The Voice of CLUSI

September 2026

Issue 9

Volume 27

www.ctclusi.org

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

Annual Sacred Salmon Ceremony



Elder Eddie Helms with Jesse Beers



Chief Doug Barrett holds carved salmon board



Traditional Salmon Bake

Coos Bay, Oregon – Tribal families gathered on the sunny morning of Sunday, August 2, 2026, for the Annual Sacred Salmon Ceremony. Many Tribal Citizens worked together to prep the salmon for cooking over the fire early that morning. Together they cleaned, processed and attached the salmon fillets to the soaked cedar stakes. Hiisa (thank you) to all those that put good energy into preparing and cooking the Salmon for this year's ceremony. Many staff members made final preparations by setting up the greeting station, buffet area, gift tables and much more. Many hands worked harmoniously to provide a lovely space for Tribal Citizens to arrive and honor the Salmon People in Ceremony.

Smiles spread across faces as people embraced and greeted one another after stepping off the shuttles provided from Coos Head to baldija. Warm greetings were given to new arrivals as they signed in and received gifts of smoked salmon, tuna, and t-shirts with an image of a salmon jumping from the water, the silhouette of Sunset Bay beach in the background, surrounded by a sweet grass braid created by quuiich (Lower Umpqua) Tribal artist Morgan Gaines.

Tribal families from near and far reunited and visited amongst each other while enjoying delicious fry bread made by the Krossman and Walton family using beloved Tribal Elder Carolyn Slyter's cherished recipe. Morsels of crab and shrimp cocktail were savored along with other hors d'oeuvres.

Chief Doug Barrett opened ceremony by welcoming us all to the 2026 Sacred Salmon Ceremony. Chair Teresa Spangler, and Council members Ashley Russell, Debbie Bossley, Iliana Montiel, and Julie Siestreem joined him in a warm welcome to everyone in attendance.

While the final touches were being put on the feast Council held a special raffle of gifts and prizes for those in attendance. Special thanks to the many Tribal Citizens who donated their skills, time, and supplies in making some beautiful hand made gifts amongst the raffle prizes such as woven baskets, beadwork, and other handmade jewelry.

Attendees also used this time to walk the new baldija memorial pathway currently in development at baldija. This memorial concept began with Chief Doc Slyter and has been continuously built over the past several years. The purpose of this memorial is to honor Tribal community members who have walked on, providing a place of reflection, remembrance, and connection. Learn more about the baldija memorial and its next stages as it continues to develop by turning to page sixteen.

Following the delicious feast, Tribal families gathered for several songs and dances. The sacred feather dances was one of the many dances that were held. Members in their regalia and maple bark and cedar bark skirts participated while others looked on. Those who knew the songs joined in with the voices being carried on the wind.

Tribal members then made their way down to Sunset Bay Beach to return the Salmon remains. Led in ceremony by Chief Doug Barrett, Tribal members gathered on the shoreline, singing together. After Chief performed the ceremony members took canoe Lottie out into the surf to pull together and return any final Salmon remains into the ocean.

Salmon remains were also returned to the Umpqua and Siuslaw Rivers the following next few days with many quuiich and siuslaw family members joining in on their traditional rivers, taking part in this sacred tradition as well as some personal family honorings, all done hiisəch hai (with a good heart).

Photos from Salmon Ceremony on page 10

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

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Save the Date

Restoration Celebration

Saturday, October 10, 2026

Three Rivers Casino Resort
Florence, Oregon

Flyer on page 6



Tribal Council Business

Activity of Elected Tribal Council Members from July 12, 2026 - August 9, 2026

Chief Doug Barrett
07/12 Tribal Council General Meeting
07/13 Elders honor days in Grand Ronde, Sea Otter Recovery Tribal Engagement meeting, DOC / Tribal meeting
07/14 Indian Country Elders, Knowledge Holders & Culture Keepers ECHO
07/15 Staff Meeting
07/16 – 07/19 Local Canoe Journey
07/20 NAAC OYA Meeting
07/21 NAIC Monthly Board Meeting
07/22 Culture Items Task Force meeting
07/23 Tribal State Water Policy Engagement, Leaders Circle
07/24 Canoe Journeys Travel Day
07/25 – 07/31 Canoe Journeys – Paddle to Nisqually
08/01 Canoe Journeys Travel Day
08/02 Sacred Salmon Ceremony – baldija & Salmon returns at Sunset Bay
08/03 Sacred Salmon Ceremony – Winchester Bay –Salmon returns near Umpqua Eden
08/04 Sacred Salmon Ceremony – Siuslaw River – Salmon returns on the Siuslaw River, Business Dinner at Three Rivers Casino
08/05 Business Dinner at Three Rivers Casino
08/06 Leaders Circle
08/07 Siletz Nesika Illahee Pow Wow
08/08 Siletz Nesika Illahee Pow Wow
08/09 Tribal Council Regular Meeting
Total Hours: 174

Teresa Spangler, Chair
07/12 Regular Council meeting (Zoom Only)
07/15 Short meeting with government staff
07/17 Meeting at North Bend Library where a Tribal Member was getting a recognition award
07/23 Leaders Circle: Continued meetings with Committees (Elders Committee, Language Committee, Culture Committee, Education Committee). Discussion with ODRC steering committee about saving the Oregon Dunes, Salmon Ceremony discussion, Clamboree discussion, Sports Betting Legislative update
07/29 GFORB and Business Council meetings
07/30 Met the Oregon Arts Commission and Oregon Cultural Trust Boards at a public event
08/01 Breakfast with Tribal families at the Community Center
08/02 Sacred Salmon Ceremony at baldija
08/04 Council Business Dinner
08/05 Council Business Dinner
Total Hours: 81.5

Brad Kneaper, Vice Chair
07/12 Tribal Council Regular Meeting (ZOOM due to scheduling conflict)
07/23 Leader's Circle: Visits with Elder's Committee; Language Committee; Culture Committee; Education Committee; Presentation from Save the Dunes; Forestry; Discussions and legislative update
07/29 Meet with Staff prior to business council meeting, Tribal Council Business Meeting
08/02 Sacred Salmon Ceremony at Baldija
08/04 Oregon Tribal Gaming Alliance Meeting (ZOOM), Business dinner at TRC
08/05 Business Dinner with Council at TRC
Total Hours: 88

Debbie Bossley
07/13 Grande Ronde Elders Trip
07/23 Leaders Circle
07/29 Tribal Council Business Meeting
08/01 Sacred Salmon Ceremony Breakfast/Story Telling Event
08/02 Sacred Salmon Ceremony
08/04 Tribal Council Business Dinner
08/05 Tribal Council Business Dinner
08/06 Leaders Circle
08/09 Tribal Council Regular Meeting
Total Hours: 80

Julie Siestreem
07/12 Regular Tribal Council General Council monthly meeting Community Center, Coos Bay
07/12-07/13 Elders Trip to Grand Ronde Elders Honor Day, Grand Ronde
07/17 Andrew Brainard, City of North Bend Recognition Award ceremony, North Bend Public Library, North Bend
07/21 Education Committee meeting, zoom
07/23 Tribal Council Leaders Circle Meeting Community Center, Coos Bay
07/28 Oregon Tribal Early Learning Alliance all day meeting in person Department of Early Learning and Care Salem Capitol Offices, Salem
07/29 Tribal Council / GFORB monthly meeting, Business monthly meeting Three Rivers Casino Hotel, Florence
07/30 July Home Visiting Action Network, zoom, Oregon Arts Commission and Oregon Cultural Trust Boards informal meeting, 999 Front Street
08/01 Tribal Council / General Council Breakfast. Traditional Storytelling and open mic, Community Center and Tribal Hall Coos Bay
08/02 All Day Sacred Salmon Ceremony, Tribal Council / General Council, baldija
08/04 Tribal Council Business meeting, TRC Florence
08/05 Tribal Council Business meeting, TRC Florence
08/06 Tribal Council Leaders Circle Community Center, Coos Bay
08/09 Regular Tribal Council General Council monthly meeting Community Center, Coos Bay
Total Hours: 130

Iliana Montiel
07/12 Tribal Council Regular Meeting
07/14 Quarterly Benefits Board Meeting
07/20 – 7/23 NPAIHB Quarterly Board Meeting
07/29 GFORB / Tribal Council Business Meeting
08/01 Tribal Council breakfast
08/02 Sacred Salmon Ceremony
08/04 TC Business dinner
08/05 TC Business dinner
08/06 Leaders Circle
Total Hours: 50

Ashley Russell
07/22 Reviewed Leader's Circle Packet
07/23 Leader's Circle
07/28 Reviewed Business Meeting Packet
07/29 Business Meeting
08/01 Tribal Council Breakfast
08/02 Sacred Salmon Ceremony
08/04 Meeting with Partners
08/05 Meeting with Partners, Reviewed Leader's Circle Packet
08/06 Leader's Circle
08/08 Reviewed Tribal Council Meeting Packet
08/09 Tribal Council Meeting
08/13 Meeting with Dahna Black
Total Hours:64.5



CTCLUSI Tribal Council met with the United States Attorney Bradford during the August 6th Leaders Circle to discuss current MMIP Issues, Cybercrime enforcement, and drug enforcement. Pictured left to right: Vice Chair Brad Kneaper, Council Woman Debbie Bossley, Chair Teresa Spangler, Council Woman Ashley Russell, US Attorney Bradford, Andrew Ho, Savannah Richardson, Council Woman Julie Siestreem and Council Woman Iliana Montiel.

