

Lee Bourgeau Receives 2020 Lifetime Achievment Award



Lee Bourgeau holding her award outside of her home in Lapwai

Born on November 11, 1944, recently celebrated her 76th birthday, Lee was born Cecelia Edith Rosario to her birth parents, Pete Rosario (Tsimshian) and Edith Williams- Rosario (Nez Perce). She was born in Seattle, Washington. Her three older siblings, were adopted by her mother's second husband. She is the eldest and

Nannat (Older Sister) of 11 siblings with seven surviv- softball.

She gave birth to five ing. children from two marriages. She has 11 grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

Lee graduated from Coulee Dam Washington in 1963. While attending Coulee Dam High School she was recognized for her singing in choir and sang solo at a variety of occasions. She also participated in school sports. She played "Girls football", basketball and She always shares a story about her younger sister always getting picked last while her bestie and her were always picked first and were never on the same team. While attending Lapwai High School her junior year she was homecoming queen runner up.

During her summers while growing up, she spent time with her grandmother Elizabeth Towatoy Samuels at Arrow Junction and great grandmother "granny" Carrie Eneas in Lapwai. They were her role models and her first experience in gathering the traditional foods. She remembers her granny as being a "strong quiet woman" but when she spoke everyone would listen.

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In memory of **Michael J. Penney**



As the wind roared and a chilling breeze swept through, a small group gathered. While not a cheerful occasion, but a heartfelt tribute to a man whose life long work positively impacted the Nez Perce Tribe in several ways.

One of those impacts was the adoption of the current Nez Perce Flag. While the honor is ours to continue to waive this flag daily, it is largely thanks to this man, his work and dedication.

In his honor, outside the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee chambers, the existing flag was retired and replaced with a new one, and left at halfmast. The flag will remain there until his journey is complete.

A few thoughtful words and stories were shared. His drum group Waahp-qaqun provided the flag song and an honor song.

"We've always liked to make time, no matter how long it takes or what it takes, to honor those that have given their lives to their people. This man was one of them," attested Wilfred Scott.

CULTURAL



CULTURAL

Nez Perce Tribe Provides Live, Online Uplifting Event



An online celebration was held by the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee (NPTEC) for the holiday season that is upon us. The event was originated by Kayeloni Scott, Nez Perce Tribe Commu- Chaplin and followed by mes-

nications Manager, to provide positivity and a heartwarming experience for the Nez Perce people and community. The event started with prayer from Broncheau, Arthur NPTEC

families generally get together, now are unable to do so because of limited numbers allowed in a gathering, it is the together. They danced for communication that's important. Reach out to all of your friends and family members to encourage that type of activity through these difficult erful drumming and singing. times," said NPTEC Chairman Shannon Wheeler. "Reach out to one another, with love and gratitude for one another through this difficult year, of people suffering at this time, and you are not alone. Make wood. "I pray for the health sure we love one another and continue to be Nimiipuu. That is who we are and that that we stick together now is who we will continue to be."

tendance were Bert Williamson, Tom Williamson, Theo Williamson, Nigele Williamson, and NPTEC Secretary Ca-

sages and encouraging words sey Mitchell. Lightning Creek from each NPTEC member. sang a total of five songs. In these times where The dancers, siblings, Alexander and Jaspen Ellenwood, each danced their own songs individually then three songs those who cannot at this time. Everyone watching via Facebook Live was lifted up by the beautiful dancing and pow-"As we go into these hol-

iday seasons it is really important to take time for ourselves as well. Pray for the health and wellbeing of ourselves," said NPTEC member Quintin Ellenand wellbeing and prosperity of our Nez Perce people. I pray and going into the future. And The drummers in at- I want to pray for our community members, the non-Nez Perce, non-Indian; we are all a team, we're here. If we come together, we are resilient."





COMMUNITY



Lee Bourgeau Continued From Front Page

Her fondest memories with her grandmas are of being dropped off at Mussel Shell to dig camas and camp. Lee wasn't a pow-wow dancer like her children and grandchildren. She shared "Women only participated like those who attend Round Dances."

Lee participates and had the role of Head cook at the Stites Long House in Kooskia, Idaho. She annually attended their Winter Dances and oversaw the preparation of food. She is a descendant of the Chief Joseph Band from both her maternal grandfather Albert "Tex" Williams and grandmother Elizabeth Towatoy Samuels. Her great grandfather Philip Williams "Lapealute" participated in the War of 1877. Her great grandfather "Aleesakown" was the first Nez Perce killed at Big Hole Battled Field in Montana.

While attending college, Lee Bourgeau resided in Spokane Washington. She attended Kinman Business School then continued her education endeavors at Washington State University, completing her degree in the Education Field at Gonzaga University. Education and teaching are roles and responsibilities she holds dear to her heart, to help others learn, attain knowledge, and succeed are her life's passion.

She held two prominent positions that substantiated her accomplishments and community involvement. One position, for the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation from 10/88 -9/90 as the Colville Tribe's Health Administrator and the other as the Nez Perce Tribe's Human Resources Manager from 9/90 – 8/16. She recently retired after 26 years of service to the Nez Perce Tribe.

Accomplishments: Authored the IHS 638 Youth Rehab and Aftercare Contract Lodge. Spokane, (Healing Wash), NPT Head Start Contract Funding, Named Tribal Health Administrator of the Year (1994), authored testimony submitted on behalf of the seven tribes for the 1987 Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs Oversight Hearing on PL99-570 The Indian Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, provided extensive motivation and leadership for change regarding substance abuse through education-existing resources and community activities with IHS and BIA policies, wrote and submitted the Title VI Older American Act proposal which ranked highest of the 117 submitted, authored 10 position papers Washington State Indian Conference on Aging testimony which were later used by National Indian Health Board, Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board, Region X, Area on Aging, National Indian Council on Aging, Washington Tribes, Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indian. These documents were consulted by the Administration on Aging in Washington

DC in the development of the National Indian Aging Policy.

