



**Club
Youth
of the Year**

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N I M I I P U U T R I B A L T R I B U N E

‘Alatam’áal / February

Volume 3 / Issue 4

Nimiipuu Health Conducts Mass COVID-19 Vaccination Event at Clearwater River Casino Event Center



Nimiipuu Health entrance to mass vaccination clinic at Clearwater River Casino Event Center

Lapwai, Idaho- On February 12, Nimiipuu Health administered 211 first-dose, Moderna COVID-19 Vaccina-

tions to individuals with the assistance of the Idaho National Guard. The mass vaccination was conducted at

the Clearwater River Casino Event Center to accommodate and provide appropriate social distancing for the large numbers of participants. The second dose will be provided to the same individuals in approximately 28 days.

"We are extremely grateful for all the people that helped make this event possible. The Clearwater River Casino staff was phenomenal in

the setup and arrangements, the National Guard soldiers were excellent in their assistance to the entire operation, and Nimiipuu Health staff have continued to go above and beyond in their service to our patients and community," stated NMPH Medical Director, Dr. Kim Hartwig.

"We continue to ask that everyone seriously consider receiving the vaccine as it becomes more readily available to the general public. As we continue to get folks vaccinated, please continue to remain vigilant by following appropriate COVID-19 safety recommendations; wear a mask, social distance, and wash or sanitize your hands frequently. Together, the COVID-19 vaccine and the CDC's recommendations on how to protect yourself still offer the best protection from COVID-19 for an individual," continued Hartwig.

Vaccinations for this event were scheduled over the course of this week. Recipients arrived to a sign-in table and were directed to an individual vaccination tent. Following administration of the vaccine, recipients were able to wait in a separate room for 15 minutes for monitoring. Each person was provided with additional education materials on the vaccine.

Nimiipuutímtki- The People’s Language
(Nee-mee-poo-timt-key)

February‘Alatam’áal
(ala-tum-all)“season between
winter & spring”

Again	héenek’e	<i>h-an-icka</i>
Air	háymkat	<i>high-caught</i>
All, everybody	‘óykalo	<i>oy-ka-low</i>
Always, forever	kúnk’u	<i>koon-koo</i>
Ancestor	himíyu	<i>him-me-you</i>
Ant	támsoy	<i>tom-soy</i>
Apple	timáanit	<i>tim-on-it</i>
Arm	‘áatim	<i>aw-tim</i>
Automobile	‘ipnewleke’yke’í	<i>ip-now-la-kay-ka-ee</i>



NIMIIPUU TRIBAL TRIBUNE

The Nimiipuu Tribal Tribune is published twice a month, on the first and third Wednesday. Our mission is to publish a timely and credible resource for our loyal readers and provide local information relevant to the Nimiipuu people and surrounding communities. Our vision is to disseminate content of interest to readers and to ensure this news publication is accessible by all.

In an effort to be more environmentally friendly, we are working to cut down on paper waste and printing cost. Hard copies will be available upon request only. Enrolled Nez Perce Tribal members are able to receive hard copies at no cost (limit one per household). For businesses and non-enrolled Nez Perce Tribal members, the hard copy subscription fee is \$36 annually. The online version is free for everyone. Subscribe today!

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USDA Approves Nez Perce Tribe Hemp Regulatory Code

Lapwai, Idaho – On February 12, 2021, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) approved the Nez Perce Tribe's Hemp Regulatory Code (Code). The Code provides a regulatory framework for the safe and legal production of industrial hemp on the Nez Perce Reservation. The Code was submitted to the USDA on December 16, 2020 for review pursuant to the U.S. Domestic Hemp Production Program. The Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 directed USDA to develop this regulatory oversight program for hemp and included provisions for USDA to approve hemp production plans submitted by states and Indian tribes. With this approval from the USDA, the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee will now proceed forward with work on final adoption and implementation of the Code.

"We are extremely

pleased with the approval of our code by the USDA," stated Shannon F. Wheeler, Chairman of the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee. "We are working hard to diversify and expand the economy in this region. Regulatory efforts like this hemp code and our recently adopted water code are important foundational steps in this effort," continued Wheeler.

Regulation of hemp production under the Code is extensive and includes licensing requirements for growers, inspection and sampling, pre- and post-harvest testing, and regulations on use of pesticides, and use of only certified testing labs. The Tribe will regulate for "Acceptable Hemp THC Level" as prescribed by federal law. This means when a laboratory tests a hemp sample, it must report the THC (delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol) concen-

tration level on a dry weight basis of the sample. The Acceptable Hemp THC level of a sample, for the purpose of compliance with the requirements of the Hemp Ordinance, is when the THC level on a dry weight basis produces a distribution or range that includes 0.3% or less of THC. Hemp crops that exceed acceptable levels of THC are destroyed.

"Due to its versatility and organic nature, Industrial hemp has been identified as a potential avenue for economic development on the Reservation," stated Arthur Broncheau, Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee Law and Order Subcommittee Chair. "Because there is tremendous growth in sectors of the economy that rely on hemp, the Tribe believes hemp is an emerging market that can accomplish economic self-sufficiency and increase jobs in our

region," continued Broncheau.

