

**Support for body, soul**  
Traditional medicine class offers natural remedies  
page 8



**Elders celebrate**  
Treasured members of the tribe gather  
pages 2, 6

**inside**  
Holiday wreath contest / 4  
Staff profile / 4  
Gerrie Sanders retires / 4  
Lucky Eagle fundraiser / 6  
January birthdays / 7  
Fight the flu this season / 9  
Students of the Month / 10-11  
Oakville schools news / 12

*Chehalis community makes beautiful Christmas memories*



## Happy holidays

*Stories by Frazier Myer*

**H**undreds of people attended the community Christmas celebration on Dec. 15, one of the biggest events of the year for the Chehalis Tribe. The Community Center gymnasium was packed with people ready to enjoy an afternoon of activities. Lunch was

provided by Lucky Eagle Casino & Hotel's food and beverage staff. Attendees played multiple rounds of bingo, took photos with Santa and entered a raffle for a chance to take home a gift provided by the Events Department.

A lot of preparation went into the

See HOLIDAYS, page 2



**Families and friends celebrate during the 2019 annual Christmas gathering.**



**The tribal employee holiday party was bursting with mirth and merriment.**

## Employee appreciation

*Tribal workers enjoy friendly competition at party*

The 2019 Chehalis tribal employee Christmas party was filled with festive fun on Dec. 13 at Lucky Eagle Casino & Hotel Events Center.

The afternoon included lunch provided by the Lucky Eagle food and beverage department, games of blackjack, secret

Santa, an ugly sweater and best-dressed contest, entertainment by guitarist E. Pruitt Bassist and ACE awards for the months of October and November.

Staff members Leah Niccolucci and

See PARTY, page 3





Presents, food and games brought out big smiles at the Chehalis Tribe's Christmas celebration.



## HOLIDAYS

From page 1

afternoon. In the week leading up to the gathering, Events staff decorated the building, set up tables, shopped for gifts, wrapped presents and arranged entertainment.

Native American comedian Mylo Smith from Sioux Falls, South Dakota, had a way of connecting with the audience as he told jokes that each generation could relate to. He interacted with the crowd and brought up

selected individuals to be a part of his bit. Mylo's friendly humor had everyone laughing for more than an hour.

After he was done with his comedic act, Mylo emceed the rest of the event and even called the rounds of bingo. The event ended with Mylo drawing the grand prize raffle tickets. He created a little challenge for each winner. Instead of receiving his or her gift in traditional fashion, he made it entertaining by having each winner sing a Christmas song before accepting the gift.



## Chehalis tribal elders treated to holiday dinner

Fifty-one elders were given a special Christmas dinner on Dec. 17 at the Community Center Gathering Room.

Elders were given a gift bag and candy. Many said it harkened back to when they were kids and took home treats after Christmas gatherings.



They visited throughout the evening. It was the perfect opportunity to spend time with family and fellow tribal members while enjoying an incredible dinner.

The meal delivered plenty of options, so those who attended could find something they enjoyed. Cooks prepared

prime rib, crab legs, oysters, steamed clams and much more.

The Chehalis Tribal Youth Counsel provided assistance during the event by handing out dessert, helping during the raffle drawing and cleaning up when the event came to an end.

Cooks prepared a Christmas meal for elders last month.







## PARTY

From page 1



Sheilah Bray also put on a show as they performed Christmas songs for employees.

The ugly sweater contest was an opportunity to display a variety of creative outfits and was highlighted by Rita Benda. She took the prize with her Christmas tree sweater and hairdo. In the best-dressed competition, participants showed off their fancy attire. Michael Postlewait of Facilities and Maintenance edged out the competition in the men's category and Lydia Fromm of Wellness Center staff won women's best dressed.

Numerous employees who had outstanding performances during October and November received recognition during the ACE Employee of the Month ceremony. Debbie Barker from Accounting was honored as the October Employee of the Month. She was nominated for her extensive knowledge in the field, accountability and problem-solving skills. In her nomination letter, she is acknowledged as friendly, patient and

helpful. She is very accommodating no matter who she is working with.

The November Employee of the Month saw a sibling rivalry between Allen Bush from Maintenance and his sister Bobbie Bush from Behavioral Health.