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 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

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 Hull Street
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
Brian Dubray, Interim
1245 Fulton Avenue
Coos Bay, OR 97420
Phone 541-888-1311
rbronson@ctclusi.org

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

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

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

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

Tribal Housing Department
Brian Dubray, Interim Director
1245 Fulton Avenue
Coos Bay, OR 97420
Phone 541-997-6011
Fax 541-435-0492
bdubray@ctclusi.org

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

Elders Activities
Barbara Black, Tribal Navigator/ Community Health Aide
250 Hull Street
Coos Bay, OR 97420
Phone 541-888-7520
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
bdubray@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. Debbie Bossley
2. Christy Wurster
3. Margaret Corvi
4. Stephanie Watkins
5. Kerry Brainard
6. Sarah Marical
7. Roseana Perry - Chair

Cultural Coalition Committee
1. Enna Helms
2. Cynthia Hovind
3. Pam Stoehlser
4. Kyle Gaines
5. VACANT

Culture Committee
1. Earla Kirk
2. Kyle Gaines - Chair
3. Alyssa Lydick
4. Nicole Romine
5. Michael Brainard
6. Patricia Whereat-Phillips
7. Chief Doug Barrett

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 (Tom) Brainard
4. VACANT
5. Mike Lent
6. Stan McNutt
7. Teresa Spangler

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

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

Housing Committee
1. Andrew Brainard
2. Danny Krossman
3. Enna Helms
4. Tyler Slyter - Chair
5. Sarah Marical

Language Committee
1. Nicole Mendoza
2. Tammy Evarts
3. Ashley Vandevort
4. VACANT
5. VACANT
6. Jesse Beers
7. Ayuthea Cisneros

All committee members with an expired term have been notified and are encouraged to submit a letter of interest for reappointment.
If you wish to no longer participate as an active member, please send an email to enrollment@ctclusi.org

Interested in being on a committee? Submit a letter of interest (can be found on the Enrollment page on the Tribal website). 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, Vice 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, 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

September 13, 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 you all are having a great summer season!

As summer draws to a close, I've been thinking back on the many events the tribe has hosted, with more still ahead. From camps to large events such as the Sacred Salmon Ceremony and the local Canoe Journey, each event requires significant planning and effort behind the scenes.

Having spent many years helping with events throughout my career, I understand what it takes to make them successful. In my previous roles, there were entire departments dedicated to event planning. Our tribe does not have that luxury, so when events take place, staff from across the organization step in to help—and their efforts have contributed greatly to every event's success.

I believe these events bring staff and tribal membership of all ages together to learn about our culture and language while helping our youth participants develop valuable skills through the camps and understand the rewards of hard work.

While some departments lead specific events, I continually see support from others who care deeply about making these events and camps successful. I want to recognize and thank all staff and tribal members who contribute, whether their involvement is part of their role or simply a willingness to help. I would love to mention everyone by name, but I wouldn't want to leave anyone out. Please know that your hard work is noticed and appreciated.

The dedication of our staff to serving our members is evident in the countless ways they go above and beyond every day behind the scenes, whether it is to assist with events or to administer programs or service delivery. It is my hope that our membership joins me in respecting and thanking you for everything you do with and for us.

Thank you,

Teresa Spangler
Tribal Chair



Chair Teresa Spangler

Resolution Summaries

Number	Number	Number	Number
26-138	07/09/2026	Approval of Federal Lobbying Agreement with PACE Companies LLP and Tribal Council Approval Thereof	7-0-0
26-139	07/09/2026	Blue Earth Federal Corporation Board of Directors Appointments	6-0-1
26-140	07/12/2026	Approval and Submittal Authorization of FY 27 O'Link 78 MOA	7-0-0
26-141	07/12/2026	Enrollment of New Members	7-0-0
26-142	07/12/2026	Approval to Submit FEMA BRIC Grant Application	6-1-0
26-143	07/12/2026	Approval to Submit an Application to the Spirit Mountain Community Fund	6-0-1
26-144	07/12/2026	PSC	7-0-0
26-145	07/12/2026	TruBridge Accounts Receivable Recovery Amendment	5-0-1
26-146	07/09/2026	Emergency Amendment of Chapter 7-10 (Budget Committee)	7-0-0
26-147	07/29/2026	Approval of Increase Costs for ALSCO Services for New Tribal Government Office Areas	6-0-0
26-148	07/29/2026	Approval of Tribal Transportation FY2026 Referenced Funding Agreement	6-0-0
26-149	07/29/2026	Approval to Submit ORLP Grant Application for Providence Ridge Property Acquisition	5-1-0
26-150	07/29/2026	Approval to Submit OWEB Grant Application for Providence Ridge Property Acquisition	5-1-0
26-151	07/29/2026	Approval of IGA with CCBUTI for Short Term GIS Services	6-0-0
26-152	07/29/2026	Approval to Submit an Application to the Roundhouse Foundation	6-0-0
26-153	07/29/2026	Approval to Award Lower Smith River Property Boundary Survey Contract	6-0-0
26-154	07/29/2026	Approval of Landscape Maintenance Contract	6-0-0
26-155	07/29/2026	Approval of Memorandum of Agreement Between CTCLUSI and MRT	6-0-0
26-156	07/29/2026	Gaming	6-0-0
26-157	07/29/2026	Approval to Award Contract	6-0-0
26-158	07/29/2026	Approval to Award Contract	6-0-0
26-159	07/29/2026	Professional Services Agreement	7-0-0
26-160	07/29/2026	Blue Earth Federal Corporation Board of Directors Appointments	7-0-0

Did You Know?

Tribal Member Extraordinary Achievement Assistance Available

The Tribe has a program designed to provide recognition, acknowledgement and support for Tribal member accomplishments, as well as financial assistance to eligible members for expenses associated with the participation in, or recognition of a non-scholastic extraordinary achievement.

DEFINITIONS

a) Extraordinary Achievement- an accomplishment that CTCLUSI recognizes as a unique or rare feat to enrolled CTCLUSI members.

b) Non-Scholastic- Not relating to a school or education program; not academic.

c) Qualifying Event- an achievement that meets the threshold for assistance approval for an enrolled Tribal member that is not covered under other CTCLUSI program assistance.

Do you have an achievement that you think may qualify? Fill out the application online today!

Questions? Contact enrollment@ctclusi.org

Scan the QR Code to fill out the Extraordinary Achievement Assistance Application online today.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CODE AMENDMENTS

The following proposed Code establishment draft was passed for First Reading by Tribal Council on **August 9, 2026**

TITLE: 7 ENROLLMENT, COMMITTEES, ELECTIONS AND REFERENDUMS

Chapter 7-16 VISIONS COMMITTEE

The Tribal Council has approved recommendations to define areas of membership with a change that only at least one (1) member resides outside the Tribes Five County Service Area.

Tribal Council hereby approved the amendments to this Code for Second Reading and posting for an additional twenty-eight (28) day public comment period.

DATE OF THE TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING AT WHICH THE PROPOSED CODE IS EXPECTED TO BE CONSIDERED FOR FINAL PASSAGE:

October 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.

Hidden Image Search: Can You Find Me?

In this edition of The Voice of CLUSI there is a hidden image of **a HUMMINGBIRD 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 HUMMINGBIRD hiding!
Must email by September 15th 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.
Thank you to all of the Tribal Government Departments that donate raffle prizes!
Thank you to everyone for playing, and for your patience as the raffle prizes for the winners are mailed out.
Questions? Contact mgaines@ctclusi.org



August Calypso Orchid Raffle Winners:
Adult - Stefanie Barrett-Dean
Youth - Paislie Dean

The Calypso Orchid was hidden on page 15, in the photograph of the Salmon wrapped with fresh vegetables in the skunk cabbage leaves.







