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CHEHALIS TRIBAL NEWSLETTER

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

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Project delivers 5 quality homes

'I want to personally thank everyone who helped us complete the homes'





By Phil Darrin, Chehalis Tribe Planning Department Project Manger

The Chehalis Tribal Housing Authority and Planning department teamed up to build five new homes that were funded through the CTHA and managed by Planning. I was assigned the privilege of being the Project Manager responsible for creating the five homes.

I had the pleasure to work with many great people and businesses along the way that allowed the Tribe to accomplish this goal. Without their help, we would not have been able to provide such amazing home packages for these five families.

The whole project started for me back in April 2025. I was informed that this project had been in the works for quite a while before I was assigned to it. I was given a list of potential properties, project requirements, the budget I had to work with, a list of stakeholders and an instruction to see what the Tribe could possibly do within our budget.

The complete package

I spent many hours meeting with manufacturers, contractors and representatives, looking at blueprints, going to trade shows, walking through

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Chehalis Tribal community members attended a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the completion of five new homes on Sept. 9.



Young participants tap into creativity at Culture Camp.

Teaching traditional skills

Talented instructors share valuable cultural lessons

By Frazier Myer

The Chehalis Tribe's fifth annual Culture Camp took place Sept. 26-27 at the Community Center.

The free event provided a rich teaching experience for Chehalis Tribal members and community members of all ages.

Participants filled the Youth Center Gym and signed up to learn how to make various Tribal arts and crafts.

Teachers were ready to help attendees learn with well-stocked tables filled with supplies for their projects. The camp ran from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. each day and was structured for participants to learn and work at their own pace. Attendees quickly

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HOMES

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floor models, visiting previously built homes and finding possible options that would fit the needs of the Chehalis Tribal community.

After spending months researching and developing what I felt was an ideal package for five homes, I presented what I had researched to the Housing Authority's Board to see if I was hitting the mark.

What they decided to go with was four lots on Merritt Lane and one lot on Sickman Loop in Oakville. All of the lots are owned by the Tribe. They also liked the direction I was going with the packages and asked for just a few changes, which I graciously agreed to.

Once the changes had been added, I posted the project to the public for proposals. We had a total of seven proposals submitted from both stick-built and modular home builders. The seven proposals offered a wide range of home packages to choose from.

We ended up partnering with Mountain View Homes of Grays Harbor to build the five homes. The modular home company gave us what we felt was a very complete package that met our needs.

Wonderful features

The five home packages we were asking for included two four-bedroom/two-bath homes, two three-bedroom/two-bath homes and one five-bedroom/two-bath homes. All five included a detached 20'x20' insulated/drywalled garage, 8'x12' utility shed, propane backup generator system, wood-burning fireplace, fenced back yard, paved driveway and sidewalks, full appliance package, HVAC, front porch and back deck, septic system, utilities, vinyl plank flooring, ADA shower, oversized tub, quartz countertops, hydroseeded yards and many other items. Each home was required to be greater than 1,300 square feet.

Mountain View was able to meet all these needs and more. The five homes will also be getting a solar-charging system installed in each home later this winter. The homes come with many great amenities for homeowners. The hope was to give them a great start in their new homes with options they would need now and for the future.

Construction started when we broke ground on March 5 of this year at our groundbreaking ceremony and blessing. Now, only six months later, all five families have been selected and are moving into their completed homes. The project was started without homeowners selected. CTHA used a process to select the homeowners.













Five families have been selected to start a new chapter in beautiful homes on Merritt Lane and Sickman Loop that each feature a garage, utility shed, fenced back yard and so much more.

Very fulfilling finish

On Sept. 9, we held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the community to celebrate with us in the completion of these five homes. Many people took time out of their day to mark the achievement. Thank you. It was so fulfilling to be there and get to see the joy and happiness that these five homes will bring to the families who are moving into them.

I want to personally thank everyone who helped us complete the homes. You all did an amazing job! I especially want to thank Jeanette Siufanua, Brad Lansing, Kooper Karaffa, Jake Carbone, Mike Lovely, David Wilson and their teams.