Community Involvement: Presenter/Facilitator at various National and State Indian Youth Leadership Conferences (i.e. National Indian Board (youth), Northwest Portland Area Alcohol & Substance Abuse (youth), Northwest Portland Area Youth Leadership Conference, National Area on Aging Conference; and Older American's Act Title VI Conference); various years Title IV Parent Committee Member for Spokane School District & Grand Coulee Dam School District. She is an avid "Wildcats" fan attending sports events when able. She is the Elder who gets recognized by our youth for her support.

A majority of her life she resided on the Colville Indian Reservation. She was brought into the elite circle of traditional gatherers for the Nespelem Longhouse by Ida Desautel, who was a direct descendant of the Chief Joseph Band of the Colville Reservation. In this highly regarded position as a gatherer, she

practiced the traditional ways of gathering foods to feed the people. It is the responsibility for these women to prepare and serve these foods for the various feasts, celebrations, honorings and in the time of need for those who will be having their last meal. As a gatherer, she has taught her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren on where, when, what to gather and how to prepare the fish, meats, roots and berries to feed the people. She is vastly noted for making fried bread. She relocated to the Lapwai area in 1990. As an Elder, she is constantly and continually called upon to teach the "Way of Life", to share teachings to those who ask and are prepared to live the traditional way of life.

Her greatest accomplishments as a single parent were her ability to keep her own children, grandchildren and great grandchildren resilient. They have exceeded within both the dominant culture while embracing their teaching of "Way of Life" she has taught and brought forward for all.



COMMUNITY

Tai Simpson Named One of 19 Leaders to Participate in Fifth and Final Cycle of Move to End Violence, A Program of the NoVo Foundation

November 17, 2020, Boise, Idaho — Today, the NoVo Foundation named Tai Simpson, a Social Change Associate of the Idaho Coalition Against Sexual & Domestic Violence, one of 19 extraordinary leaders to its 5th and final cohort of Move to End Violence. MEV is a 10-year capacity building program designed to accompany and strengthen U.S.based movements to end violence against trans and cis girls and women and gender non-conforming people. The heart of the program centers on deep dialogue, relationship-building, peer learning and organizational wellness. Over the course of two years, the cohort members will participate in convenings, workshops, coaching and international movement building. In the United States

and globally, we are experiencing the acceleration of settler colonialism, white supremacy, authoritarianism, and patriarchy. At the same time, powerful Black, Indigenous, and People of Color leaders continue to pave a path toward a world free from violence and rooted in community safety, wellness, equity, and wholeness. This new cohort of Movement Makers reflects the vibrant community-centered leadership that anchors today's local, national and transnational movements.

MEV is excited to convene a multi-racial, multi-lingual, and gender-expansive cohort that centers voices historically relegated to the margins, and often most targeted, to collaborate on approaches ending violence against to girls, women, gender non-conforming and intersex people. They work across the intersections of domestic and sexual violence, transphobia and homophobia, state violence, reproductive injustice, and more. Based in 12 different states, they utilize a variety of approaches, including organizing,

advocacy, healing justice, cultural work and direct service.

In this final cycle, Move to End Violence is amplifying our commitment to language justice as an integral pathway to ending violence. Language Justice disrupts colonization, challenges patterns of Western dominance, and unpacks the ways language injustice silences, erases, and dehumanizes us. Language Justice centers healing, culture, collaboration and creates space for multiple worldviews and wisdoms. Our movements are strengthened when we build power across cultures and diasporas. Toward this end, we will co-create a multilingual experience with our partners and Movement Makers. The incoming cohort speaks multiple languages, including Achumawi, Nimilpuutimpt, Garifuna, multiple forms of Spanish, Ebonics/ Black English, Haitian Creole, Brazilian Portuguese, Hmong, Khmer, Urdu, Katchi and other

global Indigenous languages. Jennifer and Peter Buf-

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fett, co-presidents of the NoVo Foundation, celebrated the announcement of this cohort saying, "This inspiring group of movement leaders will be given space to work and dream, time to connect more deeply with each other, and resources to tap into their collective wisdom-strengthening the deepest roots of the movements our world needs to create a future free from violence. With room to build relationships, grow and deepen their shared work, transformation is possible, just when our world needs it most."

As the final cohort, we welcome these Movement Makers into the history and practices established by the previous four cohorts while inviting them to cultivate their own journey.

More information on the Move to End Violence program is available at www. movetoendviolence.org.



<u>NPTEC</u>

2020 Virtual Fall General Council

Due to COVID-19, the Nez Perce Tribe has postponed, delayed and cancelled a number of events, with General Council being no exception. As one of the largest gatherings for the Nez Perce people, the 2020 Fall General Council meetings were previously delayed twice since September.

The Nez Perce Tribe Constitution calls for a September meeting each and every year. The General Council Officers convened a meeting in September, which was immediately adjourned by Julia Davis-Wheeler, General Council Chairman. "This pandemic is very real and to more than people, 200,000 including members of the Nez Perce Tribe, has resulted in death," said Chairman Davis-Wheeler. "It is a very sobering reality that we cannot ignore. It would be irresponsible to sponsor a mass gathering under current conditions." Coun-The General

cil is an important opportunity for the Nez Perce Tribe to come together and share ideas, express concern and develop solutions together with a common purpose.

The Tribe was strongly advised to cancel the Fall General Council as it was deemed unsafe for tribal elders and tribal members. The Emergency Operations Committee, Dr. Kim Cunningham-Hartwig, the Election Judges, the Roberts Rules expert from the University of Idaho and the Nez Perce Tribe Executive Committee Tribal Officials congregated and discussed ways to have General Council but also keep members protected. tribal The tribe presented the first ever virtual General Council. The virtual General Council session took place on

November 19 and 20, 2020. Throughout the two days, tribal members were able to view online. The virtual session was not conductive to holding an election with nominations from the floor. Board members hold-

ing office on Boards/Commissions, act on NPTEC's behalf. All persons currently holding elected positions on General Council-Tribal Constitution, Article V, Section 3 states that "the officer of the Tribal General Council, elected under Section 2 of this Article, shall hold office for one year and until their successors have qualified." The underlying language provides way to extend the terms of office holders until September 21, 2021; the 2021 Fall General Council meeting.