Posted September 01, 2026

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.

Athena Dawn Jones
Parent: Grace Gagner
Lineal Descendant: Emil Maxamillion Brainard
Tribe: Coos
Lily Anne Marie Harrison
Parent: Alexandria Harrison
Lineal Descendant: Mary Ellen Tronson
Tribe: Lower Umpqua
Amari Artemus Dean Kennedy
Parent: Lorenzo Kennedy
Lineal Descendant: John Jack Walter Perry
Tribe: Lower Umpqua
Luna October Violet Isenhart
Parent: Shyanne Gilbert
Lineal Descendant: Mary Ellen Tronson
Tribe: Lower Umpqua
Haven May Thompson
Parent: Crystal Thompson
Lineal Descendant: Evaline Jordan Bowen
Tribe: Coos
Briana Mary Moody
Parent: Jacqueline Mullins
Lineal Descendant: Mabel Bennett-Barney
Tribe: Coos
Rosalie Anne Louise Kennedy
Parent: Lorenzo Kennedy
Lineal Descendant: John Jack Walter Perry
Tribe: Lower Umpqua

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).

A Fresh Start – CTCLUSI's Forest Regeneration

Contributed by Amy Kronsberg, M.S., Forester

As the Forestry Department's first three approved timber sales have finished operations, the department is now gearing up for the replanting season.

Taqnis, the Tribe's first timber harvest, has already been replanted as of January 2026, and the seedlings are doing well. The unseasonably warm winter we experienced did have a notable drought stress impact on the small seedlings, but they are still showing signs of strong establishment.

The Heluu and Hawatsit timber harvests completed operations this year and will be replanted around the same time this winter. This season's reforestation will consist of a total of approximately 73 acres shared across the Upper Lake Creek and Tioga Tracts. Both sites will be planted with a mix of Douglas-fir and Western Redcedar. Significant broadleaf species such as Big Leaf Maple and Red Alder are expected to naturally regenerate in the next 1-2 years as these areas have strong natural seedbanks.

The Forestry Department takes great care and consideration in the replanting of the Tribe's forests. Our seedlings are currently being grown in greenhouses owned and operated by IFA Nurseries in Oregon. As seedlings grow and harden off for the season, we visit them to ensure they meet the quality standards we are expecting for our trees.

I took the time to visit both nurseries this August that are growing Douglas-fir and Western Redcedar for the Tribe. The seedlings are growing exceedingly well, with strong root systems, which is vital for their successful establishment on site. The nurseries are also doing their part to guarantee that these seedlings are hardy and ready for whatever site conditions the world is going to throw at them.

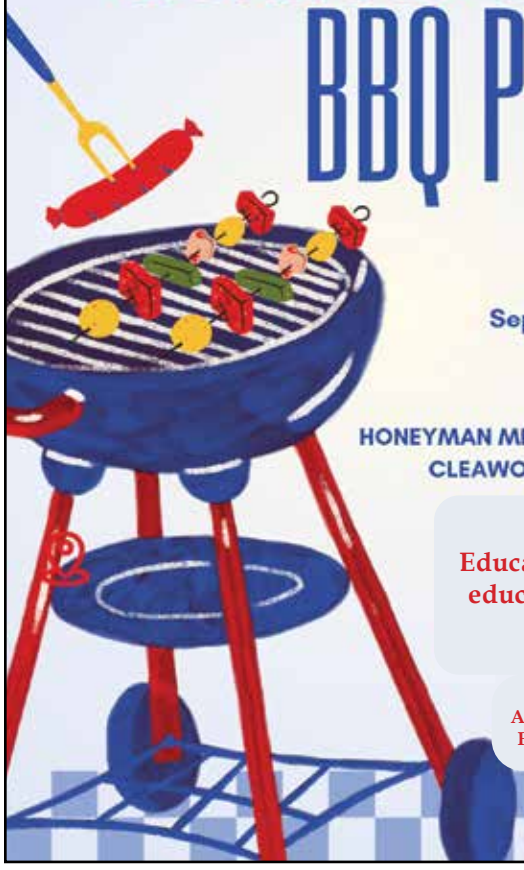
With this, the Forestry Department can continue progress with mindful forest stewardship for generations to come.





Photographs by Amy Kronsberg

Back to School BBQ PARTY



SATURDAY
September 19th 2026
11 AM TO 2 PM

HONEYMAN MEMORIAL STATE PARK
CLEAWOX BALLFIELD SHELTER

RSVP to the Education Department:
education@ctclusi.org
541-888-1314

All CTCLUSI Afterschool Participants and Family Members Welcome

Education Department
Services - Sign up Here with QR CODES

Dress For Success

$ 250 per Enrolled CTCLUSI student Kindergarten through age 24 for school clothes

Questions? Contact Lyndsay.carroll@ctclusi.org

Higher Education Students must provide class schedule
ENDS DECEMBER 1ST 2026

Back to School Supplies - Amazon

$110 voucher per student in CTCLUSI Households Kindergarten through 12th grade

Questions? Contact Lyndsay.carroll@ctclusi.org

Voucher may be redeemed from a provided amazon list

High School Support Program

Limited Reimbursement available for:
Yearbooks, Class Rings, Letterman Jackets
Graphing Calculators, Dual Enrollment materials and more

Questions? Contact us at Education@ctclusi.org

Youth Camp Support

$300 provided directly to approved educational camps for CTCLUSI Household Students k-12 residing outside of the 5 county service area

Athletic and sports camps are not eligible at this time funding is limited, sign up soon.
All CTCLUSI household students k-12 are eligible

Explore the After School Program WITH US

ALL CTCLUSI HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN K-12 ELIGIBLE





OUR SERVICE

- Homework help
- Tutoring
- Experiential Learning
- Field trips
- Cultural Learning
- Scholarship help

Contact the Education Department and RSVP to **541-888-1314**
education@ctclusi.org

Monday through Thursday
3:00 pm to 5:30 pm
September 14th - June 16th
Tribal Hall

KEEP LEARNING Strong THIS SUMMER!





FREE Professional Tutoring!

WORRIED ABOUT THE SUMMER SLIDE?
The CTCLUSI Education Department is here to help!

AVAILABLE TO CTCLUSI HOUSEHOLDS ONLY

We are offering **free professional tutoring**, both in person and virtually, for **K-12 students, GED learners, and higher education students.**
Weekly tutoring is available now and will continue throughout the **2026/2027** school year.

Whether your student wants to stay sharp over the summer, catch up in a challenging subject, or get a head start on the upcoming school year, we're here to help.

OUR TUTORS CAN PROVIDE INDIVIDUALIZED ASSISTANCE WITH:

- Homework Assistance
- Study Skills
- College Placement Exam Preparation
- Professional Certificate Coursework
- College Coursework
- GED Preparation
- Reading
- Writing
- Math
- Science

And More!

REQUEST TUTORING HERE:
http://laserfische.ctclusi.org/Forms?ED-Tutor-Request

QUESTIONS?
Contact the CTCLUSI Education Department at **541-888-1314**

We look forward to helping students of all ages achieve their educational goals!

Are you a 2026 Graduate?!?

We Want to Celebrate YOU!



Send in your photograph and graduation information to be futured in a future edition of The Voice of CLUSI monthly paper and on social media

Scan QR code to fill out the Student Recognition Form
or email
Morgan Cloud
mcloud@ctclusi.org
or Morgan Gaines
mgaines@ctclusi.org

CTCLUSI Field School 2026: The New Face of Resiliency

Contributed by Angela Henry, Camp Director

Hushed voices. Silence. The scent of wet leaves and earth filled the cool night air. Sitting quietly in the forest, we held our breath, listening for wildlife. The stillness was finally broken by the recorded call of a barred owl, played in hopes of hearing one answer from somewhere deep in the trees. But no call came. The silence settled over us once again.

Soft whispers signaled the end of the survey, but the hike back to our meeting point still lay ahead. Somehow the quiet stayed with us. Little was spoken as we followed the narrow trail illuminated only by the soft glow of our red headlamps.

It was a path I had walked many times, yet in the darkness it felt unfamiliar. One careful step at a time, we stayed the course. A silent line of red lights wound through the forest as we maneuvered around stumps and fallen logs, eventually return to where we had started.

With our headlamps switched off, we naturally gathered in a circle. Slowly, as though waking from a dream, the youth began sharing their thoughts. They spoke of the joy of being in the forest at night, of seeing the stars, and of feeling connected to the land around them.

Then we sang.