I really want to congratulate the homeowners on their new beginnings in these five amazing homes. I want to wish them many long, happy years. I look forward to seeing them all decorated and lit up for the holidays.

CELEBRATION







Trudy Marcellay's 75th birthday party at the Community Center was an event to remember with a roomful of family and friends.

Special turnout for *Trudy Marcellay*

Outpouring of love felt at 75th birthday bash

By Dyani Cayenne

Respected Tribal Elder Trudy Marcellay celebrated her 75th birthday with family and friends on Sept. 19.

Trudy and her family warmly welcomed relatives, friends and guests from throughout Indian country to join them for this special celebration. She was honored for her lifetime of love, family, culture and commitment to her community

The celebration was held from noon-7 p.m. at the Community Center. Attendees enjoyed arts and crafts, visiting and open drumming until 4 p.m. when dinner was served. A private show followed at 6 p.m. hosted by DJ Element and featuring the always-fabulous Supaman!

At the end of the celebration, Trudy and her family held a big giveaway. Many items were on display for attendees to grab, as well as being gifted a blanket.

Trudy had an amazing turnout for her 75th birthday. The energy was big and lively.









By Shelby McCrory

OAKSRIDGE GOLF COURSE

The course recently installed a new sign, adding a fresh and welcoming look to the property. The new signage is one of several updates planned as we continue investing in the appearance and experience at the golf course and clubhouse.







TALKING CEDAR BREWERY & DISTILLERY

MMIW Tribal Pale Ale



Talking Cedar's MMIW Tribal Pale Ale raises awareness for the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) crisis and supports a cause that impacts Indigenous women, families and communities across the country.

Featuring artwork by Chehalis Tribal artist Ryan Burnett, the beer has already received an incredible response. Even before the first batch was brewed, our sales team has commitments for more than 400 kegs, demonstrating how strongly retailers, partners and customers have connected with both the project and its purpose.



The MMIW Tribal Pale Ale is just one of the ways Talking Cedar is honoring and sharing tribal culture. New Talking Cedar MMIW and merchandise featuring tribal art is now available for purchase at the Talking Cedar Restaurant, giving guests and community members another opportunity to show their support and represent the Chehalis Tribe.

WE'RE HIRING! To find career opportunities, go to chehalistribalenterprises.com

Tribe protects traditional fishing practices

WDFW statement risks escalating tensions

Courtesy of the Chehalis Tribal Business Committee

The Chehalis Tribe maintains its longstanding position that the Chehalis Indian Reservation includes the portion of the Chehalis River at issue. The Tribe has jurisdiction within the Reservation and has the authority to regulate activities occurring within its boundaries, including these civil regulations regarding fishing.

The Tribe's exercise of that authority is not a recent development, nor is it intended to create conflict with members of the public. The Tribe has sustained itself through fishing on the Chehalis River, and other waterways within its historical territory, since time immemorial.

In the 1990s, a federal appellate court found the Tribe no longer has the right to fish beyond its Reservation. However, that court also unequivocally confirmed the Tribe's continued right to fish on-Reservation.

MORE INFORMATION

To learn how to obtain a permit or to review a copy of the Tribal ordinance, visit: **chehalistribe.org/departments/department-of-natural-resources/tribal-fishing-permit.**

As a result of that decision, the Tribe today retains fishing rights only within its Reservation – rights it values and protects. In regulating non-Indian fishers within the Reservation fishery, the Tribe is exercising its governmental authority to protect its people, resources and traditional fishing practices.

The Tribe appreciates the many non-Indian fishers who have respected Tribal authority by obtaining the appropriate Tribal fishing permit or choosing to avoid the Tribe's approximately 10-mile stretch of the river within the Reservation. The overwhelming experience of the Tribe has been one of compliance and peaceful co-existence.