The Nez Perce Tribe Transportation Program received notice on September 15, 2020, that the tribe would receive a \$19.1 Million BUILD award to construct Aht'Wy interchange. Aht'Wy Circulation Road is currently on the environmental phase and following that, engineering work can proceed in the final design.

The spelling of the names of the Community Centers has been changed to reflect the standardized spelling used by the Nimiipuu Language Program. New directional signs are being posted in the Kamiah and Lapwai buildings as well. The Community Centers began taking reservations from tribal departments in September. Reopening of the centers to the general public will depend upon the current active cases and follow all tribal and CDC guidelines for safety and sanitization protocols.

Food and gift vouchers are being dispersed. The Wistegn'eemit Fund received a grant from the NDN Collective Foundation to aid stressed fragile citizens during the COVID-19 pandemic. Wisteqn'eemit partnered with the Social Services Department to disperse \$50 gift certificates to 160 elders starting with the eldest in the tribe to order food from four local eateries in the community owned by Indigenous families and worked with eight churches to hand out 100 \$150 food vouchers in the community to people in need. The remaining funds will be

donated to the local food bank.

Fiscal year 2020, the Nez Perce Tribe Vocational Rehabilitation Services program (NPTVRS) will serve 40 applicants with 20 participants becoming successfully employed. As of July 2020, the NPTVRS program submitted their sixmonth report and the program will not be cut in funding due to meeting the successful employment and grant goals. The NPTVRS program is currently advertising for an Office Specialist II and NPTVRS Specialist.

After COVID-19 closures, Mamáy'asnim Hitéemenwees Early Head Start (EHS) students returned on July 13, 2020, and head start students returned on September 8, 2020. Planning in-center activities for 100 head start students and 56 EHS students. CCDF services were expanded due to the pandemic and a re-opening plan evolved. Training on Health and Safety Standard Operating procedures and Return-to-work protocols were provided to all staff. Marcia Villegas retired in August after 22 years as a Teacher in the program.

Fiscal year 2021, tribally-funded budgets were completed and adopted by NPTEC on September 22, 2020. The Nez Perce Tribe Finance Department returned to full onsite staffing levels on June 1, 2020, in compliance with NPTEC's Return to Work Order.

As of June 18, 2020, the tribe had received three installments under the CARES Act that total \$16.6 million. This is an addition to the additional funding for the BIA, IHS and other grants NMPH or the Nez Perce Tribe received under CARES. Much time was spent on staff direction and staff sched-Continue Reading

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uling related to COVID-19. An agreement was reached for water releases from Wallowa Lake Dam to benefit fish. Efforts were made to raise awareness of and address the backlog of maintenance needs for Snake Basin fish hatcheries.

A total of 73 cases were generated over a six month time frame: 25 fishing cases, 14 citizen assist cases, 13 outside agency assists, 8 trespass cases, 2 woodcutting cases, 2 wastage cases, 1 weapons violation, 1 hunting case, 1 vandalism case, 1 alcohol violation, 1 ARPA/NAGPRA case, 1 animal assist, 1 animal complaint, 1 littering case, and 1 possible cougar siting.

During the spring chinook salmon fishing season, officers covered and were detailed to all area openings and closures in Idaho, Washington, and Oregon. The 2020 spring chinook salmon return was not good and provided very few fish for harvest. All hatchery facilities remain closed to the public but all hatchery staff remain working to grow fish.

The low returns of spring chinook presented a huge challenge with respect to collecting enough fish to make broodstock needs for most hatchery programs. A total of 12,102 adult broodstock are needed to meet production goals for hatcheries in the Snake Basin. This year, only 30,129 spring/summer chinook (hatchery and natural) were counted over Lower Granite Dam. Hatcheries that expect to meet production goals are Clearwater Basin, Northeast Oregon and Rapid River.

The Nez Perce Tribe currently employs 598 total personnel. This number fluctuates according to the field seasons of the Natural Resources based on programs. Currently 547 Nez Perce Tribe Employees are enrolled in the Health Benefits Program that is offered by the Tribe.

The Human Resources Department is currently overseeing and assisting employees with the renewal/enrollment in health benefits for the coming 2020-21 Fiscal Year. There are currently a total of 508 active employees participating/ contributing to the Nez Perce Tribe 401K Retirement Plan.

The Law and Order Executive Office has established a Law and Order Facility in Kamiah that will provide local department services for Kamiah Tribal members starting in October 2020. Nez Perce Tribal Police Department continues to facilitate the COVID-19 Emergency Operations Center, on-going Food & PPE distribution to the community, establishment of COVID calls since October 1, 2020.

Sex Offender Registry has been implemented requiring all sex offenders (tribal and non-tribal) to register and report to Tribal PD. Sex offenders are being incarcerated for non-compliance.

Criminal Investigation Division (CID) are deputized by the FBI which grants authority to investigate both on and off the reservation. Hells Canyon Federal Narcotic Task Force consists of law enforcement officers from the FBI, Lewiston Police Department, Idaho State Police, Nez Perce County Sherriff's Office, Grangeville Police Department, and other who work together to reduce the amount of illegal drugs that are trafficked into this area.

The I-Vision Program concluded their five year project. The \$2.96 million program ran from 2015-2020. The project was successful and compliant per grant agency. It is with great sadness this program was not re-funded or awarded a new project from the federal offices. The Social Services Department plans to continue searching for grants to continue the types of services that I-Vision provided. The Uuyitkimti and Child Welfare Programs were awarded grants from the Department of Justice for victim services, those finalized budgets and scopes of work are pending approval from the respective offices and the Nez Perce Tribe. The Uuyitkimti program held a Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Month in October.

The Food and Nutrition Program has been the hub for the Farms to Families Program where they have served over 3,000 boxes of prepackaged fresh foods. They continue to serve their regular program participants and have assisted the entire time of the pandemic and food distribution.