While hemp and marijuana are both members of the same plant species, *Cannabis sativa L*, their differences are significant. "Hemp" is the term used to describe the food and fiber variety of the cannabis plant, while "marijuana" is the name given to cannabis that's grown to enhance the chemicals (such as THC) that make one feel intoxicated. Hemp and marijuana also must be grown using different techniques and in different environments to produce the best possible results. Hemp cannot be used to obtain an intoxicated "high" like marijuana.

"Although we still have a lot of work to do before we license the first crops, we are excited for what the future holds in this area and to bring back an element of our culture that's been missing for some time," concluded Wheeler.



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Congratulations Preston Amerman



Preston is Bozeman Bound! He has been awarded the Montana State University "Achievement Award" for each year at school, and has also been pre-approved for the well-endowed "Tribal Homeland Scholarship". Preston looks forward to attending MSU next Fall in 2021. If you see him around, give him a shout out!

Jace Johnson Receives State's Top Youth Volunteer Award



Jace Johnson, Senior at Kamiah High School and Idaho's top youth volunteer of 2021



Jace Johnson received Idaho's top youth volunteer award from The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards

Kamiah, ID – Jace Johnson, 18, of Kamiah was named "Idaho's top youth volunteer of 2021" by The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, America's largest youth recognition program based exclusively on volunteer service.

As the State honoree, Johnson will receive a \$2500 scholarship, a silver medallion and an invitation to the program's virtual national recognition celebration in April where ten of the 102 State honorees will be named America's top youth volunteers of the year.

National honorees will earn an additional \$5000 scholarship, a gold medallion, a crystal trophy for their nominating organization and a \$5000 grant for a nonprofit charitable organization of their choice.

Kamiah High School Principal William McFall, who nominated Johnson, said he was extremely pleased that Johnson received the award. "Jace has spent countless hours making Kamiah a better

and safer place for local teens. I applaud his service, as well as the service of all the other youth who volunteer with the community's local Youth Advisory Board and Teen Center. They definitely make Kamiah a better place for our students and citizens," McFall stated.

Johnson, a senior at Kamiah High School, played a leadership role in opening a Teen Center in Kamiah to provide youth in the Clearwater Valley with a safe, fun alternative to substance abuse. Johnson said his volunteerism "sprouted from watching my community slowly deteriorate into a town riddled with drugs, crimes and everything in between."

As president and a founding member of the town's Youth Advisory Board, Johnson knew that with only a four-day school week and few extracurricular activities it was too easy for young people to slip into drug and alcohol abuse. "I realized that not only did teens need activities

to partake in, they needed a safe place to go," he stated.

In 2017, he and fellow Youth Advisory Board members decided to start raising money to open a Teen Center, primarily by hosting lunches and applying for grants. It took about a year to collect enough funds to rent space, furnish it, pay for utilities and buy supplies. Community members donated a pool table, televisions, furniture, games and other items.

Since opening in September 2019, the Center has recorded thousands of teen visits and the staff has hosted almost 500 youth events, including concerts, game nights, movies, theme park trips and tournaments. Classes such as cooking, budgeting and sewing—subjects not offered in area schools—have been presented. Moreover, younger students are able to spend time at the Center on summer mornings to attend arts and crafts classes which are often led by older students.

The effort has paid big dividends. According to Johnson, data compiled by local law enforcement has shown a marked decrease in drug, alcohol and tobacco use among area teenagers in recent years.

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, conducted annually by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals, honors students in grades 5-12 for making meaningful contributions to their communities through volunteer service.

In addition to the youth volunteer award, Johnson will receive the President's Volunteer Service Award which recognizes Americans of all ages who have volunteered significant amounts of their time to serve their communities and their countries.

To read the names and stories of all this year's State honorees, visit <http://spirit.prudential.com>.

LC State Alum Wasson Will Read his Poetry Virtually on Feb. 17

LEWISTON, Idaho – Lewis-Clark State College alum and award-winning poet Michael Wasson will give a virtual reading of some of his work on Wednesday, Feb. 17, as part of the LC State Visiting Writing Series, sponsored by the college's Humanities Division.

Wasson's readings will be held at 7 p.m. on the LCSC Humanities YouTube Channel.

Wasson is a 2012 graduate of the college and is a prolific writer of poetry. His third book of poems, "Swallowed Light," will be published this year. His first book of poems, "This American Ghost" won the Vinyl 45 Chapbook Prize and his second book, "Self-Portrait with Smear Centuries," also earned several honors.

Wasson is a 2019 Ruth Lily and Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Poetry Fellow and a

2018 Native Arts and Cultures foundation National Artist Fellow in Literature. His works have appeared in American Poets, Kenyon Review, Narrative, Poetry, Best New Poets, and the Norton Anthology.

Wasson is of Nimiipuu decent and grew up in both Lenore and Lapwai. He graduated from Lapwai High School in 2008 and later earned his master's in Fine Arts at Oregon State University. Upon graduation, he accepted a job teaching foreign languages at 10 schools on the Koshikijima Islands off the coast of southwestern Japan. This spring, he will be teaching literature at Seikei University in Tokyo.

