total Hours:50

Iliana Montiel
12/14 Tribal Council Regular Meeting
12/19 Elders Lunch
12/29 GFORB / Tribal Council Business Meeting
01/05 Special Meeting
01/09 Diane Whitson Retirement Party
Total Hours: 28

Ashley Russell
12/17 Reviewed Special Meeting and Leader's Circle Packet
12/18 Special Meeting, Leader's Circle Meeting
12/19 Winter Solstice
12/21 Winter Solstice
12/28 Reviewed Business Meeting Packet
12/29 Business Meeting
01/04 Reviewed Special Meeting Packet
01/05 Special Meeting
01/09 Attended Diane Whitson's Retirement Party
01/10 Reviewed Tribal Council Packet
01/11 General Council Meeting
Total Hours: 62.75

Tribal Council Upcoming Dates

Regular Council Meeting
February 8, 2026

Regular Council Meeting
March 8, 2026

Tribal Council Forum
March 21st

Regular Council Meeting
April 12, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

General Council Meeting
April 12, 2026 at 1:00 p.m.

Election Day - April 12th

Regular Council Meeting
May 11, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

Regular Council Meeting
June 14, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

Regular Council Meeting
July 12, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

Regular Council Meeting
August 9, 2026 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

Full list of Tribal Council Regular and Business Meetings avaialbe in the Citizen Portal

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
Brian Dubray, Interim 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" Swigert
3. Margaret Corvi
4. Stephanie Watkins
5. Kerry Brainard
6. Sarah Marical
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. VACANT
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. VACANT
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

February 8, 2026
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

Hello everyone,

I hope everyone is doing well and staying warm this winter.

It has been a couple of months since I have posted an article here. As my first term winds down, I have been reflecting on what I have learned since I was elected to Tribal Council. After coming from the Oregon State Police, I worked for the tribe for just over 17 years, in which I started the Tribal Police Department from Scratch and also served as the Executive Director of the Tribal Gaming Commission which regulates the Three Rivers Casino in Florence and Coos Bay. I retired with 34 years in Law Enforcement in March of 2021. I ran for and was elected to Council in April 2022.

I am very proud of the accomplishments of this council during my term:

Casino Debt

Paying off the casino debt. When I came to council in 2022, paying off the Casino debt became a priority of the Council. The Previous Council set stage for that to become possible. We worked with Tribal Government, Three Rivers Casino Management to pay that debt in about 2 years and was accomplished.

Reinvestment

Tribal Council has approved and assigned the task of evaluating business opportunities and potential for the Casinos, Tribal Government, and Blue Earth Federal Corporation. This decision was made after consultation with outside professionals already working with the Tribe. An independent company with this expertise will be completing this task to help Council make decisions on future investments for all three entities.

Health Care

The Tribe has opened up the Three Rivers Health Center. Medical, Behavioral Health, and Pharmacy services are provided. We are starting to the explore the possibility of expanding Health Care coverage outside of the Five County Service Area. It is too soon to know what it might look like, but that is a goal of the Council. All of our membership deserves health care services, no matter where they live.

Hunting and Fishing

Establishing the agreement with the State of Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife co-management which resulted in the ability of our tribal members to hunt and fish within our five-county service area with our own licensing and tags without having to buy expensive Oregon State licenses and tags. Members outside of Oregon are also able to come and participate in this opportunity.

GFORB

We have re-formed the Gaming Operational Review Board (GFORB) to oversee the gaming operations of the tribe independent of Tribal Council filling seats.

Constitution

We have completed a draft Constitution with some Amendments being clerical and in line with our current practices, while others, with the feedback of the membership will include: Proposed changes to allow for additional negotiations to expand Hunting and Fishing Rights while disallowing any that would reduce or harm those rights; A new Background check requirement for Tribal Council candidates as well as any current sitting council members. Tribal Council oversees a government with a budget of more than $60 million, including grants. The membership deserves to know that the Council is able to pass a background check that all levels of casino and tribal government employees are required to pass; Membership requirements for enrollment will be better defined and more inclusive. Once the BIA has completed their review, this will be coming to the membership for a vote.

Fee to Trust

The Fee to Trust process is light years faster than it has in the past, particularly with the current upper management and Planning Department Director. Three properties have been successfully placed in trust in the last year or so, that we have had in fee status for 20 years or more, because of various contaminants or potential contaminants. This includes Coos Head and properties adjacent to the Three Rivers Casino – Florence property. There are currently 8 more pending status with the BIA and another 18 properties in pre submittal status at this time.

Woking on Tribal Debt

The Tribal Council along with the Tribal Government is working on any residual government debt. This is slightly more complicated as it involves evaluating properties. Some debt can be shifted to federal government programs and other involves property management. In any case, the Tribal Government debt is very minor compared to the previous casino debt.

Offshore Wind Energy

When I was first elected to Council, the Council was already dealing with the subject of Offshore Wind Energy with the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM). The Council had already passed a resolution supporting the idea of Offshore Wind Energy PROVIDED that certain environmental concerns were met. It very soon became clear that our concerns were not being addressed, and our questions were not even being answered. In 2022 we passed a second resolution, rescinding the original resolution in support, to a conditional support provided that the many concerns we had were addressed. In 2023, we passed our final resolution opposing wind energy because of our concerns and the lack of meaningful consultation. In addition, we met with BOEM, other Federal, State and Local Governments, Tribes in Oregon, Washington and California. Eventually, the plans for the Offshore Wind Energy Projects were dropped in Oregon.



Chairman Brad Kneaper

Forestry Department Funding

The Tribal Council and government staff worked with our federal lobbyists and were able to secure federal funding appropriations through our compact for the Forestry Department. These are new dollars that will continue to be a part of our annual funding agreement.

These are some of the major highlights. Most of these accomplishments would not be possible without teamwork with the Tribal Government CEO and staff. I heard a comment at the most recent Regular Council Meeting that Council should not trust Government Staff when it comes to the budget process. This was in response to a comment that I made, that I like to look at the previous 2 years budgets, to compare to the new proposed budget, and look for anomalies or budgets that weren't consistent. I stand by that. Those are not the only things I look at. But they are a good indicator of errors or things that might not be right. I disagree wholeheartedly with the statement about not trusting our government staff.

The Tribal Budget is very well protected by the procedures put in place for spending by policy and practices, in which each expenditure is reviewed a number of times by a number of people before approved and spent. As far as the budget approval process, it is reviewed by the department heads, the Chief Financial Officer, the CEO, and the budget committee. Tribal Council is kept apprised of the progress as it happens. Tribal Council makes the final decision as to whether the Budget is approved. In addition to that oversight, there is an annual independent audit that is conducted to the levels required by the Federal government standards. The company chosen for the audit is changed every 3 to 5 years in order to preclude personal relationships/friendships that might be seen as compromising the audit process and conclusions. Last year's audit was remarkable in which the auditors presented at a Regular Council meeting to membership that we, the Tribe, are in the best position a Tribe would want to be in with high assets and limited liability. This is a huge accomplishment.

