OCTOBER 2026 FIND HISTORY, HERITAGE & RESOURCES AT CHEHALISTRIBE.ORG

CHEHALIS TRIBAL NEWSLETTER

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

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A spooky, sweet Halloween



Spirited youth, adults tap into candy-filled fun

By Dyani Cayenne

On a foggy Halloween evening, costumed trick-or-treaters made their way to the Community Center for another fabulous Trunk-or-Treat.

The event was held from 4:30-7 p.m. on Oct. 31. Three trunks filled with sweet treats were set up for children and their families to grab yummy candy for this eventful night of spookiness and sugary goodness.

Whether they were just starting off their night or perhaps making it their last stop before home, community members enjoyed showing off their looks while visiting with others.

In the spirit of the

See **HALLOWEEN** / *page 4*

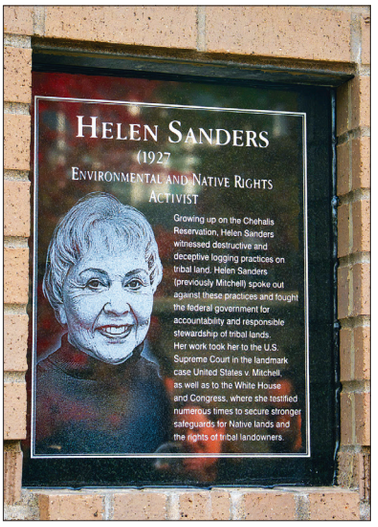








The Trunk-or-Treat on Oct. 31 was a big hit with community members.



Centralia College recognized Helen Sanders for her longtime activism.

Tribal rights champion celebrated

Helen Sanders worked to secure protections for Native land

By Dyani Cayenne

Respected Chehalis Tribal Elder Helen Sanders, 89, was honored for her Tribal rights activism on Oct. 22 at Centralia College.

A new plaque in the college's Diversity Plaza recognizes Helen's landmark work protecting the rights of Native landholders.

A leader and dedicated activist for Tribal rights, Helen grew up on the Chehalis Reservation. During her youth, she witnessed and experienced deceptive and harmful logging practices on Tribal land.

Helen worked extremely hard to fight for better protection of Native land.

See **TRIBAL RIGHTS** / *page 2*

TRIBAL RIGHTS

From page 4

An everlasting change she helped make was through a 1983 Supreme Court case. United States v. Mitchell found that the federal government could be held financially responsible for mismanaging forest resources on Tribal lands. Helen played a crucial part in securing that decision.

The college's Diversity Plaza is a place where activists, artists, leaders and champions of social change are honored locally and regionally.

The dedicated work Helen displayed through her environmental and Native rights activism will be forever enshrined on the beautiful plaque.

Helen was supported by family, friends and community members at the unveiling.

Speakers had wonderful things to say about her, talking about her achievements, engaging personality, the kind of person she is and what she means to the Native American community.

The last speaker to pay tribute was Helen's youngest grandson, Bryan Sanders.

"It's great to see our community coming out supporting our grandma. There's a lot of amazing things that she's done, but the biggest thing for me is just her being my grandma," Bryan said.

Helen's legacy is detailed in "The Ravaged Forest: A Native Woman's Journey to Justice," a biography written by Sandra A. Crowell.



Chehalis Tribal Elder Helen Sanders was showered with admiration at the unveiling of a plaque in her honor on Oct. 22 at Centralia College's Diversity Plaza. Visitors to the campus can read about her incredible contributions to protecting Tribal lands.









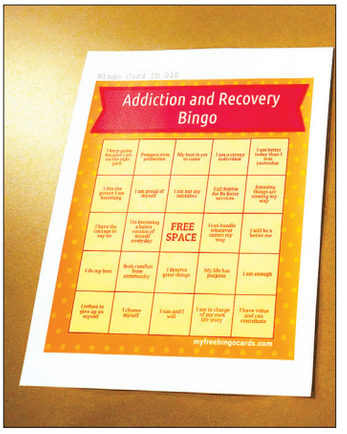




> It's great to see our community coming out supporting our grandma. There's a lot of amazing things that she's done, but the biggest thing for me is just her being my grandma.
>
> **BRYAN SANDERS**

HEALTH/WELLNESS







Gathering for hope, recovery

Community connection is helpful to success

By Dyani Cayenne

Tsapowum Chehalis Tribe Behavioral Health hosted a Recovery Dinner on Oct. 23.