Allen works at the tribal dump station and was nominated for his professionalism and kindness. He works through the cold and rain, yet always has a friendly and positive attitude. He is known for being a courteous individual and greets everyone with care and a "What's up?" Most tribal members interact with Allen, and everyone always has something positive to say about him. He always makes an attempt to brighten people's day.

His sister, Bobbie, received the award. Allen said if he had to come in second to anyone, he's glad it was his sister.

Leah Niccolucci nominated Bobbie. She "takes her work very seriously and is creative in what she does," Niccolucci said. Bobbie was recognized for her recent work and creating a resource tracking sheet, which maximizes grant funding and helps to better serve Behavioral Health's clients.

"Bobbie is one of the most client-centered professionals that I know," Niccolucci said.

The annual employee Christmas party was put on by Events staff, who handed out numerous raffle gifts throughout the festivities. Toward the end of the afternoon, tribal employees participated in the gift exchange. Everyone enjoyed their time together at the last employee event of 2019.

**Chehalis tribal employees cut loose with an ugly sweater contest, live music, gambling, food and more during the annual Christmas party celebrating their contributions during the past year.**



## Wonderful wreaths

Chehalis tribal departments designed festive entries for the holiday wreath contest. Judges chose the top three based on creativity, details and theme. All departments received a gift for showing their holiday spirit. Below are the top three department wreaths.

Thank you to all employees who participated in this delightful show of skills!



### 1 First place: Law Enforcement



### 2 Second place: Accounting



### 3 Third place: Facilities



## staff profile

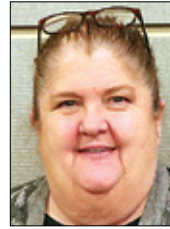
### Melanee Stevens

#### YOUTH SUPPORT SERVICES COORDINATOR READY TO WORK WITH FAMILIES

Hello! My name is Melanee Stevens and I am the new Youth Support Services Coordinator with the Behavioral Health Department. I am working with the Suicide Prevention and Native Connection Grant and traditional knowledge and teaching classes.

I look forward to the plant medicine classes with Winter Strong. I am happy to be working here and look forward to meeting everyone.

I have a background in education. I have been a teacher in regular classrooms and non-traditional classrooms for many years. I was a Native Youth Olympic and World Eskimo Indian Olympic coach



in Alaska teaching indigenous games of the north to youth from first grade to high school. I also worked with our Dance and Drum group that was made up of members from the Aleut, Alutiiq, Yupik, Inupiaq, Athabascan, Tlingit and Tsimshian people.

I have worn many hats throughout my career from teacher to program manager to board member and educational advocate. My most important job has been a mother and grandmother.

I have lived in Maine, where I grew up, moved to Alaska on the south central peninsula, traveled the ALCAN twice to Washington, lived in Colorado for a spell and finally came back to Washington to settle down with my daughter and grandson.

I look forward to working here at the Chehalis Tribe with youth and families.

## Gerrie Sanders retires after 43 years

### Accounts Payable Coordinator kept tribal transactions running smoothly

Gerrie Sanders is retiring after more than 43 years of service as the Chehalis Tribe's Accounts Payable Coordinator at the end of January. We will miss her smile and pleasant attitude.

Gerrie started as the Tribal Center front desk receptionist. She also provided clerical support to the Business Committee and was responsible for preparing the minutes. She managed the filing and became involved with financial and accounting duties such as cash handling.

She still remembers that her office originally was where the current Business Committee meeting room is today, which was a garage at one time. She also recalls vividly how she began working in Accounting. A consultant traveled to the Tribal Center to handle the Chehalis Tribe's accounting. The consultant asked Gerrie to help her with some



work and then trained Gerrie to handle recording program transactions. Without computers or electronic technology, Gerrie recorded transactions manually in a green ledger notebook.

The tribe promoted Gerrie to her current role after a number of years. The job made her the sole employee responsible for the tribe's process of vendor payments, elder assistance checks, per capita distribution, etc. Checks had to be written out by hand until the tribe updated to typing out checks on NCR paper. The tribe then purchased computers and printed

checks out using DOT Matrix on continuous feed forms and finally updated to the laser-printed checks used today.