For more information on Wasson's reading, contact the Humanities Division at humanities@lcsc.edu or call 208-792-2297.



Michael Wasson is the author of *This American Ghost* (YesYes Books, 2017), winner of the Vinyl 45 Chapbook Prize. His poems appear in *American Poets*, *Poetry Northwest*, *Drunken Boat*, *Narrative*, and *Bettering American Poetry*.



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Sage Leighton Awarded Club Youth of the Year

Since 1947, Youth of the Year has been Boys & Girls Clubs of America's premier recognition program, celebrating the extraordinary achievements of Club members. Each year, one exceptional young person from a Boys & Girls Club rises to the role of National Youth of the Year. The National Youth of the Year serves as both an exemplary ambassador for Boys & Girls Club youth and as a strong voice for all of our nation's young people.

The journey to being named National Youth of the Year begins locally and progresses to state, regional and national levels, with an additional military phase for members of BG-CA-affiliated Youth Centers on U.S. military installations.

This year, we congratulate Sage Leighton for achieving the 2021 Youth of the Year Organizational winner. Sage will go on to compete at the state competition

on February 25th. She has already done an excellent job representing the organization sharing her story on how the Club has impacted her life.

The Boys and Girls Club was able to provide a "Youth of the Year Social" for our Youth of the Year competitor. Staff and Admin including Unit Director Josilin Peters, Program Assistant Miranda Beuke, and Teen Center Staff Montoya Pablo were able to accompany her. Sage was treated to a manicure, her favorite restaurant El Sombrero, and a shopping spree so she could have a business outfit for the Organizational Youth of the Year Competition. The Boys and Girls Clubs of the Nez Perce Tribe would like to thank Maurices for sponsoring the shopping spree for Sage and allowing her to have the whole store to herself to pick out the perfect outfit. Thanks to the discount provided by Maurices she was able to get multiple outfits.



Sage Leighton stands with her Lapwai Club Youth of the Year Award

COVID Isolation in Winter – The Perfect Storm

Our community members enjoy being together and in many cases engaged in large gatherings pre-COVID. Recently, we have seen an increase of individuals struggling with loneliness because of quarantine or isolation. More individuals share that they are suffering, especially if they do not have access or skills in utilizing Social Media. Studies show that social isolation can trigger or increase anxiety and depression. Another compounding issue is the weather and the challenge of being unable to enjoy the outdoors.

In a recent study by the CDC, it was found that one in five individuals have developed some sort of mental health disorder including Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Anxiety, Social Anxiety, Etc. Although some groups such as the elderly are at higher risks of the effects of isolation, we are seeing it across the age span. Things like having to wear a

mask although necessary, has changed the way people greet each other and rob us of a simple smile, where social distancing has taken away the important hug most of us enjoy.

Some of the ways we can care for ourselves is creating a routine of daily self-care. Accepting that this is a pandemic and will pass but for now, things are uncertain. Understanding you are not alone and many people are going through this with you. For those who are able, a simple walk or some sort of body movement can help. Pay attention to your thoughts and write them down if you find they are creating increased depression or anxiety. A therapist can help by teaching you skills to lessen those bothersome thoughts. It is also important for us to remember to reach out to our family and friends on a regular basis as we are all in this together.

If you find that loneli-

ness is affecting you negatively, please do not hesitate to reach out. A therapist can help with teaching your skills to cope or just be there to listen. This will pass and reminding yourself each day may help. We are here for you and if you qualify for outside services we can connect you with a provider.

Resources:

Nimiipuu Behavioral Health
208-843-7244
National Suicide Hotline
800-273-8255
Idaho Suicide Hotline
208-398-4357
COVID Hotline
1-986-867-1073 (text or call)
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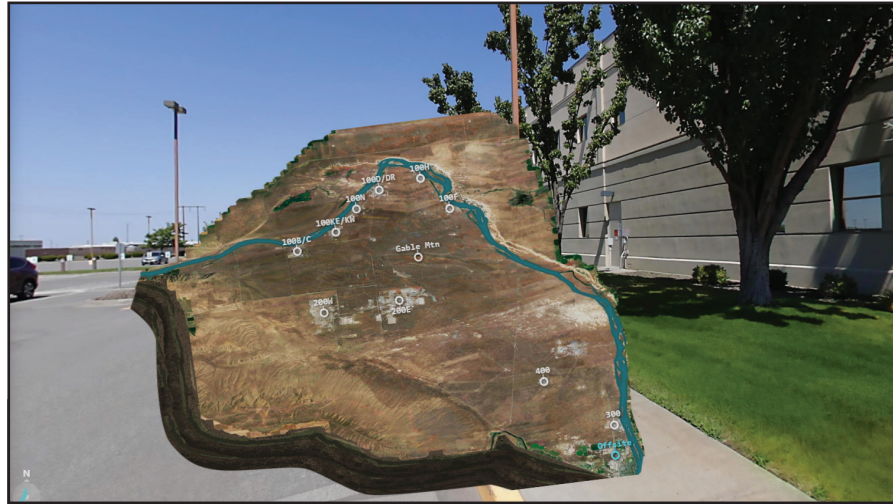
Self-guided Virtual Tours Give Public a New View of Hanford Cleanup

Richland, Washington – The U.S. Department of Energy, along with Hanford Site cleanup contractors, are unveiling a new public virtual tour platform of the 580-square mile site.