In conclusion, I have not made a final decision as to whether I will run again. I had planned on one term only. However, I have very high expectations of who I vote for. I believe a Council Member should work with the rest of the Council in the best interest of the Tribal Membership as a whole. We have to hold ourselves to a higher standard and not let ourselves be sidetracked by distractions, while still listening to all, even those voices that are outside the Five County Service Area.

Save the Date: Election Forums

Forum Day - Saturday, March 21, 2026

Forums will be held from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Join in person at
Community Center
338 Wallace Avenue, Coos Bay, Oregon 97420

or Join Online via
Zoom
(link will be made available in the Citizen Portal of the www.ctclusi.org closer to date of Forum)

Questions? Email enrollment@ctclusi.org

Current Declared Candidates

TRIBAL COUNCIL ELECTION

April 12, 2026

For Positions #2, #4 and #6

Posted in the order of submission as of 1/13/2026

POSITION NUMBER	CANDIDATE	DECLARED DATE
Position #2	Sarah Marical	12-17-2025
Position #2	Melinda Sprague	12-28-2025
Position # 2	Howard Roy	1-13-2026
Position #4	Teresa Spangler	12-4-2025
Position #4	Tyler Slyter	12-17-2025
Position #6	Roseana Perry	12-17-2025
Position #6	Debbie Bossley	12-18-2025

TO BECOME A CANDIDATE FOR TRIBAL COUNCIL PLEASE SEE BELOW

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).

7-3-24 Statements of Candidacy

(1) Candidates shall file Statements of Candidacy no later than thirty (30) days before the scheduled date of the election. CLUSI Const. Art. VIII, Section 4(c).

Each candidate shall indicate the position for which he or she is filing. No shuffling of positions will be allowed. You may submit to any CTCLUSI Government Office.

Deadline to File – Friday March 13, 2026 by 5:00pm

POSITION STATEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Each candidate will be given the opportunity to present a position statement for inclusion in the Tribal Newsletter if submitted by the Newsletter deadline. Position statements shall not be longer than one (1) sheet of 8-1/2" by 11" paper printed on both sides, capable of being copied on a black and white copier (can be color). **Position statements** shall be published in the **February, March or April** issue, depending upon when the candidate filed and the candidate's preference once submitted to Election Clerk. **Once a Statement of Candidacy is submitted, see Newsletter deadlines below.**

Newsletter Deadline for Position Statement Publication:
January 15th for the February Newsletter
February 15th for the March Newsletter
March 17th for the April Newsletter

You can only be in one publication; any other political mailings, once reviewed by the Election Board will be at the candidate's expense.

CANDIDATE FORUM INFORMATION

Candidates are not required to participate; however, there will be an opportunity for any candidate to meet with the membership and have a question/answer session on

Saturday March 21, 2026

Time: 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Location in Person: The Community Center in Coos Bay.
Virtual: A Zoom link will be provided in the Citizen Portal of the www.ctclusi.org website closer to the date of the forum.

Please reach out to enrollment@ctclusi.org to verify your registration is valid.
Visit www.ctclusi.org under Election for more details of the 2026 Tribal Council Election.

YOU MUST BE REGISTERED TO VOTE IN ANY TRIBAL ELECTION

Only registered voters will be sent a ballot

Election Day: April 12, 2026

Voting hours shall be from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Election shall be held at the

Tribal Hall
338 Wallace Avenue, Coos Bay, Oregon 97420

You can register and vote in person during this time.

Please reach out to enrollment@ctclusi.org to verify your registration is valid

Visit www.ctclusi.org and sign in to the Citizen Portal to view more details of the 2026 Tribal Council Election.

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.

Join Us in Returning baldija (Gregory Point) Back to its miluk Name Through Ceremony

baldija - Gregory Point – baldija, baldija, baldija

baldija Naming Ceremony
February 7th at 10:00am

Come join us in returning Gregory Point back to its miluk name through Ceremony.

Imagine our miluk ancestors gathering for dances at baldija, facing the ocean in reverence, canoes tied in the trees to avoid the pounding waves below. For thousands of years or since time immemorial the miluk people lived on baldija they truly were the people of the ocean. Shortly before Euro-American contact the village site was attacked by our southern Athabascan neighbors and most of its inhabitants were killed at this time. This place became a place of remembrance, a memorial. When Euro-Americans came to our lands this is one of the first places they took from the miluk people. Due to its orientation, the United States felt it was perfect for a lighthouse so in 1854 the President of the United States withdrew the lands from public entry. They did this despite the lands not being owned by the United States as the land had not yet been ceded under treaty to the United States (of course, as we know, the treaty of 1855 that would have legally ceded our lands to the United States was never ratified by congress). Regardless the United States occupied baldija, renamed it Gregory Point and built and rebuilt boat houses, crew quarters, keepers quarters, bridges and lighthouses through the years. This place even though owned by the United States continued to be a place of healing and memory for the people. Eventually through the hard work, perseverance and dedication of a few of our Tribal Members Gregory Point was returned to our Tribe in 2013 by the United States Coast Guard.



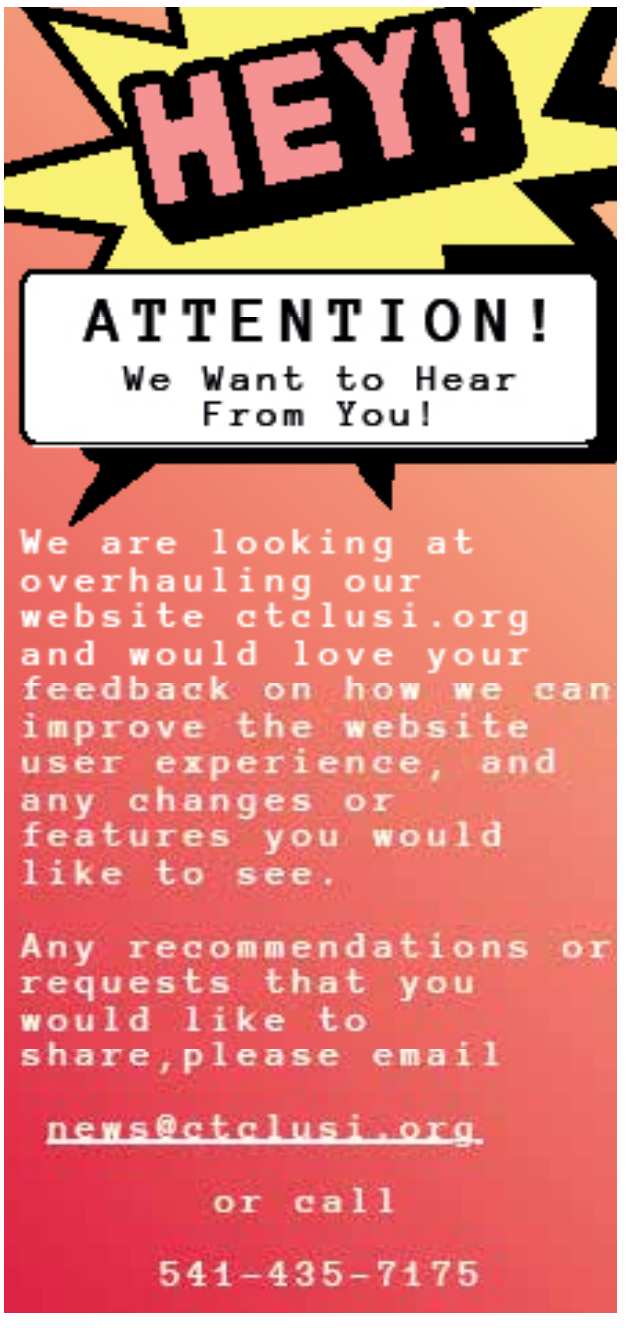
Photo from before the bridge to the island was removed

Many of our Tribal Citizens will recognize this place as Gregory Point, or as the site where, in recent years, we have practiced our annual Salmon Ceremony. However, the name baldija was not lost, only sleeping. Our Linguistic staff have been working alongside our Language Committee to bring back the use of these traditional place names. The surviving names of these places hold great meaning for us and for our lands. Please join us on February 7th for the first of many returning place-name ceremonies. Together, we will once again face the ocean in reverence at baldija.