As the Chehalis Tribe began to grow, vendor payments and complexity of transactions increased. Gerrie could no longer handle all vendor payments by herself so the tribe hired an Accounts Payable Specialist to assist. We estimate that Gerrie has written nearly half a million checks during her 43 years of service to Tribal Government.

Gerrie developed a schedule for the process of vendor payments that enabled her to meet deadlines and high volume. She has an excellent work ethic and is calm under pressure, approachable, patient and kind.

We extend big congratulations to Gerrie for her years of loyal service to the tribe. She will be missed and we wish her the best.

### WEAR RED for women

FRIDAY, FEB. 7

Show your support  
for fighting heart  
disease and stroke

### Group photo 11:45 a.m. Chehalis Tribal Wellness Center

When it comes to beating heart disease and stroke, change can be the cure. Chehalis tribal employees are asked to wear red to raise awareness and help save women's lives. Go to [GoRedForWomen.org/WearRedDay](http://GoRedForWomen.org/WearRedDay).

Contact: Christina Hicks at 360-709-1741





## 2020 CENSUS SNAPSHOT: AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKA NATIVE

### What is the census?

Every 10 years, the United States counts everyone living in the country on April 1. Our tribes do not share enrollment numbers with the government, so it is important for all American Indians and Alaska Natives to participate in the 2020 Census.

### What's in it for me?

The 2020 Census is an opportunity to provide a better future for our communities and future generations. By participating in the 2020 Census, you help provide an accurate count of American Indians and Alaska Natives. Your responses to the 2020 Census can help shape how billions of dollars in federal funds are distributed each year for programs and grants in our communities.

The 2020 Census is our count. Our responses matter. Regardless of age, nationality, ethnicity, or where we live, we all need to be counted.

### Responding to the 2020 Census is:

#### > Easy

In early 2020, every household in the United States will receive a notice to complete the census online, by phone, or by mail.

#### > Safe

Your responses to the 2020 Census are confidential and protected by law. Personal information is never shared with any other government agencies or law enforcement, including federal, local, and tribal authorities.

#### > Important

The federal government and local American Indian and Alaska Native leaders and decision-makers will use 2020 Census data in a variety of ways that can benefit Native people and our communities.

### JOIN THE CENSUS TEAM

**\$15-16.50  
PER HOUR!**

Grays Harbor County is hiring for a number of temporary jobs, including office staff, census takers, supervisory staff and recruitment assistants. Chehalis tribal members are encouraged to join to ensure we are being counted. Don't pass up this great opportunity for good pay, flexible hours, weekly pay and paid training!

#### To apply:

**[2020census.gov/en/jobs](https://2020census.gov/en/jobs) or 855-562-2020**





# Elders celebrate their special day

Chehalis tribal elders celebrated those who had birthdays in November and December with a special dinner on Dec. 4 at the Elders Center.

Chefs prepared two different dinner options for the meal. Those in attendance chose between chicken cordon blue over a cheese tortellini pasta or pork chop stuffed with apple stuffing.

The Chehalis Tribal Youth Counsel provided assistance during the dinner. They kindly served their elders drinks, dinner and a variety of delicious birthday cakes for dessert.



Chehalis tribal elders with birthdays in November and December were honored at a dinner.



## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- Joan Martin
- Bobbie Bush
- Pamela Youckton
- Joyleen McCrory
- Randy Conwell
- Penny Gleason
- Joseph Revay
- Lori Tovrea
- Chris Richardson
- Lisa McCloud
- Amil Starr Jr.

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- Helen Sanders
- Ella Camp
- Jeanna Nyland
- Phillip Bush
- Rachel Cortes
- Craig Burns
- Yvette Fulton
- Justin Karl
- Lana Cosman

## Lucky Eagle Casino fundraisers support local nonprofit ROOF

Lucky Eagle Casino & Hotel held two separate fundraisers in November and December designed to benefit local charities through the holiday season. The hotel promoted the food and toy drive through promotions in November and December in which guests received discounted room rates when making donations at check-in.

In total, the hotel collected and donated more than 525 pounds of food and toys for ROOF (Rochester Organization of Families). ROOF's mission is

to address community needs by providing resources and services to children, youth and families in the Rochester area. This was the fourth year of the hotel fundraiser.