In the past, Hanford offered limited in-person public tours in the spring and summer months as a way to engage the public in the Hanford cleanup mission. Since public tours are currently on hold, Hanford Site leadership came up with the idea of a virtual tour with the intent of keeping the public involved in cleanup progress while upholding COVID-19 protocols.

Hanford's virtual tour website is designed to be self-guided and will be accessible to the public beginning January 14, 2021 from the top banner of the www.hanford.gov webpage. While on the tour, participants can "visit" up to 20 Hanford locations with 360-degree camera views, accompanied with descriptions to provide context of the various projects. The virtual tour requires the use of the Chrome web browser.

"Hanford cleanup is one of the great public works of our time. We are excited to have the tools to expand public awareness and appreciation of our important work with the virtual tour," said Brian Vance, manager of the DOE's Richland Operations Office and Office of River Protection. "Some of



A map of the 580-square mile Hanford Site shows virtual tourists the geography of past site operations and the current cleanup mission.

the locations featured on the virtual tour would not have otherwise been accessible to visitors due to the nature of our work," he said. "By utilizing technology, the virtual tour provides a superior experience and promotes public engagement."

Some of the tour stops include Hanford's 324 Building, 200 West Groundwater Treatment Project, and various structures associated with Hanford's Direct Feed Low Activity Waste program including the Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant's Low Activity Waste Facility and has additional viewing options in the navigation panel.

People who visit the new Hanford Site virtual tours webpage can get 360-degree views of locations like the 200 West Pump and Treat facility. The virtual tourist can click on Information and Media icons to get additional details about the project.

The Department of Energy (DOE) is engaged in one of the great public works of this century at the U.S. Department of Energy, along with Hanford Site cleanup contractors, are unveiling a new public virtual tour platform of the 580-square mile site.

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Some of the tour stops include Hanford's 324 Building, 200 West Groundwater Treatment Project, and various structures associated with Hanford's Direct Feed Low Activity Waste program including the Waste Treatment Plant and tank farms.

Tiny Tots Learning Moves to Main Street

By Norma Staaf
The Clearwater Progress

KAMIAH — A wooden sign in the front entrance of the new Tiny Tots Learning says T'ac eetx papaayn' (welcome) in Nez Perce language. Owners Bobbie Jo and Santee Penney recently celebrated the opening of their new facility at 413 Main Street with an open house on Saturday, Jan. 23, after moving from their 620 7th Street location. The Penneys purchased the building

last fall and have worked to customize it, adding a kitchen so they can prepare food. Santee painted the walls in bright colors and artwork to create a fun, inviting space for children.

The Kamiah facility is the second of two centers owned by the Penneys. They opened the first one in Lapwai in 2014 and the Kamiah center in 2018. Penney said she and Santee wanted to have jobs where they could spend time with their younger children.



Play area in Tiny Tots front room. (Photo by Norma Staaf, Progress)

Flipping the switch

Once again, Lapwai Rallies Late to Beat Prairie, This Time for District Title



Lapwai guard Lauren Gould bumps into Prairie guard Ella Uhlenkott as she jumps towards the basket for a layup. Lapwai defeated Prairie 54-46 in the Class 1A Division I Girls' basketball district game on Feb. 12, 2021 in Lapwai. (Photo from Lewiston Tribune)

By Colton Clark
Lewiston Tribune

Lapwai — It was all too familiar for the defending Class 1A Division I girls' basketball state champion Lapwai Wildcats.

The last time Lapwai entertained rival Prairie, on Jan. 21, the Pirates pressured the Wildcats into out-of-sync play for three quarters — and into a late, three-possession hole.

But Lapwai hit another gear in the final period and wound up cruising to victory.

Same opponent, same place, same result.

Lapwai, the state's top-ranked team, soared back from a nine-point fourth-quarter deficit Friday, holding Prairie scoreless for all but the last 30 seconds of the frame to emerge with a 54-49 district championship win, and a berth to State.

"Both times we played them at home, we had to fight back," said second-year Wildcats coach Ada Marks, whose team didn't own a lead until there were three minutes remaining in the contest. "I don't know what it is, but in the fourth quarter,

we just flip a switch and play.

"With that adversity, to not give up — that was key right there."

Lapwai (20-1) had rediscovered its run-and-gun groove to shoot ahead with a 17-0 rally before the Pirates (19-3) scored on a layup to stop the bleeding. It was too late at that point.

With the Wildcat faithful re-energized, freshman guard Jordyn McCormack-Marks scored five of her 13 points during the spurt, and junior Grace Sobotta tallied seven of her 12 — including a 3-pointer to open the surge, then the rest coming on sealing free throws.

"We just told each other to dig deep, keep playing hard," McCormack-Marks said. "We knew we could do it. We just needed to find it in ourselves and get it going."