The Department of Technology received two grants. The Idaho State Broadband grant for \$2 million to deploy fiber to the homes in the Lapwai area, and a First Nations grant for \$17,000 to aid in equipment purchase for 2.5 GHz deployment.

Twenty-one miles of fiber from Spaulding to Port of Whitman in Clarkston was completed, as well as construction on a 280-foot tower that AT&T has leased space on to deploy service. KIYE also received a grant from Corporation for Public Broadcast for just under \$154,000.



Ha'óqoy | December

ENTERPRISES

Tribal Enterprises Dealing with 'Challenging' Economic Climate

COVID-19 pandemic has affected Nez Perce Tribe's businesses, but plans for the future are afoot

By: Michael Wells, Lewiston Tribune

With acknowledgment that gaming is essential for the Nez Perce Tribe, the tribe's enterprises executive spoke of the difficulties of the pandemic and coming months while looking forward to the future of growth for tribal enterprises.

Nez Perce Tribal Enterprises Executive Officer Kermit Mankiller updated the tribe on plans for its businesses through the remainder of the pandemic, the casinos' closure last spring, the cyber attack at the casinos in October, plans for Riverside Sport Shop, employee makeup and a business park planned for Spalding in a lengthy presentation during the tribe's fall General Council information session Friday morning.

Mankiller said tribal enterprises took out a paycheck protection loan from the federal government that makes its financials look worse than they are, as the fiscal year ended in September and he expects the loan to be for-



given by the end of the year. He cited the essential function of gaming as the reason the casinos remain open even now as COVID-19 cases spike in the region. Before the pandemic, growth of the tribal enterprises was at 38 percent since Mankiller was hired as the executive officer in 2017. The goal of the gaming operation is to make \$10 million a year. "We've still got several months that are going to be difficult, that are going to be challenging," Mankiller said, noting the pandemic is not going away soon.

Addressina concerns expressed during the first day of the General Council, Mankiller noted that the tribal enterprises have 301 employees, 134 are Nimiipuu, 53 are from other Native American tribes, 16 are descendants and 98 are non-Native American. He also pointed out that most of the executive management team are tribal members and each member of the executive management team has a tribal member who is working as an understudy for the position.

NPTE employs 193 people at its Clearwater River Casino near Lewiston; 45 people at its It'se Ye-Ye Casino in Kamiah; 34 at its Red Wolf Golf Club in Clarkston; seven at its Camas Express near Winchester; and one full-time and one parttime employee at Zim's Hot

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ATTN: NEZ PERCE TRIBAL MEMBERS



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Springs near New Meadows. NPTE is focused on the core operations and capabilities and is working on creating opportunities for tribal members to move upward or laterally in their jobs. The goal is to eventually have a \$15 minimum wage, and NPTE is focused on jobs that require STEM, CTEC and management jobs for tribal members.

Mankiller sympathized with new college graduates who are having a hard time finding a job in their field with the tribe. He said he spent 25 years "out in the world to find the type of employment that matched" his education.

"We need MBAs and entrepreneurs," Mankiller said. He said the goal of the NPTE sounds dull, but it is that tribal members can get married, have a family and buy a home. Several questions Thursday revolved around a the tribe's 2018 purchase of

the tribe's 2018 purchase of Riverside Sport Shop near Orofino. Mankiller said the site

A

is planned to be a third casino site. Progress on the site has been slowed by the pandemic, but demolition and construction could begin next month or in January. The site will also be an opportunity for the tribe to promote its tribal fishing licenses, he said.

A business park at Spalding is in the works and two potential tenants have committed to locating at the park. NPTE has received a \$500,000 Indian Community Development Block Grant and is pursuing \$4 million in economic development administration grants. Mankiller said the business park would have a better name than "Business Park at Spalding" in the future.

Mankiller did not discuss much about the cyber attack that shuttered the two casinos in October, except to say it was a malware attack and that they were "still trying to mop up from that." The casinos are still not totally recovered from the attack, but he expected them to be back at 100 percent soon. "I'm comfortable going forward that we are more prepared," Mankiller said.

Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee Treasurer Casey Mitchell fielded a question about when or if the tribe was going to build a grocery store in Lapwai. Mitchell stressed nothing was concrete about a tribal grocery store that would feature lower prices and elk, deer, buffalo meat and other traditional tribal foods, but there were efforts to find a place for a grocery store.

Nez Perce Tribe interim Executive Director Jesse Leighton reported on the tribal government's departments and how the tribe has spent its CARES Act money. The tribe spent \$4.38 million, or 26.4 percent, on department projects and facilities; \$4.2 million, or 25.5 percent, on economic assistance to members; \$2.68 million, or 16.2 percent, on PPE, emergency leave and hazard pay; \$1.78 million, or 10.7 percent, on Enterprises, Nimiipuu Health and Nimiipuu Community Development Fund: \$478,500, or 2.9 percent, on laptops for minors; \$405,000, or 2.4 percent, on elder assistance; and has a little more than \$2.6 million, or 15.9 percent, held in reserve. The funding must be spent by the end of the year or be returned to the federal government.

The tribe had secured grant funding for a detective and an investigator for domestic violence for the next five years and a child welfare investigator for the next three years, Nez Perce Law and Justice Executive Director Jesse Filkins Jr. said. The tribe still has to hire people for the positions. Nez Perce Tribal Police were in the process of renovating the police department, and an emergency operations center and detention cells will be added using CARES funding, Filkins said.

The Law and Justice Building in Kamiah is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday, Filkins said. Kamiah Court will begin in the spring, with criminal and civil hearings held one day a month at the facility.



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HEALTH

Tribe Refining Testing, Vaccine Procedures

COVID-19 report part of first day of Nez Perce Tribe's General Council

By: Michael Wells Lewiston Tribune

The pandemic and its effects were a common thread throughout the reports given at the first day of the Nez Perce Tribe's Fall General Council, which was streamed online.

Nimiipuu Health Medical Director Kim Hartwig spoke Thursday morning about testing and vaccine planning in a presentation about how the COVID-19 pandemic is being managed on the reservation.