A Lucky Eagle Casino & Hotel team member organizes food that was donated to the hotel as part of the ROOF fundraiser in November and December.

### Main Street Bar

Join us in Main Street Bar every Friday and Saturday night from 9 p.m.-midnight for free, live entertainment.



Generous donations of food and toys gathered during Lucky Eagle Casino & Hotel's holiday drives brightened season for local families.

**BOOSTED MULTIPLIERS  
FOR EVERY TIER!**  
**RISING STARS = 4X POINTS**  
**SILVER STARS = 8X POINTS**  
**GOLD STARS = 10 POINTS**

**STAR**  
*Powered*  
**MULTIPLIER DAYS**

**8 A.M.-MIDNIGHT  
 EVERY SUNDAY  
 IN FEBRUARY**

**lucky eagle**  
 CASINO & HOTEL



# JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



**Russ Baker:** Birthday shoutout to the world's greatest dad and husband. We love you and wish you the happiest of birthdays! Love, Jeremiah, Laela, Taryn, Simon and Talisa.



## MORE WISHES

**Daniel Gitchel:**  
Happy birthday!  
Love Mom and  
Bradley.

**Allistair  
Youckton-Legg:**  
Happy birthday!  
Love Grandma  
and Rebecca.

IRENE ADAMS  
ZOE ALBERT  
BROOKE ALLEN  
RUSS BAKER  
FINLEY BECKWITH  
DAVID BIRD  
SHEILAH BRAY  
HOLLIE BROCKMUELLER  
JON BROWN  
DYLAN BURKE  
JAKE BURNETT  
CALVIN CAYENNE  
JACOB CHRISTJOHN  
MEGAN CHRISTJOHN  
ALYNN CLANCY  
SIDNEY COLE  
JENNIFER COOPER  
BELLA COUILLARD  
EVA DELAMATER  
CURTIS DUPUIS II  
JAMES DUPUIS  
JEREMY FANNING  
JOYCE FANNING  
ROBYN FIELDS  
SAMUEL FLORES  
LAURA FRICKE  
ALBERTA GILMORE  
DANIEL GITCHEL  
PATRICIA GITCHEL  
DANIEL GLEASON JR.  
JAMES GUNNELS  
MORGAN HANNA  
TRISTAN HANNA  
ANNA HILL  
CAMERON HJELM-SNELL  
ALEXANDER HOHEISEL  
WILIEFERD JOE  
CHERYL JONES  
DARRIN JONES  
JUNE JOSEPH  
SHIRLEY KAY  
MARIAH KLATUSH  
NATHANIEL KLATUSH  
SHYANN KLATUSH  
SUSETTE KLATUSH  
ULISES KLATUSH

CRYSTAL MARTINEZ  
MAKAYLA MASHBURN  
CHEYENNE MARCELLAY  
MIYA MCALISTER  
DARYL MCCRORY  
JOHN MCCRORY  
AVERY McJOE  
ANNA MEAS  
EZRAH MERRIMAN  
MAKAYLA ORTIVEZ  
MYA ORTIVEZ  
MATHEW OMAN  
JAYZEN OWENS  
TRACI PARKINSON  
RAVENHAWK PENN  
ROBERT PHILLIPS  
CHRIS PICKERNELL  
DIANA PICKERNELL  
KATHY PICKERNELL  
LAUREN QUILT  
NIKOLAS ROMERO  
GERALDO SANCHEZ  
ZANE SANCHEZ  
KAELLEN-JAY SANCHEZ  
EDWARD SANCHEZ JR.  
JAILEEN SANCHEZ  
WYATT SANCHEZ-ALLENBACH  
DREAMA SECENA FERGUSON  
PATRICK SIMMONS SR.  
AKASHA SLIGHTE  
BENJAMIN STARR JR.  
JAXON STARR  
ROY WERTZ  
JOSEPH WITTWER  
WYATTE WITTWER  
LESLYE WYATT  
CHEYNE YOUCKTON  
DEREK YOUCKTON  
JOHN YOUCKTON  
MARGIE YOUCKTON  
RODNEY YOUCKTON  
ZOLA YOUCKTON  
CHAYSE YOUCKTON-  
BONIFER  
ALLISTAIR YOUCKTON-  
LEGG





# HEALTH/WELLNESS



## Natural remedies soothe in winter

*Traditional medicine class aims to bolster community through cold months*

Community members joined in the Gathering Room for the Traditional Teaching and Knowledge class on Dec. 10.