The event was held in the Chehalis Tribe Community Center Gathering Room and featured a catered dinner from Olive Garden.

An assortment of dinner items and sweets were available to choose from.

Attendees were able to create their own favorite dish from various pasta noodles, meats and sauces. Classic bread sticks and Olive Garden's signature salad with zesty dressing perfectly complemented the dinner.

At the end of the table, yummy desserts such as cookies and cupcakes topped off the delicious meal.

Behavioral Health staff members Allysa Klene and Bobbie Bush hosted the event. After dinner, it was time to start up bingo. Prizes were up for grabs during the exciting activity.

The dinner served as a celebration for hope and a reminder to nurture yourself.

Connecting with a community that cares, no matter what your past holds, is vitally important.

Regardless how hard life feels, there's always someone to reach out to.

Every step toward a brighter future matters, even small steps, and that's what this event shared.







The Behavioral Health program and its dedicated staff members held a Recovery Dinner on Oct. 23.

HALLOWEEN

From page 4

season, trick-or-treaters donned whimsical, impressive and fun outfits. Children and adults alike showed an abundance of creativity.

Halloween is a night where anybody can be anything ... and get some treats of course! It's one of the most anticipated holidays each year, especially for Chehalis Tribal youth. It's a night to form core memories by dressing up after planning your costume for weeks or even months and spending time with family and friends.

Who's ready for Christmas?





Each year, the Chehalis Tribe offers families the chance to grab some candy and show off inventive, cute and cool costumes at Trunk-or-Treat at the Community Center.

























Transfer Station Notice

5-BAG LIMIT

The transfer station has a strict five-bag limit per customer.



TRAILER POLICY

- All trailers must be scheduled and approved in advance.
- To schedule a trailer, please call the Transfer Station prior to your visit.
- Trailers are accepted on **Monday or Tuesday only.**



Questions? Contact the Transfer Station for assistance. Call Ray Secena at 360-709-9904.

RESCHEDULED

$350 ENTRY FEE

FEBRUARY 12-14

ALL NATIVE +1 MENS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Chehalis Tribal Community Center
461 Secena Road, Oakville WA 98568

MUST PAY ENTRY FEE BEFORE FIRST GAME
TRUE DOUBLE
MEN'S ALL-NATIVE +1 TOKEN
1ST-4TH PLACE AWARDS, MVP, ALL-STARS

Block of rooms at Lucky Eagle Casino & Hotel. Text 360-688-3380 or 564-220-0822, email pyouckton@chehalistribe.org or kholland@chehalistribe.org.



GOVERNMENT

Our voice, sovereignty, Constitution

Tribe will develop election procedures for amendments

Contributed by the Chehalis Tribal Constitution Committee

The Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation's Constitution and Bylaws are the foundation of our Tribal Government.

There have been three versions:

- Original 1939 Constitution
- Replaced on April 16, 1973
- Most recently, the Constitution was amended on Oct. 13, 2026.

In early 2026, the Chehalis Tribe (BC Resolution No. 2025-109) requested the Bureau of Indian Affairs conduct an election amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws, as required by the Chehalis Tribe's Constitution.

The BIA authorized a Secretarial Election in February. Unfortunately, the BIA did not fulfill its responsibilities in administering the election (official ballots were not mailed out), and it was canceled by the board on April 29.

See United States Department of the Interior letter, top left Page 7.

Election moves forward

After that, the Tribe restarted the process once again in June 2026 (BC Resolution No. 2026-050), and the Chehalis Tribal Constitution Committee asked to be involved in administering the election.