RSVP to Jesse Beers at 541 297-0748 as transportation will be available from Tribal Hall.







hanisiich Naming Ceremony and First Canoe Pull of 2026

Contributed by Isaac Dull, Tribal Youth Engagement Coordinator

hanisiich – the Hollering Place – hani-siich, hanisiich, hanisiich

hanisiich Naming Ceremony March 7th at 11:00am

Come join us in returning our Empire property back to its hanis name through Ceremony.

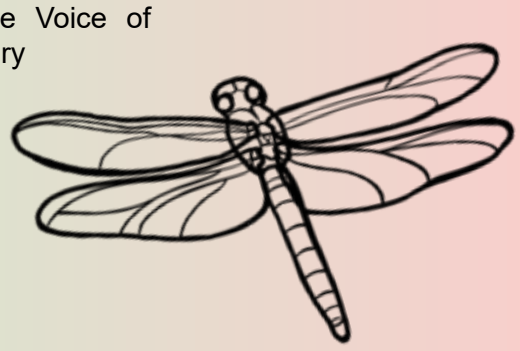
Every one of our coastal nations seems to have a main village site that is really known around the area as the place to go to trade goods. The trade hub for that nation. Hanisiich was this for the hanis coos people. While today many people know this place as the hollering place, this was actually on the other side of the bay. This was the narrowest part of the bay where people would come in order to holler to the people of hanisiich to come pick them up. They would then trade their goods with the wealthy people of hanisiich. Now that our Tribe owns land in this area the Language Committee put forth bringing the name of hanisiich back to this place. This was approved by Tribal Council and our Chief, Doug Barrett will be leading the Naming Ceremony. Finally on March 7th 2026 we will return the hanis name of hanisiich to this place.

RSVP to Jesse Beers at 541 297-0748 as transportation will be available from Tribal Hall.



Hidden Image Search: Can You Find Me?

In this edition of The Voice of CLUSI there is a hidden image of **A DRAGONFLY 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 Dragonfly hiding!
Must email by February 13th 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.



January Snowflake Raffle Winners:

Adult - Tiffany Rose

Youth - Cooper Boccard

The snowflake was hidden on page 14, bottom left photo over the blue cup on the right side of the table (above the word friendship).

2026 Cedar Cape Workshop Series *dates updated*

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

January 17th 2026 – LCC Longhouse
Focus: Cultural teachings, Cape assembling

May – 22nd – Focus: cultural teachings, gathering cedar
(location TBD, date subject to change depending on cedar readyness)

June 20th, 2026 – Coos Bay, Tribal Hall Cedar Bark Cape Workshop
(During Summer Solstice)
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

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



Trust and Will Workshop

Contributed by Kevin Gillooly, Transitional Housing Specialist

Have you given any thought to how you'd like to prepare a "Will or Trust" for your loved ones or family in the event of your passing? This Spring, in partnership with The Native American Program of Legal Aid Services of Oregon (NAPOLS) and Cow Creek Band Of Umpqua Tribe Of Indians, CTCLUSI will be offering a free Workshop Series on Trusts and Wills. The workshop will be led by an expert and an attorney. Taking these steps can greatly reduce the stress on your surviving family. This series is for all ages, including those with young families and children. Completing a 'trust or will' can promote peace of mind, carry out the wishes of the deceased, assist in preventing fighting over belongings and help prevent financial burden and stress for your loved ones. Some questions that people consider when creating a trust or will are: Who will have guardianship of your younger children? What happens if you become incapacitated? What happens to your financial savings and real estate? How would you like your body to be cared for? What is probate and do you need an executor? You will have an opportunity to ask questions during the Trust and Will Workshop Series this coming Spring. This event will be a hybrid series offered both by zoom and in-person.

To RSVP email kgillooly@ctclusi.org or call 541-435-7190

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

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

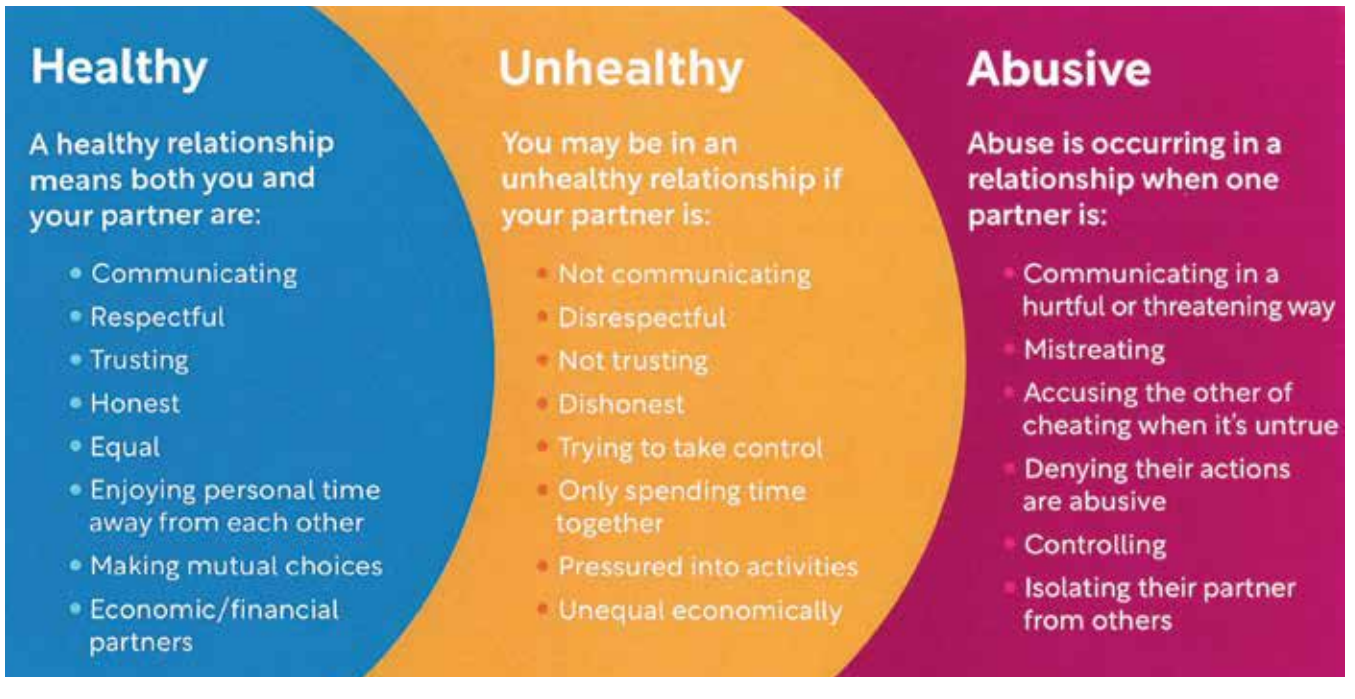
Financial Abuse
- Taking your paychecks
- Not paying bills
- Preventing you from working
- Controlling where and how you work
- Making you buy them things but not for yourself

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

It is important to know what a healthy relationship looks like, and what an unhealthy relationship looks like. 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.