The Tribe is deeply concerned by the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife's decision to issue a public statement in such a way that risks escalating tensions in this area rather than resolving the underlying jurisdictional issues through appropriate governmental channels. That approach undermines the authority of the Tribal Government and, more importantly, risks creating unnecessary confrontations that could jeopardize the safety of the general public, Tribal members, law enforcement and WDFW personnel.

The Tribe has not sought confrontation; instead, it has sought to educate the public, establish clear regulatory requirements and provide a reasonable means for non-Indian fishers to comply with Tribal regulations. The fact that many individuals have done so demonstrates that the river can be shared peacefully when Tribal authority and Tribal law are respected.

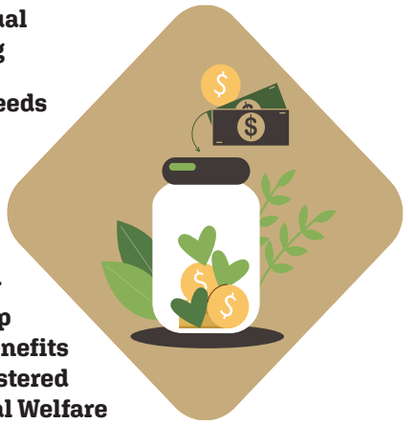
The Tribe remains willing to engage directly and professionally with WDFW, the Washington Attorney General's Office and other appropriate governmental entities. The jurisdictional and regulatory issues should be addressed through government-to-government and legal channels, not public statements that encourage members of the public to disregard Tribal authority.

The Tribe will continue to exercise and defend its governmental authority within the Reservation. Individuals using the Chehalis River within the Reservation are expected to respect Tribal law and applicable Tribal regulations. The Tribe will continue its efforts to educate the public and enforce its civil regulatory fishing requirements in a manner that protects the safety of our people, preserves the river and its resources and allows Tribal fishers to continue practicing their traditions in peace.

Chehalis Tribal Member Financial Needs Survey

WHEN: Nov. 7 at the Annual General Council Meeting

ABOUT: The Financial Needs Survey is meant to help design GWE programs/benefits and allow the Tribe to determine the basic living costs of Chehalis Tribal member adults. The data can help determine qualifying benefits under programs administered under the Tribe's General Welfare Exclusion (GWE) Ordinance.



Raffle prizes are paid by check

10 people $500
30 people $100
40 people $50

Early Learning openings

2026-27 school year

- Safe and secure learning environment
- All children welcome
- Bus transportation for ages 3-5
- Expectant Mothers Program with prenatal and postpartum guidance
- Free, full-time classes with qualified, friendly staff

Ready to sign up?

Chehalis Tribal Early Learning is at 420 Howanut Road, Oakville. Call 360-273-5514 or fax 360-273-0510.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



Marilynn Allison-Sanchez
Xiomara Angeles-Gitchel
Courtney Beckwith
Andrea Bordelon
Ava Boyd
Zuri Brown
Joel Brown
Trey Brown
Jackson Brown
Rita Burke
Madison Carter
Willow Cayenne
Wesley Christjohn
Tabitha Colson
Anthony Combs
Angela Cortes
Todd Delamater
Joseph Delamater
Julie Dutra
Ramona Fricke
Teliyah Fulton
Virginia Garity
Lesley Gillie
Dylan Hjelm
Kaytlin Holmes-Pickernell
Leon House Jr.
Candice Jansen
Riot Jesperson
Selena Kearny
Joli King
Tanya Kinkade
Paulita Klatush
Connie Klatush
Karen Klatush
Aryana Klatush
Correna Klatush
Lydia Klatush-Fromm
Janet Larson
Waler Lewis
Rickie Marion
Elaine McCloud
Trevor McCrory
Marla Medina
Kadyn Mitchell
Maddex Mowitch
Allysa Mullins
Estraea Music-Olney
Amber Oliver
Edward Olney
Leilani Ortivez
Dylan Palmer
Abigail Palmer
Daniel Penn
Andrea Phillips
Gerald Pickernell Jr.
Casey Pickernell
Ryan Pitzenberger
Hillary Powell
Dakota Quezada-Klatush
Kahli Reynolds
Gianna Rogers
Rayna Romero
Scarlett Romero
Leticea Romo
Amaria Rosado
Delores Rourke
Edward Sanchez
George Sanchez Sr.
Anjolysa Sanchez
Tomas Sanchez
Stormie Sanchez
William Secena
Donald Secena
Carmen Shortman
Landon Simmons
Loi Siufanua-Boyd
Tristan Smith
Juniper Sutterlict
Robert Teague
Kayley Trott
Ryder Vigil
Tymseila Washburn
Skye Wheeler
Braiden Wittwer
Steven Youckton
Arland Youckton
Clarence Youckton
Kendall Youckton Medina