We sang the Friendship Song. We sang to one another. We sang to our ancestors. We sang to the land, to the waters, to the four-legged, the winged ones, and the plants. In that moment, surrounded by darkness, our voices carried across a landscape our ancestors have known for countless generations.

Our youth walk in many worlds. They live in a world of school, phones, technology, tests, cars, and constant pressure, a world often far removed from the lands that shaped our people. Yet here they were, singing songs passed down through generations in a place where our ancestors lived, struggled, and persevered. They endured disease, forced removal, termination, and countless hardships, yet remained resilient through it all. Every step our ancestors took led to this moment, a moment of cultural joy. A moment that represents the new face of resiliency.

Growing the Next Generation of Stewards

The last week of June and the first week of July brought cool, damp weather to the Oregon coast. The marine layer settled over the landscape all the way to Mapleton High School, where the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians (CTCLUSI) established base camp for the 2026 Field School.

Field School is more than a week of outdoor education: It is a workforce development and cultural education program that prepares Tribal youth to become the future stewards of our lands and waters. Designed to introduce youth to career pathways within the Tribe's Natural Resources and Forestry Departments, the program blends Indigenous Knowledge with Western Science through hands-on learning and meaningful cultural experiences.



This year, 15 Tribal youth participated in the program. Equipped with their own personal protective equipment and outdoor gear, they spent the week camping out, collecting field data, learning ecological monitoring techniques, and exploring Tribal lands. Working alongside CTCLUSI staff, they gained practical experience in forestry, conservation, and environmental stewardship.



Youth spent two days with the Tribe's Forestry Department at Lake Tract participating in forest ecology lessons and salvage harvest stewardship. The third day was spent learning about water quality and biology, where we spent a chilly morning navigating the rocky waters of Lake Creek collecting giishin (crawdads) followed by a nighttime wildlife survey. We concluded the week by completing a pedestrian survey on Tribal lands Tribal with Historic Preservation Officer Courtney Krossman. Every activity reinforced the importance of caring for the lands and waters that have sustained our people for generations.

This week was the conclusion to a long list of learning that began long before camp. Participants attended pre-program meetings, managed personal protective equipment budgets, shopped for their own field gear, and arrived ready to work. Throughout the week they lived and worked in crews, developing accountability, teamwork, leadership, and the value of supporting one another through early mornings and challenging fieldwork.



Field School also nurtures cultural identity. Around the tables at base camp, antler sheds, leather, sinew, and deer toes were transformed into handcrafted antler rattles. Guided by Cultural teachers, elders, and the leadership of Cultural Steward, Alycia Cossey & Isaac Dull, youth created regalia they will carry into ceremony and care for throughout their lives. These projects strengthen cultural knowledge while





CTCLUSI Field School 2026: The New Face of Resiliency

helping perpetuate the unique identity of the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians.

As Tribal people, we carry both generational trauma and generational resilience. Our strength comes from our ancestors, but our future depends on the young people who are learning to care for one another, our culture, and our lands.

By visualizing themselves stepping into the roles of the Tribal professionals leading the activities, learning from Elders and Cultural teachers, and contributing to the stewardship of their homelands, youth begin to envision themselves as the next generation of leaders.

Field School intentionally blends Indigenous Knowledge with Western science because both ways of knowing reinforce one another. Youth learn that cultural teachings and environmental stewardship are inseparable. Caring for salmon streams, forests, wildlife, and culturally significant places is not just environmental work, it is an expression of who we are as Tribal people. It is how we build resilience.

Connecting to our lands, Waters, and Culture: How do you think caring for the land, plants and animals is connected to Tribal Culture, community or traditions?

"One of the most important parts, especially to my personal beliefs, and identity is the importance of all things such as traditions, animals, and nature. I feel this way because I love learning about animals as an animal lover, nature as an admirer of beauty, and lastly Tribal culture/community is important as I enjoy learning about roots, cultures, and others personal experiences as well." – Sydney H, Age:14

"How I think caring for the water is connected to our Tribal culture is because our Tribal culture is because our Tribal culture is very connected towards water especially fish. We use fish for a lot of traditional things and we give respect to each animal that helps to nourish our bodies, give us warmth, and sacrifice themselves. Lastly, how the Tribal land is connected to our culture is that the land is where we come from and it was taken from us, so learning to care for it as we get some back is important. Land, water, plants and animals all connect us to each other and the world around us." - Carson M, Age: 15

"In our culture we see connections to the land through the stories of stewardship and using only what we need not just what we want from nature. In these stories or communities exist beyond just ourselves and shows that if we look out for nature, nature will look out for us. Though these stories are old they still have meanings that we can hold on to in this day and age. Our tribes largest gathering is salmon ceremony a chance we get to pay respects to our cousins the salmon people in which we give the bones back to signify that we took care of them in hopes that the salmon come back next year." - Thorin G, Age: 16

"Since our native plants and animals are rooted within generations of traditional practices, it is important to carry on with those values and stewardships. Especially with our own waterways, they must be maintained and well cared for so that other organic life can thrive. I believe it is very important to take great consideration when dealing with the future of preserving life for the next generations. Especially for the future youth of our tribal communities." - Isa H, Age:17

"I believe that we get our culture from the land. And so talking care of our lands is us learning about our culture. This is important because without our culture we cannot be a people." – Kaiə R, Age:17

Interest in natural resources pathways: Can you imagine yourself working in areas like Forestry, Fisheries, Wildlife , Restoration or Environmental Sciences?

"Since I am leaning into studying chemistry at Oregon State University for my bachelor's, I am hoping I can incorporate that somehow into real-world issues like our own preservation of tribal wildlife. Though I am unsure exactly how, I hope that my love for the sciences can benefit the world and make it a better place. Especially with the fear of global warming and damage done to the Earth. I believe working in fisheries would be a fascinating opportunity to explore in the near future, since fish are important lifeforms to our community." - Isa H, Age:17

"I believe that going to this camp would be a great experience for me and educate me on things I don't already know. I have a very good idea of what I want to do after school, but since I'm only a freshman, I want to have as many opportunities as possible to explore all of my interests. I also want to be able to help out with my tribe and be more knowledgeable when they do camps and other things like that". - Zhade B: Age 15

I can see myself working in all of these one day I see myself working for the tribe in any way shape or form." – Marco I : Age15

Personal Goal Attending Camp: What is one goal you want to achieve-academic or workforce-based -from attending Field School?

I really want to learn more forestry management and forestry skills. Last year I really liked getting in the dirt, socializing, and learning about the site. One goal I have for camp is to learn more plant and tree types. I learned a lot last year but I don't remember all of them. I am hoping this year there will be a chart or book or something for me to look back at. I have a hard time remembering sometimes. I also really want to work on not falling into Oregon Grapes. I fell into a few last year and it was not good. Carson M Age: 14

"Well, I love spending all the time w the other kids my age and making relationships and connections, my favorite part about the camps hands down. However, I have a huge interest in our culture and traditions within our land, how it helps us and how we can help it. I want to learn as much as I can as well as maybe find some guidance." - Anne Marie G Age :16