This month is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. We highly encourage teaching youth what a healthy, unhealthy, and abusive relationship can look like.



If you or a loved one are experiencing domestic violence, please reach out to the Circles of Healing team.

We are here to help.

To reach a confidential Advocate, call 541-294-8624.

Oregon Tribal Student Grant

Funding is now available for undergraduate and graduate student college costs for enrolled members of:

- Burns Paiute Tribe
- Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians
- Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
- Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians
- Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
- Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
- Coquille Indian Tribe
- Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians
- Klamath Tribes

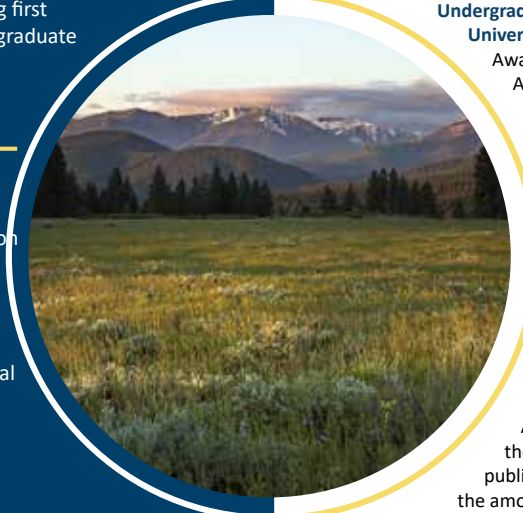
Eligibility

The **Oregon Tribal Student Grant** is available to new and existing students. Eligibility requirements are:

- Must be an enrolled member of an Oregon federally recognized tribe
- Enrolled or accepted for enrollment at an Oregon college or university
- Working towards earning first associate, bachelor's or graduate degree

Application

- Complete a grant application
- Submit a Free Ap-plication for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or the Oregon Student Aid Application (ORSAA)
- See website for additional information



Funding is available for the 2022-2023 academic year for undergraduate and graduate students. Grant renewal is dependent on funding being allocated for the 2023-2024 academic year by the Oregon State Legislature.

Awards

The Oregon Tribal Student Grant is expected to pay for most or all public college-related expenses not covered by other grants for students pursuing their first **Associate, Bachelor's, or Graduate degree.** Award amounts will vary depending on where the student attends school and the degree pursuing.

Undergraduate Public Colleges or Universities:
Award will be calculated based on the Average Cost of Attendance (COA) reduced by the amount of state/federal grants and scholarships

Undergraduate Private Universities:
Award will be calculated based on the average COA at the highest cost public university reduced by the amount of state/federal grants and scholarships

Undergraduate Other Private Institutions:
Award will be calculated based on the average COA at the highest cost public community college reduced by the amount of state/federal grants and scholarships

Graduate Student Awards:
Award will be calculated based on the average undergraduate COA at the highest cost public institution reduced by the amount of state/federal grants and scholarships

Award amounts cannot exceed the student's actual cost of attendance.

HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING COMMISSION

Additional information can be found on our website:
OregonStudentAid.gov/Oregon-Tribal-Student.aspx





Tribal Council Regular and Business Meeting Dates

Regular Council Meeting - 2/8/26
Business Council Meeting - 2/25/26
Regular Council Meeting - 3/8/26
Business Council Meeting - 3/25/26
Regular Council Meeting - 4/12/26
General Council Meeting - 4/12/26
Regular Council Meeting - 5/11/26
Business Council Meeting - 5/27/26
Regular Council Meeting - 6/14/26
Business Council Meeting - 6/24/26
Regular Council Meeting - 7/12/26
Business Council Meeting - 7/29/26
Regular Council Meeting - 8/9/26
Business Council Meeting - 8/26/26
Regular Council Meeting - 9/13/26
Business Council Meeting - 9/30/26
Regular Council Meeting - 10/11/26
General Council Meeting - 10/11/26
Regular Council Meeting - 11/8/26
Business Council Meeting - 11/24/26
Regular Council Meeting - 12/13/26
Business Council Meeting - 12/30/26

Regular Meetings Start at 10:00 a.m.
Business Meetings Start at 6:00 p.m.
General Meetings Start at 1:00 p.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

Full list of Tribal Council Regular and Business Meetings available in the Citizen Portal

qwəle'es biinats', tqalis biinats, tsiitiixa chiin
The Sun Returns

Contributed by Alycia Cossey, Culture Stewarship Associate

From December 19–22, tribal members and families gathered to welcome the return of the light during the Winter Solstice Celebration and Ceremony. Over three days, community members spent time together in ways that nourished connection, learning, and presence. Activities included beading, making bull kelp rattles, working with and processing cedar, sharing meals, participating in sweats, gathering in the plankhouse, language, and sharing stories, songs, and dances.

Youth played an active role throughout the gathering. Some learned how to build a sweat fire, including identifying which types of wood are used at different stages, while others helped prepare meals alongside this year's lead cook, Kyle Gaines. These moments offered hands-on learning and opportunities to support the collective in meaningful ways.

"many reflected on the feeling of simply being together— unhurried, grounded, and at peace"

More than any single activity, many reflected on the feeling of simply being together— unhurried, grounded, and at peace. The gathering created space to be fully present with one another and with the season, honoring the quiet turning point of the year as the days begin to lengthen.

The Winter Solstice gathering and Ceremony served as a reminder of the importance of slowing down, sharing space, and reconnecting with one another, our ancestors, the land, and our animal relatives as the sun returns.













Tribal Community Center
Friday, February 20th
5:00pm Doors open
5:30pm Dinner
6:00pm Storytelling





seventh annual

basaq' / hechit' / haɬk'
(WINTER STORYTELLING!)

Join us for a traditional meal & winter storytelling!



RSVP by Monday, February 16th (541) 435-7155

Sponsored by the Tribal Cultural Coalition and Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians

UPCOMING EVENTS

CULTURAL-DCNR
Winter 2025 - Summer 2026

February 7th

baldija (temp name Gregory Point) Coos Bay

March 7th

hanisiich renaming Ceremony (Coos Bay)

April 18th & 19th

invasives removal + planting dahai, daha, chiiyuusan

May 22nd

medicines, basketry, and Cedar gathering

June 5th

Maple Bark Gathering/processing

June 19th - 21st

Summer Solstice + Cedar Bark Cape Workshop

July 27th

tkimiya naming Ceremony

STAY TUNED

Questions?
email Alycia Cossey- acossey@ctclusi.org



CTCLUSI Scholarship Applications Open Now!