Astuteshotselectionand ball movement combined with a resurgent, turnover-forcing defense were the new trends that surfaced down the stretch for Lapwai, which was rushed into rash attempts earlier and outhustled by the Pirates on the glass and for loose balls.

"We were struggling, and they were worrying about the score," Marks said. "Halftime came along and we were like, 'We gotta make sure to slow it down and make them play defense.'"

Prairie's offense worked the ball around and was efficient with its attempts for three quarters. Pirates coach Lori Mader said her team became

"passive" in the fourth, and ceased attacking the basket.

"Just keep them spread out and keep going to the hole, going to the hole — we kind of went away from that," she said.

Marks noted an improvement in her defense's communication, which translated to takeaways and quick offense.

"We didn't come focused right away (defensively)," she said. "It took us a whole half to get there. When we stepped up our defense, our offense started flowing. They started hitting each other and had more chemistry out there."

McCormack-Marks, the coach's daughter, added five assists and four steals. Senior Omari Mitchell tacked on 10 points and sophomore defensive standout Lauren Gould contributed seven points, four rebounds and four assists.

Timely 3s kept the Wildcats in it when it appeared Prairie might pull away. After a 4-0 start for the visitors, Lapwai trailed by two possessions throughout the first half.

"They're very savvy. We just had to weather their storms," Mader said. "You know they're going to hit a

Continue Reading Lapwai
on Page 9



Lapwai guard Omari Mitchell jumps towards the basket for a shot as Prairie forward Tara Schlader defends. (Lewiston Tribune Photo)

Lapwai Continued from
Page 8

few 3s on us. It's awful hard to contain them, but you've got to keep your head in the game."

Prairie, from Cottonwood, was paced by sophomore Kristin Wemhoff, who slashed her way inside for 18 points. Senior Madison Shears had 10 and sophomore Tara Schlader chipped in six points and six boards.

The Pirates, who have lost only to Lapwai this season, will host Genesee at 6 p.m. today for the Whitepine League's second bid to the state tournament.

"It's always a big game when you play Lapwai, and I couldn't have asked for my kids to play harder than they did," Mader said. "It shows our character, but we'll show our real character when we turn around and play Genesee."

PRAIRIE-COTTONWOOD

(19-3)

Delanie Lockett 3 0-0 7, Kristin Wemhoff 8 2-5 18, Madison Shears 2 5-6 10, Ellea Uhlenkott 2 2-2 6, Tara Schlader 2 2-5 6, Hope Schwartz 0 2-2 2. Totals 17 13-20 49.

LAPWAI

(20-1)

Grace Sobotta 3 4-6 12, Jordyn McCormack-Marks 5 2-3 13, Glory Sobotta 1 0-0 2, Alexis Herrera 0 0-0 0, Soa Moliga 0 0-0 0, Ciahna Oatman 2 0-0 5, Lauren Gould 3 1-7 7, Omari Mitchell 3 3-4 10, Jordan Shawl 2 0-0 5. Totals 19 10-20 54.

Prairie 12 14 15 8—49

Lapwai 8 13 11 22—54
3-point goals — Lockett, Shears, Gr. Sobotta 2, McCormack-Marks, Oatman, Mitchell, Shawl. Clark may be reached at cclark@lmtribune.com, on Twitter @ClarkTrib or by phone at (208) 848-2260.



Prairie guard Delanie Lockett prepares to jump up for another shot as Lapwai guard Jordyn McCormack-Marks guards her. (Lewiston Tribune Photo)