Sacred Salmon Ceremony 2026



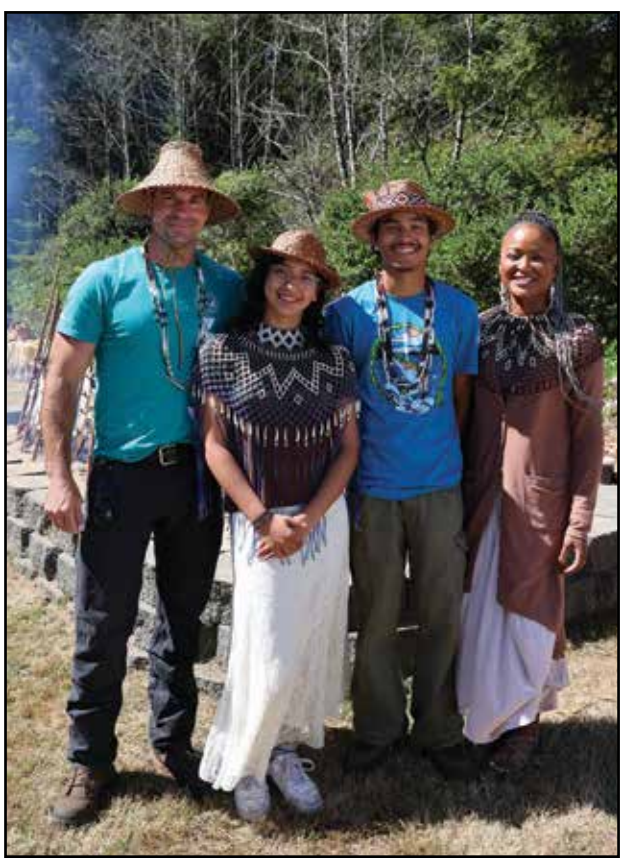




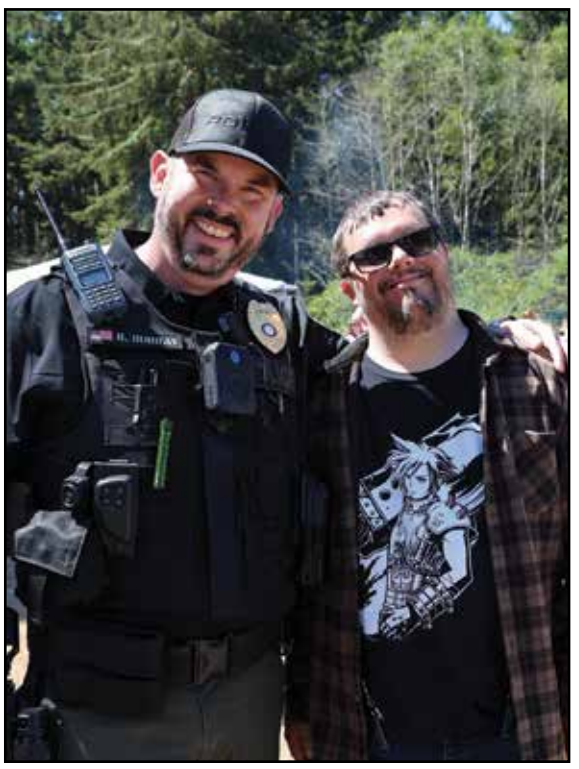








Sacred Salmon Ceremony 2026










Tribal Elder John Siestreem Walks On



John Lee Siestreem
May 7, 1947 - July 14, 2026

John Lee Siestreem, U of O Architect, died peacefully July 14, 2026.

He was born on May 7, 1947, in North Bend Oregon to Viola Rose Cisneros Siestreem and James Robert Siestreem. He grew up in North Bend and graduated from the U of O in Eugene. John Treasured the years he spent as a logger and was proud to be an architect in the city of Portland. He found joy in spending time with his family and with his many beloved dog companions. The family suggests that remembrances be made to The Oregon Food Bank at www.oregonfoodbank.org, who John was a faithful contributor and volunteer.

Please note, the preceding formal obituary words were printed in The Oregonian July 17-19, 2026. It seems important to write a few more words about my older brother John Lee Siestreem, as one of our Hanis Coos Elders just, as my brother, to give you a glimmer of who he was to me. I was fortunate to grow up in the home our father built for us.

John helped my father retrieve, stack, and transport bricks from a home that had been demolished in Reedsport. They used my Fathers pickup truck to transport the brick back to our home in North Bend, one load at a time. After working a full day and going to school a full day, they worked together to clean off the old mortar, sort the usable brick so it could be reused to build a two-story fireplace in our home. My Father designed a wood lift to the side of the fireplace, so you did not have to carry the wood to the upstairs fireplace. I will remember us sitting together sharing stories in front of those fireplaces as long as I live.

I am forever thankful, grateful, and blessed with many wonderful childhood memories with my brother John. Rest in peace now, dear brother.

Love you forever and for always,

Julie Siestreem, Hanis Coos Citizen



Photographs provided by Julie Siestreem.

Family photograph pictured left to right;
Great Grandma Siestreem, Edwina Siestreem Clarkson, Grandma Ethel Sloop Siestreem, Sharon Clarkson, Mary Clarkson, John Siestreem, and Viola Siestreem.

L-R Great Grandma Siestreem, Edwina Siestreem Clarkson
Grandma Ethel Sloop Siestreem, Sharon Clarkson,
Mary Clarkson, John Siestreem, Viola Siestreem

CTCLUSI Tribal Transportation Expands Services

The CTCLUSI Tribal Transportation Department is pleased to announce the addition of a **Mobility Services Specialist**, further enhancing our capacity to provide safe, reliable, and accessible transportation services for Tribal members.

Community members in need of transportation assistance are encouraged to contact **Kathy Perkins**, who can assist with coordinating transportation and scheduling rides for medical appointments, essential services, and other approved destinations.

For transportation inquiries or to schedule a ride, please contact Kathy at **541-888-9577** or **kperkins@ctclusi.org**.

The CTCLUSI Tribal Transportation Department remains committed to expanding access to dependable transportation services and enhancing mobility for our Tribal members and community.



Free Parenting Workshops!
Sponsored by
The Confederated Tribes of
Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians Social Services
In partnership with
the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians
and the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians

FATHERHOOD & MOTHERHOOD IS SACRED

(PARENTING WORKSHOP SERIES)

October 6th - November 10th 2026
Tuesdays Evening
6:00pm-8:00pm
via Zoom

PLEASE RSVP TO SHAYNE PLATZ 541-297-3450
OR NICHOLE BENNER 541-888-9577

Elders Corner

BARBARA BLACK,

TRIBAL NAVIGATOR/COMMUNITY HEALTH AIDE

IS MOVING TO A NEW LOCATION!

New address is:
Three Rivers Health Center
250 Hull Street, Coos Bay, OR 97420.
Phone: 541-888-7520
Cell: 541-294-5472

Also moving with her are the Frozen meals, Fresh Vegetables, and Over-The-Counter medications.

Elders Lunch

September 10th, 2026

Florence Outreach Office

(Blue Room Conference Area)

3757 Hwy 101

Florence, OR. 97439

Door open 11:30am

Lunch at Noon



Please RSVP By Friday September 4, 2026

To Doug Morrison (541) 997-6685

Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians
Health and Social Services Division

Eugene Elders Luncheon

Mark your calendars for

Thursday, October 8, 2026

Chapala Mexican Restaurant

136 Oakway Center

Eugene, OR 97401



Guest Speaker: Sydney Trusty, Public Health Nurse.

Please **RSVP** to Kimmy Bixby by

Tuesday, October 6, 2026

541-744-1334

Limited transportation will be provided from Coos Bay and Florence.

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.

Elders & the Littles

LANGUAGE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ELDERS

ipads are available

Support our littles' language learning. **All levels** welcome.
Join the weekly Elders **online language** gatherings.
Participant incentives are available.

This event is open to CTCLUSI Tribal Member Households

REGISTER:

Scan the QRC to register for classes or go to:
https://laserfiche.ctclusi.org/Forms/Language-Class-Sign-Up

Language Nest Program 0-5 y/o +
Saturdays 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM

miluk hanis sha'yuushtɬ□a uɬ quuiich

CONTACT: language@ctclusi.org
(541) 888-1303 -the Language Team

Wildfire Smoke: Protect Yourself and Your Family

Contributed by Sydney Trusty, RN, BSN, Public Health Nurse
Sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Why Is Wildfire Smoke Dangerous?

Wildfires can happen close to home or hundreds of miles away. Even if you cannot see the flames, smoke can travel long distances and affect the air you breathe.

Wildfire smoke contains tiny particles called **PM2.5**. These particles are small enough to travel deep into your lungs and may contribute to inflammation and health effects throughout the body. Breathing smoky air can make it harder to breathe and may worsen existing health conditions.

Common Symptoms of Smoke Exposure

If you breathe wildfire smoke, you may notice:

- Coughing
- Sore throat
- Burning or watery eyes
- Runny nose
- Shortness of breath
- Wheezing
- Headaches

People with asthma, COPD, heart disease, or other health conditions may experience more severe symptoms.

Who Is Most at Risk?

Some people are more likely to become sick from wildfire smoke, including:

- Children
- Older adults
- Pregnant people
- People with asthma or COPD
- People with heart disease

Even healthy people can experience symptoms if the air remains smoky for several days.

How to Protect Yourself

When the air is smoky, you can lower your risk by taking a few simple steps.

Stay Inside

- Keep windows and doors closed.
- Use air conditioning if available.
- Use a portable **HEPA air cleaner** or a high-quality air filter in your home's heating and cooling system when possible.
- Avoid activities that add particles indoors, such as burning candles, using wood-burning stoves, or frying foods without ventilation.

Check the Air Quality

Before spending time outdoors, check your local **Air Quality Index (AQI)**.

If air quality is unhealthy:

- Stay indoors as much as possible.
- Avoid outdoor exercise or strenuous activity.
- Pay special attention to children, older adults, and people with heart or lung conditions.

Check current air quality information at **AirNow.gov** or through your local air quality agency.

Wear the Right Mask

If you must go outside when smoke levels are high, wear a **well-fitting N95 respirator**.