The class is hosted by the Chehalis Tribal Behavioral Health Department and is taught by traditional plant medicine specialist Winter Strong from neighboring Skokomish Tribe. Strong brings years of experience to the tribal community.

In her final class of 2019, Strong taught those in attendance how to make numerous remedies to enhance quality of life and help get individuals get through the winter months.

The list of items included Stress-less Tea, Soul Soother Tea, Sore Muscle Soak, Foot Soak, Winter Moisturizer and Sweet Grass Lip Balm.

The group participated to make each of these natural remedies and placed them in containers for themselves and the rest of the community.

Each of these items are available to the tribal community while supplies last. Contact the Behavioral Health Department at 360-709-1818 if you would like to receive any of the items made



during the December class. Or, if you would like to make your own, here is a list of the ingredients for each traditional medicine:

### STRESS-LESS TEA

**1 part lemon balm**  
**1 part chamomile**  
**Dash of holy basil and lavender**

Use 1 tablespoon per cup  
Steep for 10-15 minutes

### SOUL SOOTHER TEA

**1 part oak straw**  
**1 part chamomile**  
**Dash of rose**

Use 1 tablespoon per cup  
Steep for 10-15 minutes

### SORE MUSCLE SOAK

**1 cup sea salt**  
**1 cup epsom salt**



The traditional healing class led by Winter Strong on Dec. 10 focused on crafting natural remedies for wintertime.

**¼ tablespoon powdered ginger**  
**Variety of essential oils (add up to 20 drops of a blend of any of the following oils: eucalyptus, wintergreen, peppermint, rosemary, ginger, lavender rose attar, white pine)**

### FOOT SOAK

**6 parts epsom salt**  
**1-part baking soda**  
**15 drops of essential oil per 1 cup**  
Put baking soda in a bowl and drop in essential oils, mashing them thoroughly with a spoon. Add epsom salt and mix well. Store in mason jars or a plastic bag.

### WINTER MOISTURIZER

**1 cup calendula infused oil**

**2 cups shea butter**

**Variety of essential oils**

Heat infused oil and shea butter on low until melted. Cover and let cool for 24 hours. Whip to a fluffy consistency.

### SWEET GRASS LIP BALM

**½ cup of sweet grass oil**

**Beeswax**

**Peppermint essential oil**

Heat oil and beeswax on low until melted and blended. Test hardness by placing on a spoon. Add more beeswax or oil as necessary to reach the right consistency. Remove from heat, cool for a few minutes, add essential oils. Just as it begins to harden on the sides of the pan, pour into container.



# Staying healthy during flu season

Getting the flu (influenza) is no fun. It is a virus that does not respond to antibiotics. The flu can cause mild to severe symptoms and can at times lead to death. The flu season is still underway. If you haven't received your flu vaccine yet, please take a few moments to get the shot today!

## Flu symptoms

- Fever or feeling feverish/chills
- Cough
- Sore Throat
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Muscle or body aches
- Headaches
- Fatigue
- Sometimes vomiting and diarrhea, but this is more common with children.
- Not everyone gets a fever

## Who is at risk?

Anyone can get the flu, even healthy people. Most people who catch the flu recover in a few days to less than two weeks just with rest, fluids and Tylenol or ibuprofen to help with body aches and fevers. However, complications from the flu can occur even with healthy people. Those at higher risk of developing complications are those age 65 or older and those with diabetes, asthma, heart disease, pregnant women and children.

## Reduce your risk of getting the flu or passing it to others:

- Get a flu shot every year. This does NOT cause the flu.
- Good hand hygiene. Cough or sneeze into the crook of your elbow (cough pocket), not into



## INFORMATION

For more about the flu or to address concerns, please contact the Chehalis Tribal Wellness Center at **360-273-5504** or visit [cdc.gov/flu](http://cdc.gov/flu).

your hands.