The BIA awarded the Tribe $20,000 to cover costs to handle all of the duties the contractor would perform in the Secretarial Election.

We are pleased to announce that we had 192 Tribal members register to participate in the election, and 127 submitted their ballots. The election concluded on Oct. 13 after the five-day challenge period.

See Certificate of Results of Election, bottom left Page 7.

Changes ahead

- The role of the BIA in our constitutional amendment process.
- Renaming Community Council to Chehalis General Council throughout the Constitution and Bylaws.

It does not: Remove the BIA from other existing relationships or responsibilities involving our Tribe. It does not end our relationship with the federal government. It does not make federal laws or responsibilities disappear.

It changes: The process we will follow if and when we want to make changes to our Constitution in the future.



Contributed by the Chehalis Tribal Constitution Committee

The Chehalis Tribal Constitution Committee takes monumental steps in updating the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation's Constitution. The amendment, made official on Oct. 13, is vital because it's used to determine how the Tribe self-governs and operates.

GET IN TOUCH

The Constitution Committee wants to hear from you on matters for improvement to our Constitution and Bylaws and how we can best govern ourselves. Please contact us at **constitutioncommittee@chehalistribe.org** for any further questions or comments.

Sovereignty in action

It matters because this is our Constitution. This is how we govern ourselves.

- Our people get a voice.
- Our people get to participate.
- Our people get to vote.
- Our people get to decide how we handle changes to our own Constitution.

That is sovereignty in action.

What is sovereignty?

Sovereignty means we have the inherent right to govern ourselves. But it is more than simply having that right. We must exercise it.

Every time we strengthen our ability to make decisions for ourselves, we exercise sovereignty. Every time our people participate in governing our Nation, we exercise sovereignty. And when our people determine how our own Constitution can be amended, we exercise sovereignty.

Trusting our people

Removing the BIA from the amendment process does not mean constitutional changes should be automatic or taken lightly.

Our Constitution is one of the most important governing documents we have.

Changes should require thought, discussion, participation and an informed vote. People may agree. People might disagree and ask hard questions. That is part of having a voice. Sovereignty does not mean everyone has to agree. It means we have the right to decide.

Up next

Acting Northwest Regional Director of the BIA Kurt

See **CONSTITUTION** / *page 5*

United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
Northwest Regional Office
911 Northeast 11th Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97232

In reply refer to:
Division of Tribal Government

April 29, 2026
Sent via Email to: dklatush@chehalistribe.org

Honorable Dustin Kaltush, Chairman
Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation
420 Howanut Road,
Post Office Box 536,
Oakville, Washington 98568

Dear Chairman Klatush,

Following a technical and legal sufficiency review of the request submitted by the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation (Tribes), a Secretarial election was authorized on February 12, 2026, to consider various proposed amendments under 25 CFR Part 81, with the election scheduled for May 11, 2026.

Following authorization, election preparations proceeded under 25 CFR § 81.19. Notice Packets, including Voter Registration forms, were mailed to eligible Tribal voters, and a Registered Voter List was completed. Ballot packets were anticipated to reach registered voters beginning April 11, 2026, in advance of the scheduled May 11, 2026, ballot count. As of the date of this letter, those ballots have not reached the intended registered voters.

25 CFR § 81.35(b) requires that ballots reach registered voters with sufficient time to meaningfully receive, mark, and return them, and the time remaining before May 11 no longer affords that opportunity. The board carefully considered the needs of Tribal voters and requested an extension of the election beyond the 90-day deadline; however, 25 CFR § 81.35 requires that election activities occur within the 90-day regulatory framework. With this constraint in mind, and being mindful of the disruption this causes, the election board has made the difficult decision to cancel the Secretarial election as of April 29, 2026.

Please be assured that the Tribe may restart the Secretarial election process at a time of its choosing with the support of the BIA. When the Tribe is ready to proceed, the election will be administered directly by the board without the involvement of a third-party contractor, so that the Tribe and its members receive the standard of care they deserve. Our commitment to the Tribes throughout the Secretarial election process remains firm, and we appreciate your patience and continued partnership.