Cloth masks and loose-fitting face coverings do not provide reliable protection from the fine particles found in wildfire smoke.

Limit Physical Activity

Running, biking, or doing heavy yard work causes you to breathe faster, which means you inhale more smoke. Save strenuous activities for days when the air is cleaner.

When Should You Get Medical Help?

Call your healthcare provider or seek medical care right away if you have:

- Trouble breathing
- Chest pain
- Severe coughing that does not improve
- Dizziness or confusion
- Asthma symptoms that do not improve with medication

If you have asthma or another lung condition, keep your rescue inhaler and other medications nearby during wildfire season.

Be Prepared Before Smoke Arrives

You can prepare for wildfire season by:

- Checking air quality reports each day.
- Keeping extra medications on hand.
- Buying an N95 respirator before smoke arrives.
- Having a portable HEPA air cleaner if possible.
- Making a plan to stay indoors when air quality is poor.

The Bottom Line

Wildfire smoke is more than an inconvenience—it can affect your health. By staying informed, checking the air quality, and taking simple precautions, you can help protect yourself and your family during wildfire season.

Healthy habits today can help you breathe easier tomorrow.

Fall into a Healthy Routine: Your health. Your choices. Your plan.

Contributed by Elizabeth Escobedo, MS, CHES, CNC Diabetes Educator
Sources: American Diabetes Association, Indian Health Service (IHS), CTCLUSI Food is Medicine Cookbook by Enna Helms, Patricia Philips, Ashley Russell, Nicole Mendoza, and Ashley Vandevort

Fall brings cooler days, changing schedules, and new routines. It's also a good time to ask: what would make taking care of myself just a little easier this season?

There is no one right way to live well with diabetes. What works for one person might not work for you, and that is okay. Your food preferences, schedule, budget, and what matters to you are all part of your health.

Make meals easier

Cooking ahead can help take some of the work out of busy days. Try making a batch of quinoa and using it in different meals throughout the week.

Not a quinoa fan? Try farro! Quick-cook farro is another option, ready in about 10 minutes. A quick tip: whole grain or "semi-pearled" farro has more fiber than pearled, so it's worth a peek at the label. Try it in soups, salads, or warm grain bowls.

The goal isn't to make every meal perfect. **It's finding food and routines that fit your life.**

Find Movement You Enjoy

Movement can be part of your everyday routine. Walking, gardening, dancing, standing or seated stretching, and chair exercises all offer ways to move your body.

Start where you are and choose something that feels good and fits your life. Even small changes can add up. Even going outside to get the mail is a great place to start.

Speak Up About Your Health Care

You know your body and your life best. Have questions about your medicines, blood glucose, food, or activity? Ask your health care team. Let them know what is working and what is not. Build a plan together that actually fits your life.

One Small Step

You don't have to change everything at once. Pick one thing that could make your fall routine a little easier.

Your health is personal. Your choices matter.

Elders Walking Club is coming to Eugene this fall!

Get some movement, enjoy the outdoors, and make new memories along the way.

Walking clubs will also be coming soon to the **Coos Bay and Florence areas!**

Dates and details coming soon. Keep an eye out!

Recipe Corner Recipe can be prepared ahead of time and eaten chilled or eaten right away while still warm. It is excellent as meal prep for lunch or dinner for our weekly planning.

Quinoa Salad adapted from CTCLUSI Food is Medicine Cook Book

🍽️Servings 6-8 🕐30 min



Ingredients

3 cups of (stock, can be any stock)
1 garlic clove
1.5 cups of Quinoa
2/3 c of lime juice
1 tblsp balsamic vinegar
¼ c olive oil
1 orange pepper, chopped
1 15oz can of black beans drained & rinsed
1 15 oz corn (frozen or canned) thawed/drained
½ c cilantro chapped
Protein optional (chicken)

Directions

1.Bring the stock and garlic to boil. Then, stir in the quinoa and simmer on med-low, covered for 15 minutes.
2.While quinoa is cooking, combine with lime juice, vinegar, and olive oil
3.Chop all vegetables and drain and rinse canned beans and corn. (If using frozen corn thaw). Combine with the dressing while the quinoa cooks and cools.
4.Once the quinoa is cooked, remove from the burner and allow to cool for 15 minutes before adding the dressing mix. This prevents the quinoa from cooking the cilantro too much.
5.Once cooled, combine all ingredients and enjoy!







Congratulations High School Graduates Class of 2026



Zoey Lozeau

Please join us in congratulating Zoey Lozeau on her recent high school graduation in Arizona! This is an incredible accomplishment and the beginning of an exciting new chapter in her life.

As she looks toward the future, Zoey has her sights set on attending cosmetology school,

Congratulations Zoey on this amazing achievement! May this next chapter bring you continued growth, success, and opportunities to follow your dreams. We can't wait to see where your talents and determination take you!



Lee Brainard

Lee Brainard graduated from Oakridge High School in Oakridge, Oregon.

He was president of the Oakridge band as well as a member of the national honor society.

Lee will be attending Pacific University in Forest Grove, OR on scholarships for track, wrestling, and football this Fall.

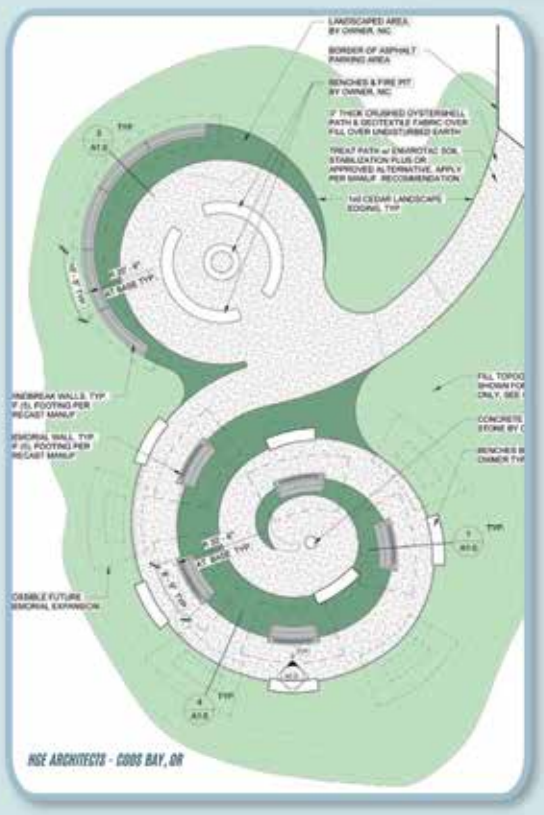






baldija memorial

The baldija Memorial concept began with Chief Doc Slyter and has been thoughtfully developed over the past several years to honor our Tribal community members who have continued on their journeys. Guided by input from Tribal membership and the Culture Department, the memorial has been designed as a place of reflection, remembrance, and connection – a space where family, friends, and community members can come to sit with, remember, and honor their relatives who have passed on. The vision is to create a lasting place that reflects our cultural values, strengthens our connection to those who came before us, and provides a meaningful setting for healing, remembrance, and quiet reflection.



design

Process
The Planning Department and the Department of Culture and Natural Resources partnered with HGE Architects in Coos Bay to begin developing the baldija Memorial concept. Guided by input from Tribal community members and the Culture Sector, the design reflects Tribal values, cultural teachings, and the importance of honoring those who have walked on.

Concept
The memorial is inspired by the form of a fiddlehead fern viewed from above, symbolizing growth, renewal, and the continuation of life's journey. The flowing, interconnected spirals create a peaceful landscape that encourages reflection while remaining rooted in the natural environment.

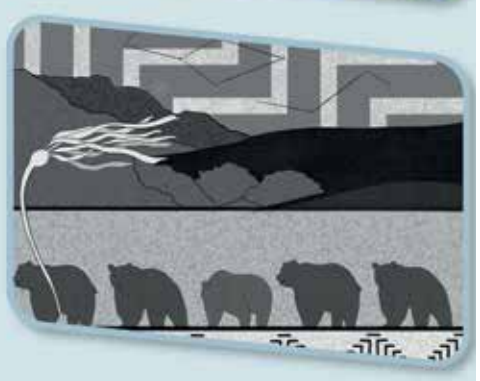
Memorial Spiral
One spiral serves as the memorial walk, where gently curving concrete walls will hold commemorative plaques honoring Tribal relatives who have passed on. At the center of this space, a smudge bowl and stand provide a place for prayer, remembrance, and quiet reflection, allowing visitors to connect with loved ones in a culturally meaningful way.