Scan the QR Code with your smart phone or visit https://ctclusi.org/scholarships/ to apply online today!



Cultural Event Interest Questionnaire

- For CTCLUSI Tribal Members & Families

The Department of Culture and Natural Resources (DCNR) Culture Sector would like to hear about current community interests to make sure our programs and offerings are aligned with what our tribal community is wanting and needing at this time.

Please take a minute to fill out this form individually or as a family.

k'ele nəluwehe, luuwii niluwechise, hiisəch hai
(with a good heart)

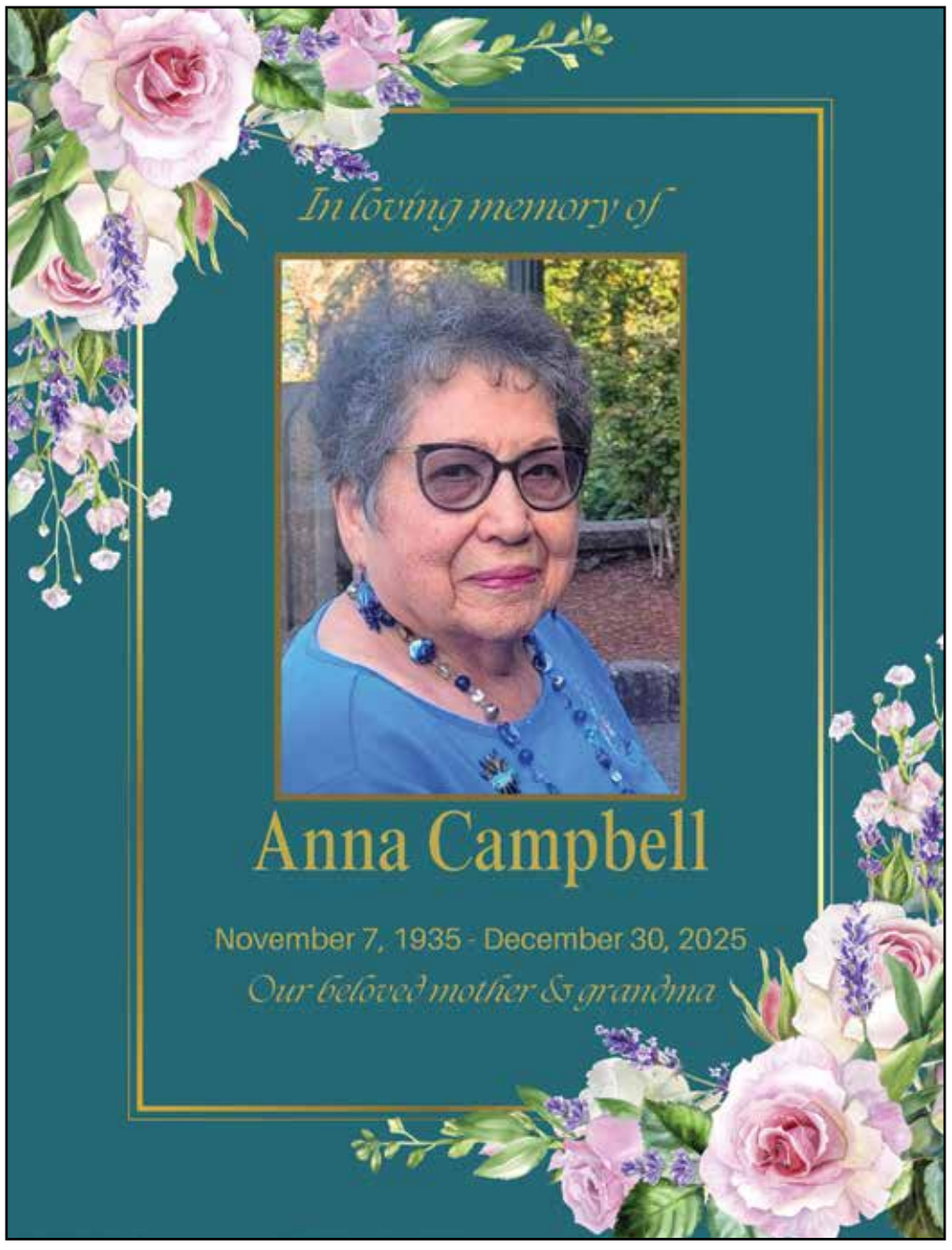
Scan the QR Code below or visit

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QDZPKPS

to fill out the survey today!



Tribal Elder Anna Campbell Walks On



Anna Elizabeth (Macey) Campbell
November 7, 1935 - December 30, 2025

Anna Elizabeth (Macey) Campbell, age 90, of Grants Pass, passed away December 30, 2025, at her home.

Anna was born November 7, 1935 in Reedsport, Oregon to Augustus “Gus” & Aleena Macey. She had eight siblings Kitty Viola Harriman, Franklin Edgar Gochanour, Lillian Faith Gochanour Lear, Leon Edgar Gochanour, Iris Vivian Gochanour Gravatt, Claud Dale Wyland, Clarence Lee Wyland, and Anice Velma Wyland Nelson. In 1952 Anna moved with her family from Reedsport to Rogue River where she graduated from Rogue River High School in 1955.

After moving to Grants Pass in 1956, Anna met the love of her life Glenn “Curly” Ivan Campbell while working at First National Bank. Curly came in to cash his check and Anna was the pretty girl that helped him. When he thought she had shorted him cash, he returned to the bank but figured out that two bills had just been stuck together. He felt so bad for troubling her and ended up asking her on a date. They were married on September 7, 1957 in Grants Pass and their marriage lasted 66 years before Curly passed on August 26, 2023.

Anna later worked at ESAM and Litton Industries where she made guidance parts for Tomahawk missiles. She also sold Tupperware where she met lifelong friends that still gather together every month. She was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars along with her mother Aleena. She volunteered and chaperoned with Girl Scout and Boy Scout groups and 4-H clubs. She was also an avid bowler, winning many trophies and head of the women’s bowling league and an avid square dancer and member of the Charlie Brown Squares.

Anna was a loved and respected Elder of the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians. Anna was a basket maker and keeper of family history and heritage. She was a carrot cake baker, loved visiting with people and was everyone’s mom or grandma or favorite auntie. She always enjoyed having vegetable and flower gardens.

Anna is survived by her two daughters whom she dearly loved Lynette Gaines and Karen McGuire; three grandchildren Chris McGuire, Kyle Gaines and Morgan Gaines; and six great- grandchildren Savanna, Elayna, Justin, Kamryn, Thorin, and Saralynn “Myrtle”.

She was preceded in death by her beloved son Kevin Campbell in 2012.

A celebration of life was held on January 24, 2026 at Hull & Hull Funeral Directors in Grants Pass.



A graveside service will be held on

Saturday, June 6, 2026

at Ka’aich Cemetery in Florence, Oregon.



Elders Corner

The Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians

wish to invite you to the

27th Annual Oregon Tribal Elders Honor Day

To be held March 13 & 14, 2026 at the Three Rivers Casino & Resort - Florence, Oregon

$5 Free play · Cultural Entertainment · BINGO · Raffles

For Registration, please contact Doug Morrison @ 541-997-6685.