Sincerely,

RUDY PEONE

Kurt Fredenberg
Acting Northwest Regional Director

CERTIFICATE OF RESULTS OF ELECTION

Pursuant to an election authorized by the Acting Northwest Regional Director Kurt Fredenberg on July 15, 2026, the attached Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation was submitted to qualified voters of the tribe and was, on October 8, 2026, duly adopted/rejected by a vote of 110 for and 14 against, and 3 ballots were found spoiled in an election in which at least a majority (more than fifty percent (50%)) of the 192 entitled to vote cast their ballots, and at least two-thirds (2/3) of those voting cast their ballots in favor, in accordance with the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), as amended by the Act of June 15, 1935 (49 Stat. 378).

10/8/2026
Date

Chair, Secretarial Election

Election Board Member

Election Board Member

Election Board Member

Election Board Member

Election Board Member

Election Board Member





CONSTITUTION

From page 4

Fredenberg certified the election results on Oct. 19.

The Tribe must now develop election procedures for constitutional amendments.

The Constitution Committee plans to work with the Election Committee and the Office of Tribal Attorneys to draft an Ordinance for General Council to review.

This is bigger than today

The Chehalis Tribe's Constitution protects our rights, governance, land and voice.

This decision is not only about the Constitution we have today. It is about our children, our grandchildren and the Chehalis people who will inherit the government we leave behind.

For generations, decisions about our people were too often made for us.

Sovereignty gives us something different – the ability to make decisions by us and for us.

Acknowledgments

The Constitution Committee was guided through the Secretarial Election process by Tribal member Attorney Amber Penn-Roco, Partner at Galanda and Broadman, and the Tribe's Lead Counsel, Robbi Kessler.

A huge thank you to all who participated in this historic change. Let's continue the momentum!

ELDERS



LEC team serves up a feast

Chehalis Tribal Elders gathered at the Elders Center for a lovely lunch served by the Lucky Eagle Casino & Hotel executive team.

Lunch kicked off at 11 a.m. Oct. 16 with a scrumptious serving of salmon, potato salad, beans, crackers, fry bread and dessert featuring a variety of cupcakes and brownies.

Elders had a great time together sharing jokes and stories while enjoying a wonderful meal. The luncheon was hosted and served by the gracious helping hands of the LEC team.





The Lucky Eagle Casino & Hotel executive team treated Tribal Elders to a salmon meal.





Chehalis Tribal Enterprises

By Shelby McCrory

END OF THE TRAIL STORES

Introducing Trail Rewards

There's something exciting at End of the Trail Stores! The new app (in the Apple app or Google Play Stores) brings Trail Rewards, special offers and online ordering together in one convenient place. For Chehalis Tribal members, these benefits are available alongside the Tribal fuel discount you already enjoy. With Trail Rewards, your Tribal card and DINOPAY available, you might be wondering how they differ – and which one to use and when.

Keep using your existing fuel benefit

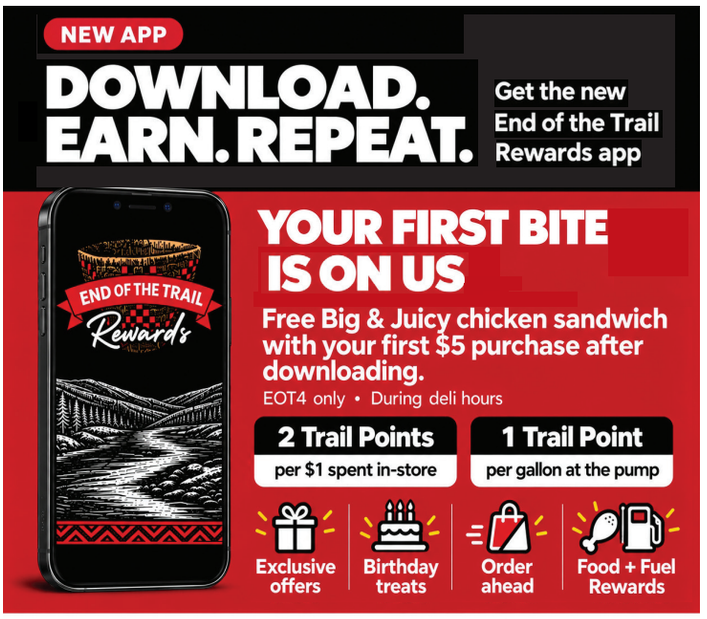
Your Tribal fuel benefit is staying the same. Continue using your Tribal card for your best fuel discount. Trail Rewards is a separate, optional rewards program and does not replace your Tribal card or change that existing benefit.