Nimiipuu Health has conducted 2,262 COVID-19 tests and 393 of those have come back positive. Nimiipuu Health has the capacity to do 50 to 60 tests per day, Hartwig said.

There are 76 active cases of the deadly disease among tribal members, and Hartwig cautioned the online audience that regional hospitals are at capacity with the recent uptick in cases.

Nimiipuu Health is working on vaccine planning for the tribe and will work with Indian Health Service on distribution of the vaccine. Health care providers and first responders will likely get vaccines through the state of Idaho. The tribe is working to identify priority groups for once the vaccine is ready, Hartwig said.

Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee Chairman Shannon Wheeler discussed how the tribe is working to hold the federal government accountable, especially on the lower Snake River salmon and dams issue. "Restoring the lower Snake River is urgent and

overdue," Wheeler said. "The lower Snake River is a life force and needs to be restored now." He mentioned the re-

cent efforts to establish so- to the USDA soon. The USDA lar power on tribal build- would return the ordinance ings as one way the tribe is to the tribe within 60 days working to make the lower before it could go into effect. Snake River dams obsolete. The tribe's water code that "For everv megawatt we produce, we are ing approval from the U.S. that much closer," he said.

The tribe's energy initiative is working with RevoluSUN to install solar panels on buildings and training tribal members in all facets of renewable energy education, including design, engineering and installation. The goal is to create energy independence for the tribe.

There were 50 tribe members employed by the project during the pandemic. The project is nearing completion, Climate and En-Subcommittee Chairergy man Casey Mitchell said.

Wheeler discussed the tribe's opposition to Midas Gold's plans for a gold mine at the Stibnite site on the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River. "It will destroy our fish," he said. "It will ruin our habitat and damage our treaty rights for generations to come."

Natural Resources Subcommittee Chairman Ferris Paisano III said the tribe's efforts opposing the gold mine were "making a lot of friends in Valley County and McCall."

The tribe is also working on a climate change vulnerability assessment and adaptation plan. The tribe also has a 2.5-gigahertz license now for a wireless network, Wheeler said.

"The spectrum license is a significant step giving us rights to our airwaves over our reservation," Wheeler said.

The tribe is moving forward on converting farmland it owns near Mann Lake into a vineyard. The tribe may sell the wine grapes it grows on the site to other wineries, or the tribe may someday produce its own wines, he said.

The tribe is also moving forward with its hemp ordinance, which will be sent it developed is now await-Department of the Interior.

Mitchell, NPTEC for the treasurer, discussed CARES funding, Act government budgets, tribal investments, the Minor's Trust Fund and the fiscal year 2019 audits.

The tribe received \$16.6 million in CARES Act funding, which must be spent by the end of the year or be returned to the federal government. Tribal members sent in questions asking for a breakdown of the funding, where it has been spent and what is left. Mitchell said it could be done.

The funds cannot be used for a "per capita" payment to tribal members, Mitchell said. The funding has thus far been used supporting tribal elders and minors with 31 percent of the funds; 27 percent went toward PPE purchases, emergency leave and hazard pay; 26 percent provided to tribal departments

facility enhancements: and 16 percent of the money was still on hand in reserve on Sept. 30, Mitchell said. The tribe used some

of the money to buy every school-aged child a computer or laptop computer for learning from home is schools go to online learning models.

The government budget for fiscal year 2022 will likely be adversely affected by the two-month shutdown of the casinos because of the pandemic this year, Mitchell said. Many tribal departments spent less money this year and all cut budgets by 5 percent because of the pandemic.

Tribal investments are at about \$167 million. The tribe has about \$202 million in cash and investments, Mitchell said. The tribe's in-

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HEALTH

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vestments had made about \$8 million as of Sept. 30.

The tribe's Minor's Trust Fund was moved from Umpqua Wealth Management, which dissolved its investment arm, to Breakwater Investment Group LLC in Seattle.

Land Enterprise Subcommittee Chairman Quincy Ellenwood discussed properties the tribe has acquired or is in the process of acquiring. The Hays Ranch property purchase near Wallowa Lake in Oregon could close as early as Dec. 1.

The property has significant historical and cultural value to the tribe and Wheeler noted that the property would be used as a Nez Perce headquarters in Oregon. The property would help the tribe have better relationships with local and state government and would allow tribal members to once again live and move with the changes of the seasons, noting the property would be a good place to spend June through August. The tribe purchased 80

acres near its Clear Creek Hatchery in August, Ellenwood said.

Paisano discussed the difficulty of working with the Trump administration on natural resources issues and he hoped the incoming Biden administration would be better to work with. The tribe has had problems working with the Trump administration because local federal agencies are not allowed to make decisions and the decisions are being made in Washington, Paisano said.

Paisano mentioned the tribe's Steelhead Kelt project that spent \$444,459 on captur-

ing spawned-out female steelhead and keeping them for a year before releasing them into the river to return to the ocean. The program is helping wild steelhead production.

Tribal members sent in questions throughout the day by email, text and by phone. Many questions came in about homeless tribal members and what the Executive Committee was going to do about it.

Wheeler said sites for dormitory-style housing had been identified in Lapwai, Kamiah and Orofino. Wheeler also wondered if some tribal homeless would prefer a traditional village setting where they could live as the Nez Perce did long ago.

Other questions dealt with hiring practices by the tribe. Some questions expressed concern that young tribe members were returning with college degrees, but were being passed over for jobs with the tribe. Other questions expressed concern that tribal preferences in hiring practices did not give tribal members enough credit. One question mentioned that only 14 of 45 recent hires went to tribal members.

Wheeler said more needs to be done to create a fair process and acknowledged that language that calls for managerial discretion could be tipping the hiring process out of balance by providing more opportunities for nontribal members. The General Coun-

cil was held online Thursday and will continue today. Wells may be contacted at mwells@Imtribune. com or (208) 848-2275.