Girls 1AdI State Tournament Bracket

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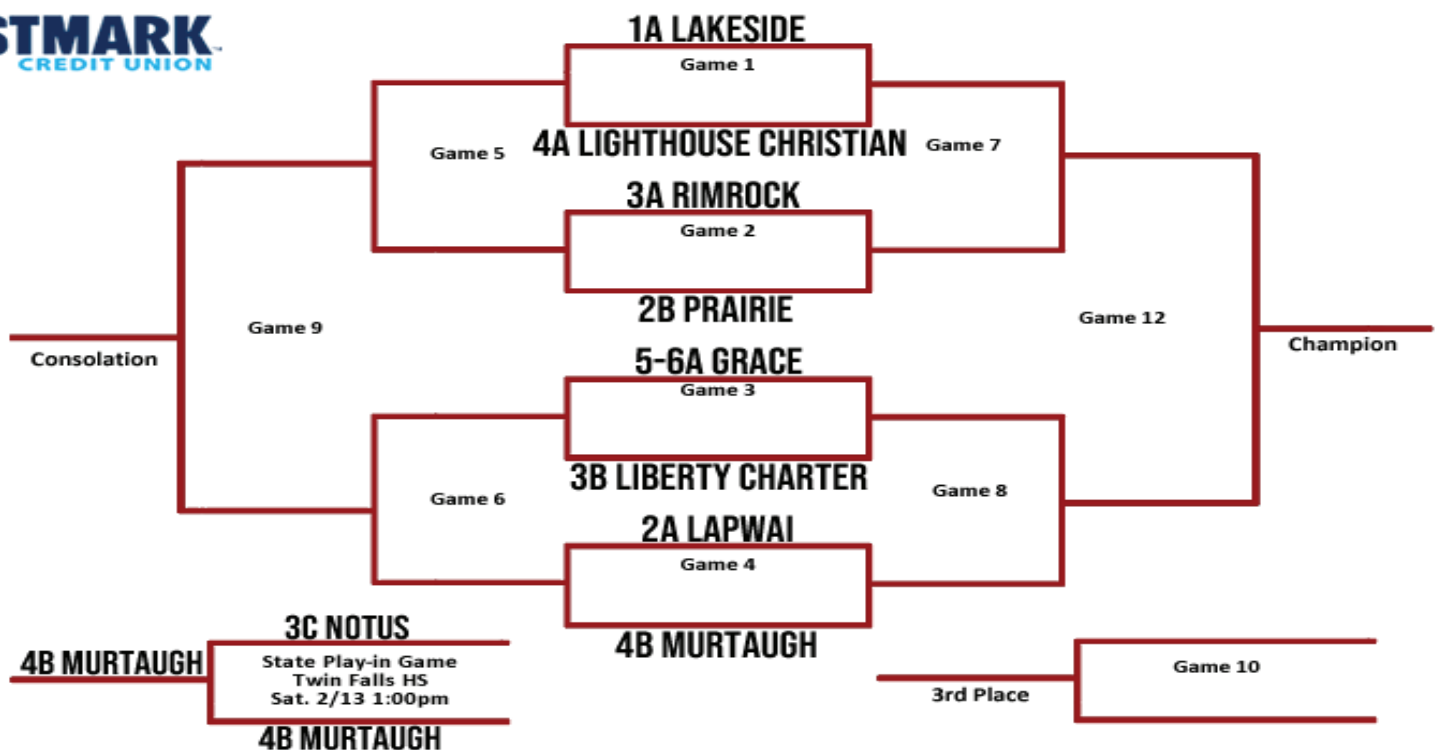
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Wednesday
Game 1 12:00pm
Game 2 2:00pm
Game 3 5:00pm
Game 4 7:00pm

Thursday
Game 5 12:00pm
Game 6 2:00pm
Game 7 5:00pm
Game 8 7:00pm

Friday
Game 9 10:00am
Game 10 12:00pm
Game 12 2:00pm
(Ford Idaho Center)



February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

By Ericca Hovie
StrongHeartsHelpline.org

In February, Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month raises awareness for the unique needs Indigenous Youth have and the impact healthy relationships can have for Native communities moving forward.

While one-quarter of all high school girls have been victims of physical or sexual abuse, a 1992 Minnesota youth study found that 92 percent of American Indian girls who reported having sexual intercourse have been forced against their will. Native American youth from 10-24 years old also make up 64 percent of suicides that happen in Native communities. Until we address the frequent occurrence and tremendous impact of Teen Dating Violence in Native populations, communities won't be able to heal from the individual grief and collective trauma.

The first step of addressing Teen Dating violence is understanding what dating violence is. Dating violence, another term for domestic violence, stems from a desire to gain and maintain power and control over a partner. An abusive partner may think they have the right to control and tell their partners what to do or how to behave. They may also feel a right to power over their partner.

Teen dating violence is abuse that takes place between teenagers and between young adults. Nationwide, almost 1 in 10 teens reports being physically abused by a boyfriend or girlfriend in the last year.

Abuse and dating violence are chosen behaviors. Sometimes we see abuse within our own families and communities growing up. More than 40 percent of children experience two or more acts of violence by the age of 18. We must not ignore that violence does happen within our communities, and oftentimes we feel ashamed to talk about it



openly and honestly. Though we know it can be painful and uncomfortable to talk about, it's important to acknowledge the experiences of dating violence and abuse so that we can begin honest conversations with young people early. This will help empower teens to speak up while alleviating feelings of shame and guilt.

We encourage parents and grandparents to talk with their teens and youth about the difference between healthy relationships and abusive ones. It's always a great time to start having these conversations, no matter what age. Establish the lines of communications early. That way, children will know they can talk to you before something happens, not after.

Teen dating violence can involve one or more types of abuse, such as:

* Physical abuse: It can include slapping, kicking, strangling or punching, threats of violence or throwing items.

* Emotional Abuse: Some abusive partners may use emotional abuse to hurt their partners. This can include name-calling or using slurs or hurtful stereotypes to put you down. Emotional abuse can include when a dating partner isolates you from family or

friends or makes all of the decisions in the relationship. They may even blame you for their abusive behavior or deny it completely, a tactic called gaslighting.

* Cultural/Spiritual Abuse: Cultural and spiritual abuse can be some of the most harmful forms of dating violence. This can look like when a romantic partner criticizes or punishes you for your cultural traditions or beliefs, tells you that you're "too Indian" or "not Native enough," or makes jokes about your blood quantum or tribe.

* Sexual Abuse: Some abusive relationships can include sexual abuse. This can look like when your partner pressures you to have sex or demands that you share sexually explicit photos or videos with them. Anytime a dating partner forces or coerces you into sexual activities without your consent, that is sexual assault, and it is never okay.