Please RSVP by February 20, 2026

Lodging Provided at Quality Inn
2475 Highway 101, Florence, Oregon 97439

Please let us know if you need special accommodations.

For those traveling more than 120 miles one way, you may request a room for Thursday the 12h, Please inquire when registering.

ALL GUEST MUST BE OVER 55 YEARS OLD WITH THE EXCEPTION OF LEGAL SPOUSES, CAREGIVERS AND STAFF

*****This is a Drug and Alcohol FREE event*****

Calling All Veteran Elders!

We are looking for Veterans to volunteer to carry the flags for the upcoming Elders Honor Day in March 2026.

If you are interested, please contact Barbara Black at 541-888-7520



Calling All Artisans!

We are looking for donations for gifts to be given out at the upcoming Elders Honor Day in March 2026.

Your handmade items are special and greatly appreciated by the Elders who receive them.



If you would like to donate items for Elders Honor Day please call Barbara Black at 541-888-7520

27th Annual Oregon Tribal Elders Honor Day AGENDA

Friday, March 13, 2026

- Doors open at 10:30 a.m.
- Lunch starts at 12:00 p.m.
- BINGO
- Dinner starts at 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 14, 2026

- Breakfast starting at 7:00 a.m.

(Full Agenda To Be Given At Event)

Welcome New Tribal Elder

Timothy Barrett

Supplemental Security Income Program for Elders

On December 18, 2026 Tribal Council approved Resolution 25-217 to Increase the Tribal Elders Pension and Supplemental Security Income beginning on January 1, 2026. Tribal Elders aged 65 and up are eligible for this $1,000 monthly supplemental security Income.

An application form is required. The form can be found on the Tribal Government website or using this web address ***https://laserfiche.ctclusi.org/Forms/Elder-Supplemental-Security-Income***

Need assistance filling out your application or have questions about the program?

Contact the Enrollment Department today at 541-435-7178.



Thursday February 12, 2026

Three Rivers Casino Resort
Event Center

Doors open at 11:30am

Lunch will be served at 12:00pm.

Please RSVP
by Friday February 6 ,2026
To: Doug Morrison
(541) 997-6685
Or Toll free 1-(866) 313-9913

Limited transportation is available from The Coos Bay And Eugene Offices

(Elders Committee Meeting to follow lunch)

Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians
Health Services Division, Elders Activity Program

Tribe Welcomes New Housing Director

Mary Gordon is a citizen of the Blackfeet Nation and comes to us most recently as the Executive Director of the Blackfeet Housing (BH). BH has over 75 employees and an annual operating budget of over $15 million. She has extensive experience in property management, realty, and project management. Mary previously worked for CTCLUSI in the realty position and looked forward for the opportunity to return to the coast. We are looking forward to Mary's education and experience to lead the CTCLUSI Housing Department who will to continue to serve the Tribe and its members.





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

CULTURAL-DCNR
Winter 2025 - Summer 2026

February 7th
baldija (temp name Gregory Point) naming ceremony

March 7th
hanisiich renaming ceremony
First canoe pull of 2026

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

May 22nd
medicines, basketry, and Cedar gathering (location TBD)

June 5th
Maple Bark Gathering/processing

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

July 25th
tkimiya naming ceremony

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.*



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

CALLING ALL TEENS!

JOIN OUR COUNSELOR-IN-TRAINING TEAM

Are you 14 or turning 14 before March 20th? Do you love working with kids, enjoy being a role model, and want to build real leadership and job-training skills? This is your chance to shine!
Become part of CTCLUSI's growing Counselor-in-Training (CIT) Program!
Explore culture, gain hands-on experience, develop confidence, and have fun while making a difference in your Tribal community.

Why Join the CIT Program?

- Build valuable job and leadership skills
- Work directly with youth and mentors
- Learn more about culture and community
- Become a positive role model
- Start your path toward future youth-program jobs!

Ready to take the next step?
Fill out the Special Events Employee Application and start your CIT journey today!



Need help with your application?
Contact Lexi Sterling at
recruitment@ctclusihr.org or call 541-435-7193

Questions? About camp programing:
Email Angela Henry at ahenry@ctclusi.org

**Scan QR Code:
Fill out the Special Events Employee Application Today!**

SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITIES — JOIN OUR TEAM!

Camp season is right around the corner, and we're looking for enthusiastic adults 18 and older to help create meaningful memories with our Tribal youth. Come share culture, connection, and community this summer!

NOW HIRING!

- Camp Counselors (18+)
- Camp Cook (25+) – Must be able to drive a CTCLUSI vehicle
- Drivers (25+) – Must be able to drive a CTCLUSI vehicle
- Elders & Artisans – Half-day opportunities (4 hours)

If you're passionate about supporting youth and celebrating culture, we'd love to have you join us!

Need help with your application?

Contact Lexi Sterling at recruitment@ctclusihr.org
or call 541-435-7193

Questions? About camp programing:
Email Angela Henry at ahenry@ctclusi.org



**Scan QR Code:
Fill out the Special Events Employee Application Today!**

Camp hoohoolii Returns This Spring!

March 23rd – 27th, 2026 at Camp Cleawox

The Department of Culture and Natural Resources is excited to announce the return of Camp *hoohoolii*. Camp *hoohoolii* is the Tribes Spring Break overnight camp. This Camp is open to Tribal youth, youth in Tribal households, and youth of CTCLUSI staff, ages 8–18. Camp *hoohoolii* is a time to learn, grow, connect, and most of all have fun.

The word *hoohoolii* means *reflections on water,* a fitting theme as we reflect on the growth of our youth. Each spring, camp gives us a meaningful opportunity to nurture that growth while passing on the teachings, traditions, and cultural practices that strengthen our Tribal community. As our young people continue to grow, they reflect the resilience, strength, and unity of our Tribe.

By gathering each year, we create a positive pattern of growth, learning, and belonging. Camp *hoohoolii* is an investment in our future and a celebration of who we are as a people.

We look forward to seeing our youth come together once again this spring.

Scan the QR Code to Register today!

Questions? About camp programing:
Email Angela Henry at
ahenry@ctclusi.org

ATTENTION TRIBAL ARTISANS

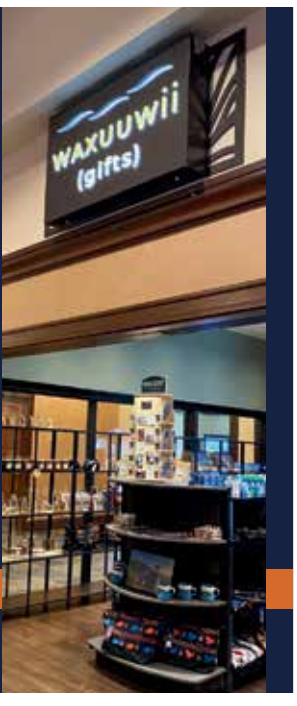
WAXUUWII (GIFTS) IS OPEN!