Hípt titóoqa'ayn - Food for the People

By: Danielle Scott, UI Extension Educator

The Lapwai Community Garden has its very own Little Free Food Pantry we have named – hípt titóoqa'ayn – Food for the People. This free food pantry seated right next to the Little Free Garden Library and the gazebo in the Lapwai Community Garden is meant to help anyone in need of food or toiletries meet their needs anonymously on an as needed basis.

This pantry came to the garden by way of a donation from Lewis Clark Valley Little Free Pantry Project organizer, Kathy Hay in collaboration with the University of Idaho Extension – Nez Perce Reservation Extension Educator, Danielle Scott. A generous donation provided by the Nez Perce Tribe Wisteqn'eemit Nonprofit Organization will help sustain the food and toiletries in addition to the donations by individuals from the community.

We are accepting shelf stable foods and personal hygiene products. We ask that all donations be put into the yellow donation box. Volunteers will check the donation box twice weekly to restock and organize the pantry as needed. Foods should be commercially preserved, non-expired and unopened. Items with pop top lids, jars, boxed or peel back lids are preferred since some people may not have access to can openers. We have some can openers available to add to the pantry when foods are added that need a can opener and we will accept donations of can openers for the pantry as well.

We ask that you take what you need and donate when you can. This is all by donation and we hope to help as many people as we can with this effort. It is part of our mission to provide healthy foods whenever possible, but we also want to offer kid friendly and

easy to prepare foods as well. If you would like certain items in the pantry, please feel free to leave us a note and we will let potential donors know of the need. If you would like to donate, but need to have the items picked up, please let us know and we will make efforts to arrange a pick-up. If you would like a list of suggested items, want to do a food raiser or fund raiser for the pantry, please contact the Pantry Steward, Danielle Scott at 208-791-4087 or via email at dnscott@uidaho.edu. Together we will provide hípt titóoqa'ayn - Food for the People.



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New Tribal Division Speaks to Needs of Tribal Nations



strongheartshelpline.org

Tribal Nations have long advocated for amending the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) to allow Tribes to access VOCA funding on a direct government to government basis. In recent years, the Office of Victims of Crime (OVC) held listening sessions with tribal leaders, representatives, and advocates to discuss victim needs for crime victims' services in Indian Country. These consultation and listening sessions resulted in several recommendations being acted upon that were announced on August 6, 2020. They include:

• A Tribal Division was created to streamline the distribution and management of tribal grant awards and ensure the OVC is adequately staffed to meet the needs of American Indian and Alaska Native communities.

• The Victims of Crime Tribal Financial Management Center (OVC TFMC) was also launched to provide training, technical assistance and resources to support Native American and Alaskan Natives;

• A formula was developed to address allocation of tribal setaside funds.

"Tribal Leaders have strongly advocated for the establishment of a tribal division, similar to that of the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW)," said Liz Carr, Senior

Policy Analyst for the National Indigenous Women's Resource Center (NIWRC). The benefits of having a Tribal Division include having a high level deputy director with a working knowledge of Tribes and an office staffed by people with experience working in Indian Country or at the very least having a good understanding of the barriers faced in tribal communities.

What are Tribal Set-Aside Funds? For the third time since 2018, Congress authorized set-aside funding from the Crime Victims Fund for a tribal victim services program to provide support to tribal communities and improve services for victims of crime, consistent with the requirements of the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA). The OVC is charged by Congress with administering the Crime Victims Fund.

Although Congress recognized the need in tribal communities and developed a 5% set aside through the appropriations process, the set-aside funding is not considered permanent funding which not only presents future programming issues, it hinders future designs on programs. "Basically, there İS nothing specific in the current

Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) as it pertains to funding for Tribes," explained Carr. "However, there is legislation being proposed to address the permanency of the tribal aside funds. The Securing Urgent an policies that were enacted Resources Vital to Indian Victim Empowerment "SURVIVE Act" would authorize 5% setaside funding. This bill would amend VOCA and authorize more permanent funding for tribal victim service programs."

SetAside and Tribal StrongHearts: August 2019, StrongHearts Native Helpline (StrongHearts) was the recipient of two grants from the Office of Victims of Crime to enhance services over the next three years.

"These two grants were funded through the tribal set aside," said StrongHearts Director Lori Jump. " Over the three year period, we will have received nearly \$3 million to enhance and grow our operations. To date, we have been able to increase the number of victim-survivors that we help by introducing online chat advocacy and adding a sexual violence component to the advocate's repertoire. Future plans include offering roundthe-clock advocacy (24/7) and adding a text by phone option."

Improved Access Still Needs Work: "These resources should be a permanent setaside for tribal programs that are administered by the Tribe's they serve," added Jump. She explained that without funding for victims of crime, the need for justice and healing could not be provided to tribal members who have long suffered the consequences of the anti-Indito displace indigenous people.

"Native Americans continue to be poverty stricken and are in dire need of the service that we so desperately want to provide," said Jump. "Considering Native women are 2.5 times more likely to be raped or be a victim of sexual assault than any other ethnic group, StrongHearts Native Helpline serves as a potential lifeline for survivors of these crimes."

OVC Background: The OVC was established in 1988 through an amendment of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (VOCA). The OVC is charged by Congress with administering the Crime Victims Fund. Through OVC, this fund supports a broad array of programs and services that focus on helping victims in the immediate aftermath of crime and continuing to support them as they rebuild their lives.

StrongHearts Native Helpline is a culturally-appropriate and anonymous helpline for Native Americans impacted by domestic, dating and sexual violence. Visit StrongHearts Native Helpline online for one-on-one chat advocacy or call 1-844-7NA-TIVE (1-844-762-8483) open daily 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. CT. StrongHearts advocates offer peer support and advocacy, personal safety planning, crisis intervention and referrals Native-centered domesto tic violence service providers.



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OBITUARY

Death Notices, Obituaries to Follow

Jamie Lynn Jackson, 44, Toppenish, WA

Entered into rest November 1, 2020. She made her journey home Thursday, November 5, 2020 from Toppenish, Washington to her final resting place in Kooskia, Idaho.

Bianca G. Sekayouma, 45, Lapwai, ID

Bianca G. Sekayouma, 45, of Lapwai, died Monday, Nov. 16, 2020, at her home.