* Digital Abuse: In some relationships, social media is being used to hurt dating partners online. The signs of digital abuse can include when a partner tags you in humiliating photos, reveals private or embarrassing information about you, or tracks where you go and what you do online. Some abusive partners may even tell you who you can or cannot be friends with on Facebook or

other accounts, or demand to know your social media or phone passwords. An abusive partner may also use their cell phones to repeatedly call, text, or leave messages just to "check-in" – all of which are types of digital abuse.

The impacts of dating violence on teenagers are widespread and will last until addressed and healed. Nearly 1.5 million high school students nationwide experience physical abuse from a dating partner each year. Perpetuating dating violence is a choice and StrongHearts advocates are available to help survivors as well as help address unhealthy behaviors with those concerned about their own actions.

When you are in an abusive relationship, you may find yourself feeling anxious, depressed, fearful, guilty or ashamed. You may even begin to believe you have done something to deserve the abuse. Dating violence is never okay. You deserve to always feel safe and respected in your relationship. It is also important to remember that you always have the strength of your ancestors behind you. You are sacred. You deserve a healthy relationship, where you feel safe and loved.

If your partner is hurting you, talk to a friend or relative that you can trust about what's happening in your relationship. Advocates at StrongHearts Native Helpline are here for you, too. We are here to listen. If you or someone you know is in an abusive relationship, you can reach out to us for free, confidential and anonymous support by calling 1-844-7NATIVE (1-844-762-8483) or by chatting online at strongheartshelpline.org daily from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. CT. StrongHearts welcomes calls from teens, young adults, parents, elders, teachers, coaches, and anyone wanting to know more about how they can help.

You can also find StrongHearts Native Helpline on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram by searching "StrongHearts DV".

A Dream Comes True at Tamkaliks

By Ellen Morris Bishop,
The Wallowa County Chieftain

WALLOWA — When he first joined the board of the Wallowa Band Nez Perce Homeland Project more than 20 years ago, Joe McCormack dreamed of restoring the Tamkaliks grounds to their native condition. Today, some of the Wallowa County resident's dream is coming true.

Nez Perce Tribal Fisheries have started a half-million-dollar project on the Tamkaliks grounds that provides habitat for juvenile salmon and other fish, and will restore native plants to the Tamkaliks landscape.

"We're hoping this will represent what the river had originally been like, including a lot of braided channels," said McCormack, who works for Nez Perce Tribal Fisheries. "We need this kind of thing here, if we want coho and lamprey and the other species that we are trying to reintroduce to prevail."

The \$500,000 NPTF project, funded by both the Grande Ronde Model Watershed through the Bonneville Power Administration, and the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, got started in early January. It includes a total of about 10 acres of the 320-acre Homeland Project (Tamkaliks) property just north of Wallowa.

Work started in early January 2021. The first phase — constructing side channels along the Wallowa River and planting willows and other native plants on the banks and floodplain — will conclude in March. Camas and tule reeds, important to Nez Perce as foods and in their culture, will be included in the reintroduced native vegetation, said project director and Nez Perce Fisheries biologist Katie Frenyea.

The side channels, which vary from about 3 feet to more than 6 feet deep, are designed to be rearing habitat for juvenile steelhead, coho salmon and spring Chinook salmon, Frenyea said.



Side-channel construction is retaining as much native and existing beneficial vegetation as possible, including this tree. (Photo from the Chieftain)

"The young fish need a place to get out of the faster water in the main river channel and rest. The Wallowa River is almost like a flume here," she said. "The side channels will provide places to eat, be safe from predators, rest, and even provide a place for young fish to over-winter."

The alcoves — deeper pools where the channels and also an irrigation ditch rejoin the river — "... will be heavily vegetated to provide a lot of cover and good rearing opportunities," Frenyea said.

"This project could also help lamprey, if they decide to use it," Nez Perce Fisheries biologist Montana Pagano said.

The NPTF already have reintroduced lamprey into the Wallowa River System, releasing adults at the Wallowa's confluence with the Minam River for at least the past two years.

The quiet water in deeper alcoves would trap fine sediment and provide places for young lamprey to spend up to their first seven years as ammocoetes — larvae that live in soft sediments as filter feeders — before transforming into eel-like fish and mi-

grating to the ocean, she said.

"Potentially, the NPTF lamprey program may consider releasing lamprey directly into this project reach," Pagano said.

Today the newly excavated channels look barren. But when the project is completed, the 120 Ponderosa pine and Douglas fir trees that are now stacked at the

east end of the project will be secured in the channels to provide both short-term bank stability and fish habitat. Smaller woody debris will be added as additional channels provide hiding cover and quiet waters for juvenile fish.

"It's not a place you'll really want to use as a swimming hole," Frenyea said. "There will be lots of wood in the channels, especially in the deeper alcoves."

Other logs and smaller debris will be placed on the project's higher ground, termed a "roughened floodplain."

The topography and location of woody debris on the floodplain, have been carefully designed by project engineer Jeff Fealko, of Rio Applied Science and Engineering. He also designed the side channels. The larger logs on the floodplain will be partly buried to help anchor them in place, and their orientations will help slow and direct overland flow of any floodwaters. The roughened floodplain will also be the likely place to propagate camas, Frenyea said.