CTCLUSI Tribal Artisans are encouraged to contact us for an opportunity to sell their work at waxuuwii (gifts) at Three Rivers Casino Resort in Florence, Oregon

Contact Us

541-999-7938

tspangler@threeriverscasino.com



Heart Health for February



Contributed by Elizabeth Escobedo, MS, CHES, Diabetes Educator

February is a great month to talk about taking care of your heart! Especially for people who are living with diabetes. What we eat, how we move, and how we handle stress all help keep our hearts strong.

Diabetes & Heart Health: Simple Ways to Care for Yourself

Taking care of your heart is an important part of living well with diabetes. Over time, high blood sugar may cause damage to blood vessels, and the nerves that control your heart. It may also lead to heart disease and /or heart attack.

These small steps can help take care of your heart:

Work with Your Health Care Team

- Check blood pressure and cholesterol
- Stay Connected: Reach out to support groups in your Tribe, clinic, or community center. Checking in regularly with your health care team can help you stay on track with heart and diabetes care.

Make Balanced Food & Drink Choices

- Choose vegetables, fruits, beans, whole grains, fish, wild game, and lean meats.
- Drink plenty of water.

Add Joyful Movement

- Moving your body doesn't have to be hard. Find something you enjoy!
  (Walking with family,
  biking, dancing, gardening, or cleaning with music.)
- Start with a small exercise snack! Any amount of movement is good!

DeStress in Healthy Ways

- Try calming activities like drawing, reading, crafts, or walking in nature.
- Take time to relax.

Fruit is still a great choice when you're living with diabetes! Fresh, frozen, or canned fruit (in water or its own juice) provides important vitamins, fiber, and nutrients that support your heart health. The key is enjoying fruit in reasonable portions and pairing it with a protein or healthy fats to help keep blood sugar steady. Berries, apples (with skin on) pears, and citrus fruits are all good options to start experimenting with. Remember everyone's body is different. Talk with your health care team about what works best for you!

Contributions IHS, American Diabetes Association, CDC, American Heart Association

Recipe Corner

Feature Recipe: Poached Pears with Pomegranate Sauce
Recipe adapted from American Heart Association

A simple and tasty dish that also supports heart health! Experiment with a new type of pear. These two are great for poaching D'Anjou and Bosc:

Serves: 2

Serving size: 1 pear half + 1 Tbsp sauce

Ingredients

- 1/3 cup 100% pomegranate juice (not sweetened)
- 2 tsp sweetener (try stevia or real maple syrup)
- 1 medium pear, peeled, halved, cored
- 1/4 tsp cornstarch
- 1 tsp water
- 1/4 tsp lemon zest
- 1/4 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 Tbsp sliced almonds or any nut you like, dryroasted and crumbled

Directions:
In a small pot, mix the pomegranate juice and sugar. Add the pear halves cutside down. Bring to a boil, then lower the heat and cover. Cook for about 5 minutes, turning the pears until they're tender. Place the pears on plates, cut-side up. Mix the cornstarch with a teaspoon of water. Stir this into the pan juices and bring it to a boil while whisking. Cook for 1 minute until it thickens. Remove from heat and stir in lemon zest and vanilla. Spoon the warm sauce over the pears and sprinkle with almonds.



If You Need to Talk, the 988 Lifeline is Here



At the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline, we understand that life's challenges can sometimes be difficult. Whether you're facing mental health struggles, emotional distress, alcohol or drug use concerns, or just need someone to talk to, our caring counselors are here for you.

You are not alone.

The 988 Lifeline is for everyone. Through the 988 Lifeline, you have access to free, quality, one-on-one assistance. Skilled, judgment-free counselors provide compassionate support. You deserve to feel heard and cared about anytime, anywhere, 24/7/365.

Learn more online at https://988lifeline.org/

Dial or Text 988

988 | SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE

Wishing a Happy Retirement to Diane Whitson of Tribal Court



Pictured back row, left to right: Chairman Brad Kneaper, Chief Doug Barrett
Front row, left to right: Julie Siestreem, Vice Chair Teresa Spanger, Diane Whitson, Debbie Bossley and CEO LeeAnn Wander

Diane Whitson officially retired from her longstanding role with The Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians (CTCLUSI) Tribal Court on January 9, 2026. A gathering to celebrate her took place at the Tribal Government Administration Office in Coos Bay, Oregon.

Special recognition was also given to Diane in October during the CTCLUSI 41st Restoration Celebration. Whitson is the longest serving officer of the Tribal Court. To honor her for her 16 years of dedication and service, during the Restoration Celebration she was presented with cedar rose hair clips and earrings and was also blanketed by members of the Tribal Council.

Our heartfelt thanks goes out to you and we wish you all the best in your retirement, k'ele nəluwehe, luuwii niluwechise, hiisəch hai (with a good heart).

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 is a list of Tribal Committees:

Budget Committee
Culture Committee
Cultural Coalition Committee
Education Committee
Elders Committee
Election Board
Enrollment Committee
Housing Committee
Language Committee
Visions Committee

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 541-435-7178

Resolution Summaries

Number	Date	Subject/Title	Vote
25-213	11/24/2025	Appointment of Interim Executive Director of the Tribal Gaming Commission	6-0-1
25-214	12/4/2025	ODHS Self Sufficiency Programs Family Support and Connections Program Grant	7-0-0
25-215	12/4/2025	Pacific Source Funding Request	6-0-1
25-216	12/14/2025	Application to the Oregon Department of Educations' Tribal Language Revitalization & Education Grant for FY25-27	6-0-1
25-217	12/18/2025	Tribal Elders Pension and Tribal Elders Supplemental Security Income Programs Ament Increase Beginning January 1, 2026	6-0-1
25-218	12/18/2025	Tribal Data Resources Software Maintenance and Support Agreement	6-0-0
25-219	12/18/2025	Establishing the Tribal Planning Department as the Central Authority for Project Management of all Capital Projects on Tribal Properties	6-0-0
25-220	12/29/2025	Emergency Amendment for Tribal Code Chapter 2-2	
25-221	12/29/2025	Education Department – Grow Your Own	6-0-1
25-222	12/29/2025	Approval of 2026 Tribal Government	6-0-1
25-223	12/29/2025	Hawatsit Time Sale Contract Modification No 1	7-0-0
25-224	12/29/2025	Heluu Timber Sale Contract Modification No 1	7-0-0
25-225	12/29/2025	Amendment to Budget for Wastewater Treatment Plan Improvement Project	7-0-0
22-226	12/29/2025	Approval of Three Rivers Casino – Florence and Coos Bay Budget and Capital Expenditures	6-0-1
25-227	12/29/2025	Approval of the property located at 63757 Harriet Road	7-0-0
25-228	12/29/2025	Three Rivers Casino CEO Agreement	5-1-1
25-229	12/29/2025	Professional Service Agreement	6-0-1
25-230	12/29/2025	Personal Service Agreement	6-0-1
25-231	12/29/2025	Approval of FY 2026 Blue Earth Federal Corp Budget and Amended MOA	4-2-1
26-001	1/5/2026	Request for a Secretarial Election to Amend the Constitution	7-0-0
26-002	1/5/2026	Creation of the Secretarial Election Board	7-0-0
26-003	1/11/2026	Tribal Workforce Reengagement	7-0-0
26-004	1/11/2025	Tribal Early Learning Plan and Birth Through Five	7-0-0
26-005	1/11/2026	Amendments to Chapter 7-3 Elections for Second Reading and Final Approval	7-0-0
26-006	1/11/2026	Establishment of Chapter 7-16 Visions Committee for Second Reading and Final Approval	7-0-0
26-007	1/11/2026	Amendment to Chapter 7-8 (Gaming Facility Operational Review Board for Second Reading and Final Approval	5-0-2
26-008	1/11/2026	Amendments to Chapter 2-14 (Peace giving Court) for First Reading and 28 Day Comment Period	7-0-0
26-009	1/11/2026	Enrollment New Members	7-0-0
26-010	1/11/2026	Enrollment Name Change and Corrections to the Roll	7-0-0
26-011	1/11/2026	Enrollment – Active to Historic	7-0-0
26-012	1/11/2026	2025-2027 IMACTS Grants	7-0-0
26-013	1/11/2026	2025-2026 VOCA Grant	7-0-0
26-014	1/11/2026	Personal Service Contract	
26-015	1/11/2026	Personal Service Contract	7-0-0
26-016	1/11/2026	System Agreement for TR Pharmacy	6-0-1