Malcom's Brower-Wann Funeral Home is in charge of cremation. Graveside services will be held at a later date because of travel restrictions of immediate family members.

Lyle B. Davis Sr., 66, Kamiah, ID

Lyle B. Davis Sr., 66, of Kamiah, died Saturday, Nov. 21, 2020, at his home. Trenary Funeral Home of Kooskia is in charge of arrangements.

Marian Painter, 88, Kamiah, ID

Marian Painter, 88, of Lewiston, died Thursday, Nov. 26, 2020, at St. Joseph Regional Medical Center in Lewiston. Mountain View Funeral Home of Lewiston is in charge of arrangements.

Jerard T. Davis, 70, Kamiah, ID

Jerard T. Davis, 70, of Kamiah, died Friday, Nov. 27, 2020, at his home. Trenary Funeral Home of Kooskia is in charge of arrangements.

Michael J. Penney, 72, Lapwai, ID

Michael J. Penney, 72, of Lapwai, died Saturday, Nov. 28, 2020, at his home. Malcom's Brower-Wann Funeral Home of Lewiston is in charge of arrangements.

🤊 Nez Perce Tribe Senior Citizens Program 🦯



MEAL PROGRAM

The program provides meals on a daily basis (week days only, closed on holiday.) Approved elders 55+ years of age to apply. For home deliveries are based on frail/handicapped, with a physical medical needs that prevent you from dining-in, and may require a physician's approval for home delivery. Applications are available at Chief Joseph or Chief Looking Glass dining hall.

Dining-in is provided at Chief Joseph & Chief Looking Glass Complex (when permissible) on a daily basis from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. A food tray to go may be picked up daily (when permissible).

TRAVEL

Travel is provided for elders (when permissible.) Travel information is provided in the meal application. You must be an approved elder to utilize travel services.





NATIVE AMERICAN CARES ACT for CORONAVIRUS AID (NAC3)

Must be 55+ years of age to apply. Native American Cares grant applies to hardships/frail elders, tribal elders, elders of social security, veterans', elders having dire hardships, elders on fixed income. Applications can be picked up and submitted at the Chief Joseph and Chief Looking Glass Complex's. Must live in the service area or on the reservation

The purpose of the Nez Perce Tribe Senior Citizens Program is to provide elder service to those with the greatest social and economic need living on the reservation. Our program offers comprehensive and coordinated systems of nutritional, traditional, home and community-based services that help tribal elderly individuals maintain their health and independence in their home and also in their community.

Georganne Morrison Lapwai Senior Citizens Coordinator (208) 843-7311

Mary Tall Bull Kamiah/Orofino Assistant Coordinator (208) 935-3411

Raphael Guillory, Former Lapwai & EWU Athlete, Passes Away



Raphael Guillory, who contributed to Lapwai High's 81-game winning streak in boys' basketball in the 1980s and later helped the East-Washington football ern team to a league championship, died Sunday November 29, 2020, after a long battle with cancer. He was 49. Guillory's death was announced by EWU, where he'd been a psychology professor since 2002.

He was the leading scorer for a 1987-88 Lapwai team that went undefeated in the midst of Wildcat winning streak that stretched from 1986 to '89 and drew national attention.

As a starting free safety at EWU at Cheney, Washington, he tallied 52 tackles and two interceptions for a team that won the Big Sky title in 1992. He later represented that squad when it was inducted into the Eastern Athletics Hall of Fame in 2017.

As a senior in 1993, he collected 30 tackles and was named Big Sky all-academic. Before Eastern, he played for him. The love he had for his Walla Walla Community College.

Guillory is survived by his wife, Gloria, and their five children; parents Jeff and Connie Guillory; and siblings Ricky Hernandez, Justin Guillory and Veneice Guillory-Lacy. Brother Justin Guillory joined him as a teammate at EWU.

"He was a great man," Jav Dav, a former EWU teammate who's now the school's police chief, said in an EWU news release. "He was my teammate and brother and I always admired him and how he carried himself.

"He never had a harsh word for anyone and was perpetually positive no matter the circumstances. You can't help but to smile when you think of

wife and children as well as the rest of his family is something that we should all aspire to."

Guillory earned his bachelor's degree from Eastern in 1994 in sociology with a minor in communications. He later taught coursework in advanced educational psychology, psychology of human relations, developmental theories and applications and grant-writing. At one point he served EWU as president of the Faculty Organization and Faculty Senate chairman.

Guillory's family is planning a streaming memorial service in Spokane on December 3, 2020 as well as a funeral on the Nez Perce Indian Reservation in Lapwai.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Foster Care

Who: Community What: "Pop in to Learn About Foster Care" Where: Lapwai City Park When: August 13 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM. Contact (208)843-4669 or lorettai@nezperce.org

Place an Ad

Place an ad in the Nimiipuu Tribal Tribune. Flyers: Full Page \$504, Half Page \$252, Quarter Page \$126, Classified Ads and Job Announcements .25 cents a word. Contact NPT Communications for more info. 208-621-4807

CRITFC Job Announcement

Position: Inter-Tribal Monitoring Data Project Coordinator, Full-Time, Regular. New!

Location: Portland, OR

Job Summary: The Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC) is seeking a Project Coordinator to lead the Inter-Tribal Monitoring Data Project (ITMD). The ITMD Project is a Columbia Basin Fish Accords project that supports fisheries and habitat data management at the Nez Perce Tribe, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, and Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon. The ITMD Project is focused on three primary goals: Inter-tribal Coordination: Identify and promote opportunities for inter-tribal collaboration in implementing tribal data management strategies, policies, standards, practices, software and technology and assist tribal partners to build capacity to share metrics (or data) with regional partners. Data Management Services: Support data management services at tribal fishery programs and within CRITFC, which includes: a) partial support for tribal data stewards; b) partial support for developing and supporting central data management systems; and c) partial support for professional development and training. Regional Coordination: Serve as the CRITFC point of contact and tribal advocate in regional data management coordination processes, forums, meetings, and summarize that information to tribal partners.