Community Gathering Space
The second spiral is designed as a community gathering space for storytelling, remembrance, ceremonies, and connection. Seating surrounds a central fire pit, while a sculptural windbreak wall, embellished with artwork designed by Tribal artist Ayuthea Lapier, will provide both beauty and function. Together, these elements create a welcoming place that honors those who have passed while bringing the community together.













The two photographs above were taken on August 2, 2026 during the Sacred Salmon Ceremony of the baldija memorial project in progress.

Salmon Ceremony photo credits: Morgan Gaines

next steps

Groundbreaking
On September 30, 2024, Tribal leadership, community members, and project partners gathered for a groundbreaking ceremony to mark the beginning of construction on the baldija Memorial. The ceremony honored the vision of the project while recognizing the importance of creating a lasting place of remembrance for future generations.

Cultural Resource Protection
Throughout planning and construction, the project has been completed in close partnership with the Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) within the Department of Culture and Natural Resources. This collaboration has ensured that all work, including preparation of the site, installation of the crushed oyster shell pathways, and placement of the precast concrete forms, has been completed in a manner that protects and respects Tribal cultural resources.

Looking Ahead
With the precast concrete forms and pathways now in place, the next phase of the project includes working with a Landscape Architect and installing the memorial plaques, benches, fire pit, and smudge bowl, along with completing the artistic elements and planting native vegetation throughout the site. When complete, the baldija Memorial will provide a place for remembrance, reflection, and community gathering for generations to come. The project is currently projected to be completed in 2027.









Tribal Citizen and Artist Cody Theisen's Work Featured in Gallery

Tribal citizen and artist Cody Theisen's work is currently on display at the Creative Spirits Gallery, located inside the West Linn Lutheran Church (WLLC) at 20390 Willamette Drive, West Linn, Oregon.

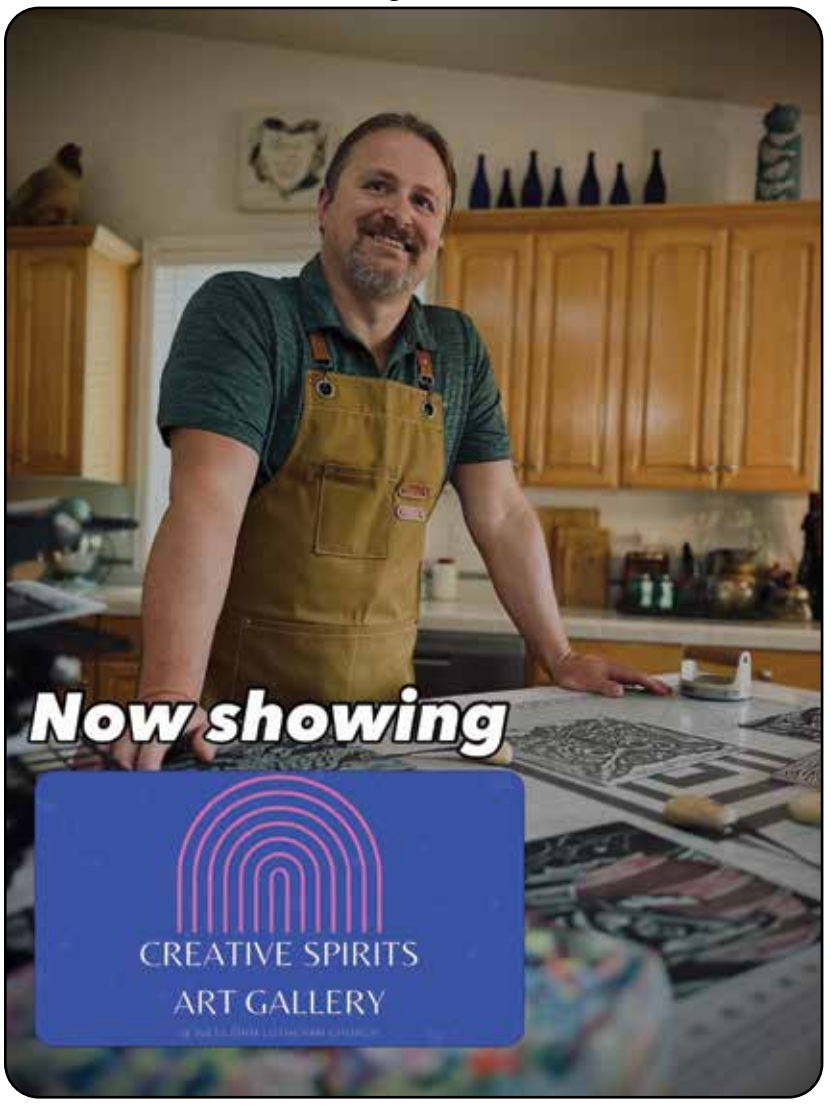
"Growing up in the Pacific Northwest, I find endless inspiration in the forests, rivers, mountains, and wildlife that surrounds me. My work is deeply influenced by the natural world and by my Native American heritage as a member of the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians. Through my art, I strive to honor both the landscapes that shaped me and the traditions that continue to inspire my creative journey.

As a single parent working full time in construction, finding time for art wasn't always easy, but my passion and determination never faded.

In 2022, after being diagnosed with Functional Neurological Disorder (FND), my life took an unexpected turn. With the unwavering support of my family and life partner, I found a renewed sense of purpose. Art became more than a creative outlet, it became a way to heal, reconnect, and move forward.

On my better days, you'll find me carving, printing, drawing, or creating something inspired by nature, my Native heritage, and traditional craftsmanship. I'm grateful to share this new chapter of my journey with you, and I hope my work inspires others to find beauty, resilience, and connection in the world around them."

The goal of the WLLC Creative Spirits Gallery is to support emerging and established artists and give their works exposure.



Join Cody in person for a Gallery Reception
September 10th at 2:00 p.m.

"I'd like to invite you all to come join me for my Art Walk!

I'll be featured at the gallery and will be there to talk about my artwork, share a little about my creative process, and answer questions while you view the exhibition."

There will be packaged prints available for purchase to take home, as well as framed original artwork available for purchase. Framed pieces will remain at the gallery until the exhibition closes.



The above 'Owl Feather' block print is one of the pieces currently on display at the Creative Spirits Gallery and a beautiful example of Cody's work





Enforcement of PRC Policy – Effective January 1, 2027

The CTCLUSI Purchased and Referred Care (PRC) Program will begin implementing an important federal requirement effective **January 1, 2027**.

Under federal regulation, PRC is the **payor of last resort**, which means all available health insurance benefits must be used before PRC can pay for approved medical services. Beginning **January 1, 2027**, Tribal Members with health insurance must receive care from providers who are able to bill their primary insurance before submitting claims to PRC.

If you are currently seeing a provider who does **not** bill your primary insurance, you may need to choose a new provider before **January 1, 2027**, in order for PRC to consider payment for your services.

This policy helps ensure PRC remains compliant with federal regulations while allowing limited PRC funds to serve as many eligible Tribal Members as possible in a fair and consistent manner.

Our Health Program Benefits Specialists are available to answer your questions, help you understand your insurance benefits, and assist you through this transition.

For questions, please contact the PRC Health Program Benefit Specialists, Nancy at 541-435-7170 or Kelli at 541-888-7518.

CTCLUSI Tribal Member FAQ:

1. What is changing on January 1, 2027?

Beginning January 1, 2027, the CTCLUSI Purchased and Referred Care (PRC) Program will begin enforcing a federal requirement that PRC is the *payor of last resort*. This means Tribal Members with health insurance must receive care from providers who can bill their primary insurance before PRC can consider payment.

2. Why is PRC making this change?

This change is required under federal regulation (42 CFR § 136.61). Enforcing this rule ensures:

- PRC remains compliant with federal law
- PRC funds are used responsibly
- All Tribal Members are treated fairly and consistently

3. What does "payor of last resort" mean?

It means PRC can only pay after all other available health insurance benefits have been used. **Example:**

- If your provider bills your insurance → PRC may cover remaining eligible costs.
- If your provider does *not* bill your insurance → PRC cannot consider payment.

4. What if my current provider does not bill my insurance?

You may need to switch to a provider who can bill your insurance before January 1, 2027. PRC cannot pay for services from providers who refuse to bill your primary insurance.

5. How do I know if my provider bills my insurance?

You can:

- Ask your provider directly
- Check your insurance plan's provider directory
- Contact PRC Health Program Benefits Specialists for help

6. Will PRC help me find a new provider?

Yes. PRC staff can:

- Review your insurance benefits
- Help identify providers who bill your insurance
- Assist you with transitioning care before the policy takes effect

7. Are there any exceptions?

Some situations may still be eligible for PRC consideration, such as:

- Emergency services
- Services not covered by your insurance but eligible under PRC
- Insurance denials with proper documentation

PRC staff can help determine if an exception applies.