- Wash your hands often.
- Stay home from work or school if sick with the flu.
- If you come to the Chehalis Tribal Wellness Center, please wear a mask. We have plenty available at the clinic entrance.

## Call your medical provider or go to an urgent care clinic or emergency room if you have:

- High, prolonged fever (more than 102 degrees) with fatigue and body aches
- Symptoms that last more than 10 days or get worse instead of better
- Trouble breathing or shortness of breath
- Pain or pressure in the chest
- Fainting or feeling like you are about to faint
- Confusion or disorientation
- Severe or persistent vomiting
- Severe sinus pain or pressure in your face or forehead
- Very swollen glands in the neck or jaw

**Important:** Infants need to get help right away if showing signs of not being able to eat, trouble breathing, no tears with crying or significantly fewer wet diapers than usual.

## WIC THROUGH SPIPA



CHECKS TO BUY FOOD, HEALTH EDUCATION, SERVICES REFERRAL, BREASTFEEDING HELP

**NEXT DATE:** 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.  
Feb. 13 at the Wellness Center

**CONTACT:** Debbie Gardipee-Reyes, 360-462-3227 or Patty Suskin, 360-462-3224. Chehalis: Debra Shortman, 360-709-1689

## Positive Indian Parenting

**5-7 P.M. IN THE COMMUNITY CENTER GATHERING ROOM**

- Jan. 29:** Lessons of the Storyteller
- Feb. 5:** Lessons of the Cradleboard
- Feb. 12:** Harmony in Child Rearing
- Feb. 19:** Traditional Behavior Management
- Feb. 26:** Lessons of Mother Nature
- March 4:** Praise in Traditional Parenting
- March 11:** Choices in Parenting



**CONTACT**  
Beth Klatush  
[bklatush@chehalistribe.org](mailto:bklatush@chehalistribe.org)  
or 360-709-1627



## Aqua YOGA

**1 P.M. THURSDAYS**

**Who:** Chehalis Tribal Community

**What:** A 60-minute class offered as an aide of healing and taught by Michelle, owner of Joonbug Yoga

**Where:** Community Center Pool

**HEALING BENEFITS OF AQUA YOGA:** This low-impact class improves strength, flexibility and range of motion. The soothing quality of the water element releases stress, tension and promoting overall relaxation for the body, mind and spirit.

**CONTACT:** Elaine Myer at 360-709-1877

## USDA food program

The SPIPA's program offers an assortment of food to fill your freezer, refrigerator and cupboards. The next date is Feb. 13 from 9:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at the Chehalis Tribal Community Center.

**SIGN UP:** Call Debra Shortman at **360-709-1689** or **360-438-4216** from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday





# students of the month

## NOVEMBER WINNERS

### Coleton Youckton

**Second grade  
Rochester Elementary**

Coleton is 7 years old and his parents are Raven and Cody. He has two brothers, two sisters, six dogs and one cat at home. He likes to play games and have fun outside.

His favorite part about school is recess because he gets to spend time outside with his friends. His best friend is Austin. They enjoy playing

soccer together.

If Coleton could improve anything about his school, he would want a bigger slide and for them to put in a tire swing.

If Coleton witnessed bullying, he said that he would help the person getting bullied by telling the bully to stop.

When he's not at school, Coleton plays the Nintendo game Super Smash Bros, soccer and rides his dirt bike. His favorite toy is a Sonic the Hedgehog. He really enjoys getting new toys.

Coleton said that successful students start with a good teacher willing to help them and one who is kind. In addition to recess, he likes his teachers.

His favorite superhero is Black Panther. He said that he would like to help people with his powers. Specifically, Coleton would like to have super speed, super strength and the ability to become invisible.

If Coleton could create a new holiday, he would combine all of his favorite holidays.



### Angelica 'Turtle' Canales

**Sixth grade  
Rochester Middle School**

Angelica is 11 years old. Her parents are Alicia Medina and Barnaby Canales and she has two brothers and three sisters. She also has peacocks, cats and dogs. She really enjoys family dinners. Her favorite person is Brandon Cash because her brother encourages her to do great things in all aspects of life.