Job Requirements/Qualifications: A BS degree in a natural resource or environmental science related field, or the equivalent level of knowledge demonstrated by successful on-the-job performance; Due to the various locations of the four tribes, experience scheduling, coordinating and leading virtual monthly meetings, annual workshops, creating special workgroups, and identifying and organizing relevant training events for data stewards and tribal fishery staff; Ability to effectively and diplomatically communicate with a diverse set of tribal and non-tribal partners, especially consensus building; High proficiency with Microsoft Office (e.g. Word, Excel, PowerPoint), remote meeting software (e.g., GoToMeeting, Zoom, Teams); and standard office equipment (e.g., projectors). Demonstrable capacity for project management, ability to develop multi-year plans, create benchmarks, and document workflow; Knowledge of biological science and experience with the methods of data collection, entry and management; Experience working with or managing federal contracts, grant writing and administration, and managing budgets; Strong technical writing skills and verbal communication, including public speaking; Problem solving and critical thinking skills are essential; Ability to telecommute (i.e., work from home).

Attention College Students

USDA ANNOUNCES SCHOLARS PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS AT TRIBAL LAND-GRANT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

The USDA 1994 Tribal Scholars Program was established in 2008 in partnership between USDA and 1994 institutions, tribally controlled colleges and universities with land-grant status. The program provides full tuition, fees, books, and a summer internship to students pursuing degrees in agriculture, food, natural resource sciences, or related academic disciplines. When the student has completed the academic and summer work requirements of the scholarship, USDA may convert the student to a permanent employee without further competition. The application deadline is January 31, 2021

https://www.usda.gov/partnerships/1994-program

Notice of Vacancy

Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee NOVEMBER 16, 2020

The Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee (NPTEC) is seeking letters of interest from individuals interested in serving the remainder of a three-year term on the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee. The appointment will be effective upon appoint-

ment until Spring 2021 General Council. Please submit your letter of interest to Marie Baheza,

NPTEC Executive Assistant,

by close of business on Thursday, December 3, 2020. Letters received after the close of business on will not be considered.

New Year's Eve Pow Wow Announcement

To all my Neemeepoo Relatives, Dancers, Drummers and Community,

Due to the ongoing situation with COVID-19, we regret to inform you that our New Year's Eve Pow Wow & Celebration will be cancelled.

This has been a hard decision for us. It saddens us that we are coming up on 27 years of encouraging our community to

connect with our culture and to refrain from drugs and alcohol. Even though we will not be gathered together, please stay strong and healthy.

We are currently looking into alternative options with a view to running the event at a later date. We will be in touch with all of you if we decide to proceed with the celebration at a later date.



If you have any questions please call me at (208) 790-7873.

Starting salary range: \$61,999 – \$80,600. Closing date: January 15, 2021. Employment application and full job announcement located https://www.critfc.org

Thank you all for your support.

-Pistol Pete

Kooskia Community Library

In an effort to keep providing the community with excellent take-home craft opportunities, the library needs your help. We are asking for clean metal lids to be donated, the kind you find on store-bought spaghetti sauce or pickles, not home canning lids. Please contact Dena at 208-926-4539 if you have any questions.

The staff pick for the long dark days of winter is the non-fiction book The Hilarious World of Depression by John Moe. The author has struggled with depression and lost his brother to suicide in 2007. That might sound like too heavy of a book right now, but Moe makes it compelling by slicing in his own dark humor and snippets of interviews with "successful" people from his very popular podcast of the same name. The print book is available from Valnet, but the best way to enjoy this title is the audiobook download that's available with the Libby app and your Valnet card. Anyone who has struggled with depression, or known someone who has, will relate to this book.

We will be providing cozy winter craft bags throughout the month of December. It's helpful if you can call ahead so we know how many are needed, but you can also claim one at curbside (while supplies last). Visit 026 S. Main Street in Kooskia during our new winter hours, Tuesday-Friday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Masks are required to enter the building and we appreciate if you can wear one at curbside as well.

NPT COVID-19 Testing Results

As of November 20, 2020 These results are the totals since NMPH began testing on May 1, 2020. Total Tested: 2363 Total Positive: 409 Total Negative: 1939 https://nptweekly.org/covid-19-updates

Kamiah Community Library

Since the newly remodeled laundromat (AKA Wash House) on Main Street is reopened, we have restocked the box of free books to enjoy. The Laundromat Library League (www. laundromatlibraryleague.org) is an organization that gets free books into the community in over 30 states. If you use the Wash House, pick a book to read with your child, or alone, while you wait for your laundry. Take it with you and pass it on to someone else when you're finished. Right now, we are stocking the box with donated books we have stockpiled (many from Kamiah Elementary teachers - thanks) and we are not currently able to accept book donations due to the pandemic. Our take-home bag for December has a hygge theme. Pronounced "hoo-ga," this Danish concept cannot be translated to one single word but encompasses a feeling of cozy contentment and well-being through enjoying the simple things in life. The activity bag this month will include some cozy winter activities for you to enjoy. We make these bags by request as needed, so please call 208-935-0428 or email kamiah.library@prld.org if you'd like one and we will put you on the list. These are available for all ages. Though this month is geared toward the nonkid crowd, there will be coloring sheets and simple crafts, too.

A generous donation in the amount of \$2,500 was recently mailed to our library, in memory of the sender's sister who died this year. We are currently working with the donor to make sure the money is spent responsibly and in a worthwhile manner for our community. We thank this incredibly valued patron for their continued support. Donations to your local library can qualify for a tax credit if made before Dec. 31, 2020. See https://libraries.idaho.gov/donations for more info or ask your tax preparer.

If you have come in to browse lately, we may have warned you that things have moved. We are in the process of installing new shelves in the fiction half of the library. The multi-step approach means books are not quite in their permanent homes. We do not require appointments to browse in person, but all persons entering the building must wear a mask and use hand sanitizer. Curbside service is still available for those who wish to get items in that manner. Visit us at 505 Main St. and give a knock on the door if we don't see you!





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