New perks for your everyday visits

Trail Rewards gives you more ways to enjoy shopping at End of the Trail. Members can:

- Earn 2 Trail Points per $1 on eligible in-store purchases to put toward rewards. If you don't use your Tribal card and want to earn fuel rewards, you can use Trail Rewards for 1 point per gallon purchased.
- Enjoy punch clubs for hot coffee, fountain drinks, king-size candy and roller grill items (buy seven, get the eighth free).
- Celebrate with a free birthday treat each year.
- App-only offers and member-only promotions.

If you already use your Tribal card for fuel savings, Trail Rewards offers more reasons to join with food rewards, punch clubs and other in-store perks.



Available on the App Store and Google Play

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play

Separate fuel discount option

DINOPAY is separate from both Trail Rewards and your Tribal card. DINOPAY fuel discounts are different from earning Trail Points or participating in our program.

Ready to explore?

Download the End of the Trail Rewards app and sign up for Trail Rewards to get started. You can also join at endofthetrail.myguestaccount.com. Once enrolled, identify your account at the register with your phone number or use your barcode if you have the app.

We're excited to bring more value and convenience to your visits while honoring the Tribal benefits you already know. Thank you for supporting EOT stores!

OAKSRIDGE GOLF COURSE

Our business hours are now 9 a.m.-5 p.m. The last cart rental for nine holes is 2:30 p.m., and the last cart rental for 18 holes is 2 p.m. Hours will continue to shorten as the weather changes and daylight decreases. Oaksridge will be closed on rainy or stormy days and might close early when business is slow. Please call ahead before coming out to play to confirm our hours.



FAIRFIELD HOTEL RENOVATION UPDATE

Renovations at Fairfield Inn & Suites began in early October as part of the hotel's Marriott-required seven-year renovation. The project includes refreshed guest rooms, updated furnishings, wall coverings, lighting, artwork and decor.

Fairfield® BY MARRIOTT

Select public spaces, including the fitness area and guest common areas, will also receive updates. Crews are working floor by floor to minimize disruptions while the hotel remains open and welcomes guests.

Thank you for your patience and support as we create a more comfortable, inviting experience. We look forward to sharing updates as work progresses.



On Oct. 20, the Oakville High School girls volleyball team won in a hard-fought game against Lake Quinault High School.



OHS players bump, set, spike!

Tribal volleyball team members enjoy family, community support

By Dyani Cayenne

Volleyball is one of many beloved sports. Oakville High School features two Tribal youth athletes participating on this year's Acorns volleyball team.

First in the spotlight is Ui'Lani Siufanua, a 17-year-old senior at OHS. Ui'Lani has been playing volleyball since middle school. She said she always liked playing sports and wanted to try something new in middle school. She enjoys playing the sport with her sister, and she has other family members on the volleyball team.

Second up is Rena Hernandez-Klatush, a 14-year-old freshman on the same team. Rena also started playing volleyball in middle school. She said she was influenced by her peers at school to join, and so she did. Rena has family members that play different sports, including her two older brothers. One plays basketball, and the other runs track. Rena also has two younger sisters who play volleyball and basketball.

On Oct. 20, the girls had a home game, which was their team's senior night. The team competed against Lake Quinault High School. While the game was close, the Oakville girls secured the win for their seniors. The Oakville team won the first two sets, best out of three.