Her favorite part about school is at

the end of the day when she gets to go home. At school, she enjoys art class and being creative.

If she could make changes to her school, she would have it start later in the day. She also would put up signs that say "No Bullying."

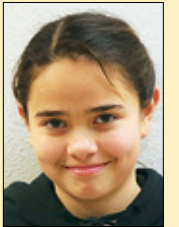
Angelica said what makes a good student is having the "right teacher." Her advice to fellow classmates is to try your hardest.

Angelica isn't involved in clubs but she plays soccer outside of school. If she could become a photographer, she would take pictures of sunsets.

Although summer is far away, she said that she plans to sleep in, have fun and go shopping for shoes when it does roll around. With a million dollars, Turtle would take it all to the bank and exchange it for a million dollars in \$1 bills.

After high school, Angelica plans to "party." She doesn't know what she would like to study in college because she hasn't given it much thought yet, but she wants to become a professional artist eventually.

If she became chairwoman of the tribe, she would "ban school forever."



### Nathan Boyd

**12th grade  
Oakville High School**

Nathan, 18, is the son of Daryl and Angelena Boyd. He has three brothers, a sister and six dogs. He likes when his family gets together for dinners.

While at school, Nathan's favorite thing to do is attend guitar class. He likes playing and practicing on his guitar.

As for what makes him a successful student, Nathan said, "I put my mind to a task and don't quit until I'm done."

His advice to others is: "Keep your grades up and enjoy your time in school while it lasts."

Nathan graduate this spring. This summer, he plans on spending time with his friends and family and applying for colleges.

He plans on going to WSU and studying computer programming. His goal is to become a video

game designer.

With a million dollars, Nathan would help out his family with whatever money troubles they have.

Nathan's favorite person is Kobe Bryant because of his work ethic and he tries his hardest at everything he does.

If he became chairman of the Chehalis Tribe, Nathan would focus on education and encourage more youth to go to college and further their schooling.





## DECEMBER WINNERS

### Kaytlin Holmes-Pickernell

**Fifth grade  
Rochester Elementary School**

Kaytlin, 11, has shown outstanding performance in school, especially listening and paying attention in class.

She is the daughter of Erika and Chris Pickernell and has a sister named Emily. She enjoys watching television and movies with her family. Her favorite part about school is recess

and lunch. Kaytlin said if she could make changes to her school, she would switch recess times and help eliminate bullying.

Kaytlin's advice to other students would be to not talk when the teacher is instructing to be successful. Kaytlin said that what makes someone smart is being nice to others and "just don't do dumb things."

While she's not attending school, she enjoys spending time with her friends and playing volleyball.

Kaytlin's favorite dinosaur is the ferocious Tyrannosaurus rex because they are really strong. Her favorite superhero is Supergirl because of her ability to fly. Her favorite person in the world is her dad because he always makes her laugh. If she could create a new holiday, it would be "Family Day," where all people do is be with their family.

Kaytlin plans on going to college one day and aspires to become a professional writer.



### Courtney Price

**Eighth grade  
Rochester Middle School**

Courtney, 13, has three brothers and three sisters. He also has a dog.

His favorite thing to do with his family is have dinners together. His favorite person is his dad because he's supportive and encourages him to do well in school and keep his grades up.

Courtney enjoys his language arts class. He believes hard work is the key to success. "Work hard and teachers will give you a chance," he said.

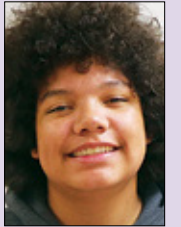
Courtney's passion is basketball and hopes to eventually play professionally in Europe.

He is very involved in both reservation tournament basketball, and just began his season with Rochester Middle School.

Even during his free time, Courtney

focuses on playing basketball and improving his skill set daily. He doesn't know what he wants to study when he gets into higher education but plans to attend The Evergreen State College.

If he had a million dollars, Courtney would give some to his family members and spend some of it on himself. And if he became chairman of the Chehalis Tribe, he said that change whatever he thinks needs improvement.



### Falesity Bumgarner

**Ninth grade  
Rochester High School**

Falesity, 14, is the daughter of Lucy Hill and Johnny Bumgarner. She has a brother, a sister and two dogs. She likes to watch movies with her family.