8. How will this change be communicated?

CTCLUSI will share updates through:

- Tribal newsletter
- CTCLUSI website
- Clinic postings
- Direct mail and email
- Community meetings or informational sessions

9. What should I do before January 1, 2027?

- Confirm your provider bills your insurance
- Contact PRC if you need help transitioning
- Review your insurance benefits
- Ask questions early to avoid delays in care

10. Who can I contact for help?

Our PRC Health Program Benefits Specialists are available to support you through this transition:

- **Nancy:** 541-435-7170
- **Kelli:** 541-888-7518

CTCLUSI Tribal Offices Holiday Closures

All CTCLUSI Tribal Government Offices will be CLOSED in Observance of these holidays

Labor Day - Monday, September 7

Native American Day - Friday, September 25

Indigenous People's Day - Monday, October 12

CTCLUSI Restoration Day - Saturday, October 17, observed Friday, October 16

Veteran's Day - Wednesday, November 11

Thanksgiving Day - Thursday, November 26

Native American Heritage Day - Friday, November 27

Staff Appreciation Day (Christmas Eve) - Thursday, December 24

Chirstmas Day - Friday, December 25

CTCLUSI Human Resources
recruitment@ctclusihr.org

THREE RIVERS HEALTH CENTER

COOS BAY JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Department	Job Title	Status	Age	Starting Wage
Special Events	Depends on Assignment ⁂	OC	14+	Depends on Assignment
Health Services	Community Health Nurse*	FT	25+	$83,430/yr - DOE
Health Services	Chief Operations Officer – Health Ops.	FT	25+	Depends on Experience
Forestry	Director of Forest Management*	FT	25+	Depends on Experience
Health Services	Charge Capture Specialist	FT	19+	$60,640.32/yr - DOE
Housing	Director of Housing*	FT	25+	Depends on Experience
Health Services	Pharmacy Biller	FT	18+	$24.65/hr - DOE
Natural Resources & Culture	Language Program Manager⁂*	FT	25+	$74,159.64/yr - DOE
Education	Youth Workforce Participant	Temp.	14+	$18.75/hr
Finance	Grants & Contracts Specialist 1	FT	18+	$23.37/hr - DOE

FLORENCE JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Department	Job Title	Status	Age	Starting Wage
Special Events	Depends on Assignment ⁂	OC	14+	Depends on Assignment
Gaming	Gaming Inspector*	FT	25+	$22.00/hr - DOE
Natural Resources & Culture	Language Program Manager⁂*	FT	25+	$74,159.64/yr - DOE

EUGENE JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Department	Job Title	Status	Age	Starting Wage
Special Events	Depends on Assignment ⁂	OC	14+	Depends on Assignment
Natural Resources & Culture	Language Program Manager⁂*	FT	25+	$74,159.64/yr - DOE

*Position requires a valid driver's license and ability to be insurable by CTCLUSI's insurance agency.
⁂ This position is posted for various locations. Please see the job posting for more details.

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: 08/14/2026

Upcoming Events

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

September 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7 All Offices Closed in observance of Labor Day	8	9	10 Elders Luncheon Florence Outreach 11:30 a.m Culture Committee Meeting TBD 4pm	11 2027 Calendar Photo Submission Deadline Crime Summit TRCR Florence	12
13 Regular Council Meeting 10:00 am	14	15 Healthy Lifestyle Program, Florence Outreach 9am-10am	16 Healthy Lifestyle Program, Florence Outreach 9am-10am	17	18	19 Back to School BBQ with Education Dept Honeyman State Park
20	21	22 Healthy Lifestyle Program, Florence Outreach 9am-10am miluk class 4pm	23 Healthy Lifestyle Program, Florence Outreach 9am-10am hanis class 4pm	24 wa'as class 4pm	25 All Offices Closed in observance of Native American Day	26
27	28	29 miluk class 4pm	30 Business Council Meeting 6:00 pm hanis class 4pm	1 wa'as class 4pm	2	3 Littles Program Language Class 9am

October 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	29 Parenting Workshop 6pm miluk class 4pm	30 hanis class 4pm	1 wa'as class 4pm	2	3 Pumpkin Patch Harrisburg, OR 12pm-3pm Littles Program Language Class 9am
4 Pumpkin Patch Mahaffy Ranch 11:30am-2:30pm	5	6 Parenting Workshop 6pm miluk class 4pm	7 hanis class 4pm	8 Elders Luncheon Chapala, Eugene 11:30 a.m wa'as class 4pm	9	10 Restoration Celebration TRCR Florence Littles Program Language Class 9am
11 Regular Council Meeting 10:00 am	12 All Offices Closed in observance of Indigenous People's Day	13 Parenting Workshop 6pm miluk class 4pm	14 hanis class 4pm	15 wa'as class 4pm	16 All Offices Closed in observance of Restoration Day	17 CTCLUSI Restoration Day
18	19	20 Parenting Workshop 6pm miluk class 4pm	21 hanis class 4pm	22 wa'as class 4pm	23	24 Haunted Hallows Eve, Tribal Hall 5pm Littles Program Language Class 9am
25	26	27 Parenting Workshop 6pm miluk class 4pm	28 Business Council Meeting 6:00 pm hanis class 4pm	29 wa'as class 4pm	30	31 Littles Program Language Class 9am

3rd Distribution for the Hands of Harvest Farmers Market Program

Application Opens August 16th Close September 15th

Scan QR Code to open and fill out Hands of Harvests Application Form.

CTCLUSI Enrolled Tribal Member Households Required.

First-come, first-served system!

Be sure to apply as soon as possible if you are interested in utilizing the Farmers Market Program in Coos Bay & Eugene, Oregon.

FOLLOW

CTCLUSI ON SOCIAL MEDIA



FACEBOOK INSTAGRAM

www.ctclusi.org



THREE RIVERS HEALTH CENTER

Must be at least 16 years of age, obtain CPR certification within 90 days of hire, and must pass drug test and background check

Three Rivers Health Center

PAID WORK STUDY

Dental Steralization Technician

- Earn elective credit
- Build career readiness
- Earn money while continuing to progress academically
- Gain real-world experience

$18.75 an hour

Questions? contact Sam Chase at schase@ctclusi.org

Pumpkin Patch & Prevention

Saturday, October 3rd
12:00PM-3:00PM

Prevention Luncheon:
"Picnic Pavilion"
Harrisburg Area Museum
490 Smith St,
Harrisburg, OR 97446

Oral Stories told by Brenda Brainard

R.S.V.P. 541-435-7155

Pumpkin Patch
Corn Maze
Wagon Rides
Animal Corral
Apple Blaster

CTCLUSI Tribal Families

Lunch Provided

Detering Orchards
30946 Wyatt Dr,
Harrisburg, OR 97446
*7 Minute Drive
No Transportation Provided

*Drug, Alcohol, and Commercial Tobacco Free Event

*Attendance at Prevention Luncheon required for participation at pumpkin patch

Pumpkin Patch & Prevention

Mahaffy Ranch
10362 HWY 241,
Coos Bay, OR 97420

Where:
Forest Party Tent on Mahaffy Ranch Property! Lunch Provided

Oral Stories told by Patty Whereat Phillips

R.S.V.P.
541-435-7155

Sunday, October 4th
11:30AM-2:30PM

CTCLUSI Tribal Families

Pumpkin Patch
Corn Maze
Hay Wagon
Animal Corral
Corn Cannon

*Drug, Alcohol, and Commercial Tobacco Free Event

*Attendance at Stories & Lunch required for participation at pumpkin patch

Participants Needed!

Seeking Tribal members for Traditional Knowledge Research

Who Do We Need?

We are looking for CTCLUSI Tribal members 18 years and older, especially Elders, willing and interested in being interviewed to share knowledge about the changes they have witness that impact Tribal ways of life, particularly changes to crab.

This can also include changes noticed about the ocean, beaches, erosion, water temperatures, collection (hunting, fishing, gathering, and foods) and any related information.

How to Get Involved

Contact
S.ChisholmHatfield@oregonstate.edu
Text or Call (503)420-9654
Interviews can be via zoom, or in person.

This project* is through Oregon State University. Dr. Chisholm Hatfield is leading the project and is enrolled Siletz, her research student Riley Aldridge is enrolled Montana Little Shell Chippewa.

We additionally are interested in Tribal knowledge, and use of Gumboot Chiton - either as a food source, or using it in other ways.



Oregon State University

*CTCLUSI Tribal Council has approved a research permit for this project