Many supportive voices could be heard in the crowd. Family members as well as other young athletes and their families showed up for the talented Tribal youth working hard on the volleyball court.









Left: Ui'Lani Siufanua was surrounded by friends and family as she was recognized during Oakville High School Volleyball Senior Night.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Prince Adams
Kevin Albert
Gerald Aldrich
Francisca Ayala-Klatush
Jordan Baker
Taryn Baker
Simon Baker
Juanita Bill-Sanchez
Nathan Boyd
Kenneth Brown Jr.
Daphne Burke
Bobbie Bush
Courtney Bushnell
Tyson Canales
Tyanna Canales
Jaylee Cayenne
Madeline Colson
Tanayah Comenout
Rachelle Ferguson
Ashley Fern
Katy Fox
Casilda Garcia-Starr
Penny Gleason
Dylan Gleason-Wheeler
Orinda Goddard
Madoleen Goddard
Anthony Gomez
Yvonne Haukom

Gabriel Higheagle
Lucille Hill
Enrique Jimenez-Sanchez
Antonio Jones
Brooklyn Klatush
Christibeth Klatush
Tayleena Klatush
Roachel Lamberth
Cyrena Littlesun
Athena Lopez
Arla Lopez
Monique Lopez
Joan Martin
Lisa McCloud
Micah McNair-Comenout
Aria Norgard
Maelani Oman
Ashley Ortivez
Aurora Ortivez
Terry Palmer
Shoni Pannkuk
Valerie Pickernell
Desirray Pope
Heather Porter-Hoyle
Grace Quilt
Joseph Revay Sr.
Luwanna Sanchez
Kade Sanchez

Linnaea Sanchez
Sofie Sekishiro
Kristopher Shortman
Rachel Simmons
Payton Simmons
Kane Simmons
Carrie Squally
Amil Starr
Maynard Starr
Alexis Starr-Wright
April Thompson
Keira Thrailkill
Lori Tovrea
Mia Vigil
Jailynn Washington
Rhyan White
Journey White Eagle
Sylvina White Eagle-Rosbaugh
Kylan Wittwer
Phoenix Wittwer
Christopher Yawn
Pamela Youckton
Marcus Youckton

SHARE YOUR 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.**



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

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.

STAFF

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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

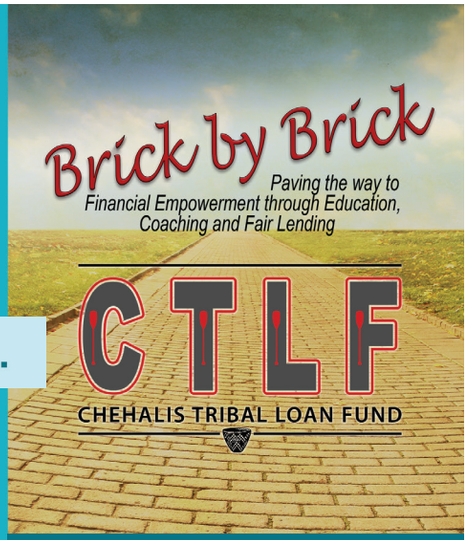
ANNUAL
DINNER AND FUNDRAISING AUCTION

December 4 at 5:30 p.m.

Great Wolf Lodge
20500 Old Hwy 99 SW, Centralia, WA 98531

Help us support Native entrepreneurs, local families and community members gain financial empowerment through education and coaching.

Relaxed cocktail attire suggested.



PREMIER SPONSOR CHEHALIS TRIBE



FEATURING
SUPAMAN
NATIVE DANCE AND HIP HOP PERFORMANCE

$1,500 Table Sponsorship

Donate an auction item!
Individual tickets: $150
Chehalis Tribal Members: $125

Contact us

360-226-0619 or ctlf@ctloanfund.org to sponsor, donate or register!

USDA FOOD PICKUP NOV. 20

10:30 AM-1:30 PM
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