CTCLUSI Human Resources
recruitment@ctclusihr.org

COOS BAY JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Department	Job Title	Status	Age	Starting Wage
Finance	Assistant Controller	FT	25+	$88,000/yr - DOE
Health Services	Family Medicine Physician	FT	21+	$270,000/yr. - $350,000/yr
Health Services	Nurse Practitioner	FT	26+	$124,656.00 - DOE
Finance	Procurement Specialist II.	FT	25+	$26.59/hr - 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
Gaming Commission	Gaming Inspector	FT	25+	$20.52/hr. - 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: 01/14/2026

PEACEGIVING

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

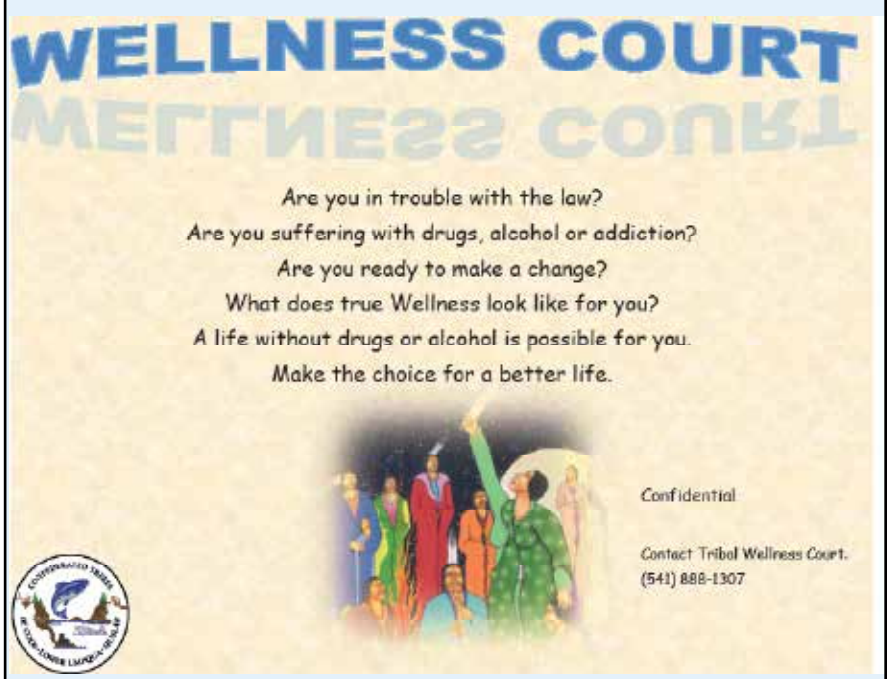
All Peacegiving issues are confidential.



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



Upcoming Events

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

February 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3 miluk class 4pm	4 hanis class 4pm	5	6 wa'as class 4pm	7 Littles Program Language Class 9am baldija Naming Ceremony 10 a.m.
8 Regular Council Meeting 10:00 am	9	10 miluk class 4pm	11 hanis class 4pm	12 Elders Luncheon Three Rivers Casino	13 wa'as class 4pm	14 Littles Program Language Class 9am
15 Deadline for Tribal Council candidate to run Position Statement in March paper	16	17 miluk class 4pm	18 hanis class 4pm	19	20 Annual Winter Storytelling Event, Coos Bay, OR wa'as class 4pm	21 Littles Program Language Class 9am
22	23	24 miluk class 4pm	25 Business Council Meeting 6:00 pm hanis class 4pm	26	27 wa'as class 4pm	28 Edu Gathering Round 1, Eugene, OR noon - 3pm Littles Program Language Class 9am
1	2	3 miluk class 4pm	4 hanis class 4pm	5	6 wa'as class 4pm	7 Littles Program Language Class 9am

March 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3 miluk class 4pm	4 hanis class 4pm	5	6 wa'as class 4pm	7 hanisiich Naming Ceremony and 1st Canoe Pull of 2026
8 Regular Council Meeting 10:00 am	9	10	11	12 Trust & Will Workshop 6 - 7:30pm	13 Deadline to File Statement of Candidacy Elders Honor Day Florence, OR	14 Elders Honor Day Florence, OR
15	16	17	18	19 Trust & Will Workshop 6 - 7:30pm	20	21 Candidate Forum 1pm-3pm Coos Bay/Online
22	23 Camp hoohoolii (Spring Break Camp)	24	25 Business Council Meeting 6:00 pm	26 Trust & Will Workshop 6 - 7:30pm	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

hiisəch hai – with a good heart

Thousands of Pounds of Food and Hundreds of Toys Donated Across the Oregon Coast Through Three Rivers Casino Resort Holiday Drive

Rich Colton, Director of Marketing
rcolton@threeriverscasino.com

FLORENCE, Ore. — Three Rivers Casino Resort is celebrating the success of its annual Food and Toy Drive, wrapping up the holiday season with a powerful display of generosity.

In Florence, the drive collected 4,200 pounds of food for Mapleton Food Share and Florence Food Share, helping local families during the holidays and into the new year. The team also delivered three large crates of toys and more than 40 bicycles to the Florence Police Department, supporting more than 100 local families.

In Coos Bay, an additional 1,436 pounds of food and 163 toys were donated to support local families in need.

"We are incredibly proud of the generosity we see from our community every year," said Rich Colton, director of marketing at Three Rivers Casino Resort. "Every toy and every pound of food donated represents a family that will feel supported this holiday season. Giving back is at the heart of who we are, and we are grateful to everyone who helped turn this drive into such a meaningful show of holiday spirit."

The annual drive is made possible through partnerships with local police departments and community organizations that help identify families in need throughout the region.

"We really appreciate working with Three Rivers for the toy and food drive program 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."

"I think it's wonderful when businesses give back to the community they serve," said Beth Bolles, a food drive recipient. "My wife and I live on Social Security, and it was becoming increasingly difficult to decide which bills to pay. Discovering we were eligible for the food share helped us immensely."

For more information, visit threeriverscasino.com

STAY UP-TO-DATE ON CURRENT TRIBAL EVENTS:

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION WITH ENROLLMENT

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.