SEND IN WISHES!

We would love to feature your messages to family and friends celebrating birthdays and anniversaries. Please send your name, the full name of the person, your wish and a photo (if desired) to **news@chehalistribe.org.**

SKILLS

From page 1

filled up workstations where a wide range of classes were taught, including:

- Cedar weaving (baskets, headbands, hats)
- Beading
- Wool skirts
- Tea and salves
- Painted rawhide sheaths
- Cattail mats

Thank you to the Chehalis Tribal Heritage & Culture program for hosting the event, passing on knowledge and providing meals.

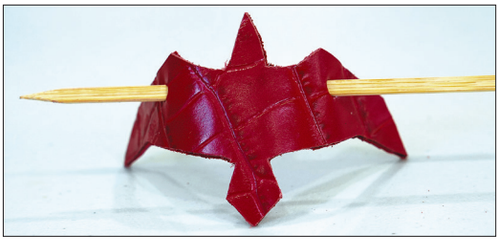




Tribal and community members carry on traditional practices at Culture Camp.









WIC services through SPIPA



ABOUT: **The organization meets the special nutritional needs of pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum moms; infants; and children up to age 5.**

NEXT DATE: **9 am-3 pm Nov. 5**

DO YOU QUALIFY?: **Find out at doh.wa.gov/you-and-your-family/wic/wic-eligibility**

CONTACT: **wicnutrition@spipa.org or 360-426-3990**

USDA FOOD PICKUP

Save the DATE!

10:30 AM-1:30 PM NOV. 20

AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER

If you or a member of your household are enrolled in a federally recognized Tribe or you live within reservation boundaries, you might be eligible for SPIPA's program. The USDA food pickup offers food to fill up your freezer, refrigerator and cupboards. Items are first-come, first-served. Must show Tribal ID at the time of pickup.



LEARN MORE:
Please call 360-426-3990

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SUBMISSIONS

Tribal members are encouraged to submit birthday and anniversary wishes, letters, articles, photos 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/staff.

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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

Chairwoman: Sheilah Bray
Vice Chairman: Don Secena
Treasurer: Farley Youckton
Secretary: Cheryle Starr
Fifth Council Member: Thomas Trott

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

CTLF showcases Indigenous artists

By Dyani Cayenne

The parking lot of Talking Cedar was filled with Native artists and their vibrant creations on Sept. 4. Chehalis Tribal Loan Fund (CTLF) held the event, which created the perfect opportunity for artists to display and sell their work.

Jenee Redecker showcased her Salish Glimmer and Greenery brand. She makes wellness products out of plants and creates earrings as well.

Trudy Marcellay and Yvonne Peterson also had many items for sale, including pieces made by their family members.

Nativemade items included everything from paddles to cedar woven baskets.

Other vendors and local small business owners showcased their wares. Beautiful drawings, beaded earrings and handcrafted tea were all available.

To add to the experience, a stand was set up for Beatbox Donuts out of Centralia. The business offered delicious doughnuts and lemonade for sale.

It was a beautiful day to enjoy talented Indigenous artists sharing their hard work and creativity with the community.



















Native artists brought an incredible variety of artwork and products to Chehalis Tribal Loan Fund event on Oct. 4.