She wants Rochester School District to begin American Sign Language courses and have more assemblies to create additional awareness about bullying. She hopes that these assemblies explain the

effects of bullying to help put an end to it.

Falesity said what makes her a successful student is focusing, being organized and knowing how to prioritize. Her advice to other students is to not procrastinate and to focus on the subjects that are harder for them. She suggests finishing the harder homework first, then work on material that is easier for them.

She's not involved in any clubs, but outside of school, she enjoys playing soccer and traveling with her family.

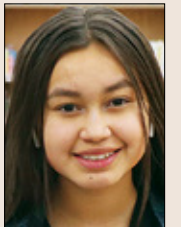
Falesity said that if she became a

photographer for a day, she would take photos of "beautiful things" she saw throughout the day. During the summer, she enjoys swimming, hiking and traveling to new places.

If she had a million dollars, Falesity would donate half to the people in need and save the other half for college.

She hasn't decided where she wants to go to college but plans to study law and wants to become a lawyer.

If she became chairwoman of the Chehalis Tribe, she would invest money into improving the roads and sidewalks throughout the reservation's land.





# CHEHALIS TRIBAL NEWSLETTER

## The Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation, 'People of the Sands'

Articles and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of this publication or the Chehalis Tribal Business Committee.

### SUBMISSIONS

We encourage tribal members to submit letters, articles, photographs and drawings to be considered for publication in the newsletter (materials are subject to editing). Contributing writers, artists and photographers include Chehalis tribal community members and staff.

### NEWSLETTER STAFF

Frazier Myer, Audra J. Hill and the Information Technology Team

### TRIBAL CENTER

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**Office:** 360-709-1726

**Fax:** 360-273-5914

### VISION STATEMENT

To be a thriving, self-sufficient, sovereign people, honoring our past and serving current and future generations.



### BUSINESS COMMITTEE

**Harry Pickernell Sr.** Chairman  
**Jessie Goddard:** Vice Chairman  
**Sheilah Bray:** Treasurer  
**David Burnett:** Secretary  
**Leroy Boyd Sr.:** Fifth Council Member

[chehalistribe.org](http://chehalistribe.org)

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The Chehalis Tribal Newsletter is a publication of the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation

The Oakville School District is seeking to use an influx of funds for building maintenance and updates, programs, materials and more.



## Funding for our schools

### Levy = Learning

This replacement levy is not a new tax. In fact, it's lower than the rate on the existing levy that expires in 2020. Voting is Feb. 11. The levy will allow the Oakville School District to:

#### Provide students programs:

- K-12 music
- Alternative schooling opportunities (Homelink)
- Sports, clubs and activities

#### Provide services, equipment, supplies and materials to operate the schools:

- Busing
- Technology
- Textbooks and curriculum
- Professional development

#### Provide additional staffing that is not funded by the state to meet the needs of students:

- Lower class size
- Fund a school nurse and

counselor(s)

- Additional custodian and maintenance staff

### Bond = building

The 2020 Capital Projects Bond requires a 60 percent approval vote to pass and will provide \$5.6 million to help enhance the School District's facilities (buildings). The bond rate is \$2.18/\$1,000 – \$5.6 million (with \$9.0 million matching funds).

#### Bond funding will go toward:

- Safety/security for the campus and students
- Providing an up-to-code kitchen
- Modernizing bathrooms and locker rooms that haven't been remodeled in more than 30 years
- Football field seating and covering
- Replacement of the old elementary school

## CREATING AND GROWING YOUR BUSINESS

FREE WORKSHOP

THURSDAY, JAN. 30

Chehalis Tribal Enterprises  
18120 Anderson Road, Oakville

Workshop runs 9 a.m.-noon (lunch provided with open discussions)

- Starting and financing
- Marketing and selling
- Government contracting
- Partnering for growth
- Business programs for veterans, Native Americans

REGISTRATION: [TwoRiversCDC.org](http://TwoRiversCDC.org)

MORE DETAILS: [Info@TwoRiversCDC.org](mailto:Info@TwoRiversCDC.org),  
425-283-2512

\* Hosted by  
Chehalis  
Tribal Loan  
Fund