Wetland areas adjacent to the floodplains will be home to native cattails and tule reeds.



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Ryan Oatman, Seat 1



Introduction:

My name is Ryan L. Oatman and I am a proud descendent of Old Chief Looking Glass. My parents are Paula Walker and the late Kenneth Oatman, former member of the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee.

My maternal grandparents are Ron & Lois Oatman and the late Jerry Walker. My paternal grandparents are the late James Havill and Loda Sublett (Oatman). During my younger years, I grew up and attended school in Kamiah, Idaho and eventually moved to Lapwai in 1989. I graduated from Lapwai High School with the Class of 95.

Work Experience:

I have worked for the Nez Perce Tribe for 21 years, honing skills and experience in various capacities. My work history includes Fisheries, Students for Success, Headstart, the Nez Perce Tribal Enterprises, and Nimiipuu Health. For the past 11 years, I've worked in the Social Service Department; I served as the

Interim Director for Child Protection Services in 2015 and I was the director for the IVision Program from 2016 to 2020.

Education:

- * A.A. Degree from Haskell (2009)
- * BSW from Lewis-Clark State College (2011)
- * MSW from Boise State University (2012)

Volunteer Work:

- * Lapwai Days Committee
- * Lapwai Teen Nights (2011 to Present)
- * The Healing Lodge NARCH Board (2018 to Present)

Culture:

- * Enjoy Stickgames all over the Northwest
- * Fishing on the South Fork
- * Gathering huckleberries @ The Smoking Place

* Digging Qemus w/ my Grandma Maudie at Mussellshell

What I stand for:

I will always stand up and advocate for the youth of the Nez Perce Tribe. I believe our youth are our most precious gift from Creator and we must strive to invest every resource in our future: Nimiipuu Mamáayac. We cannot ask our youth to be better if we as adults do not provide better for our youth, which is why I am a strong proponent of leading by example. I also stand by all Nimiipuu who want sobriety. I was once lost in the addiction of alcohol and I am proud to say that I have been in recovery for almost a decade. I am a proud supporter of Nimiipuu Wellbriety

Shirley Allman, Seat 3



My Name is Shirley Jo Allman (Tah My Key Ute My) I have lived at Clearcreek, Kooskia Idaho all of my life, I have six children four boys Sheldon, Sonsela, Notah, Hahots and two daughters Lautiss and Timena Shebala.

My parents are the late William A Allman Jr. and mother Georgia Mae Ellenwood Allman, paternal grandparents William A Allman Sr. and Marie H. Arthur Allman, maternal grandparents Eugene E. Ellenwood and Bertha Stevens Webb.

EDUCATION:

I am a graduate of Lewis Clark State College with my Bachelor of Science Degree, Graduate of Gonzaga University with my Masters of

Organizational Leadership.

EXPERIENCE:

- * 10 + years of management at It'se Ye Ye Casino as Operations Manager.
- * 10 + years of Nez Perce Government as elected General Council committee member as Secretary, Election Judge and Resolution Committee.
- * 3 years of Gaming Regulator with Nez Perce Tribe Gaming Commission as Licensing Agent.
- * 2 years of Housing Authority as Vice Chairman of Nez Perce Tribe Housing Board.

I would like to add to the council a sense of community, to view issues with open mind to reach the best outcome for the entire membership here and in the future. To be a solid team member that helps to reach goals and accomplish matters that the people can see and feel as an accomplishment not only on paper but in their communities and homes. To elevate the performance to a standard that the membership can be satisfied with. To represent the upriver Nez Perce in a manner that improves the communication and expectations that are necessary.

Sheldon R. Allen, Seat 3



Name: Sheldon Richard Allen

Children/Parents/Grandparents: I have 2 adult daughters that live in Oregon. I am the son of Clifford and Sylvia Allen and descended from See-Lupa-Au-Yeen, who was the son of Old Joseph and brother to Chief Joseph.

City/Area: I live in the Cottonwood Creek area of Culdesac, Idaho.

Education: I graduated from Lapwai High School in 1981. I went on to NIC (North Idaho College) and was on the wrestling team there from 1981-1983. I have also attended LCSC from January 2002-December of 2007 and the University of Idaho from January 2011 to June 2011. I studied Business Administration with an emphasis in Economics and Criminal Justice Studies.

Experience: I am a United States Marine Corp Veteran. I have worked a number of jobs including time with the BIA, the US State Department, the VA, the

FAA, the DOE, for the Umatilla tribe as a Veterans Service Officer, as an Accountant for the Colville Tribe Public Works Department and in highway construction for about 18 years. I have also been a wrestling coach and a mixed martial arts instructor. I am currently the CEO and owner of a Nutrition business. What you hope to bring to the NPTEC table: I would like to bring a fresh perspective. For years I have sat on the outside looking in, knowing things need to change but not wanting to be in politics. The time for that has passed as I see things that desperately need to change, especially with our elders and our veterans. They need a voice and I hope to give them one. They deserve better care and better options for care than is currently offered and I would like to change that. I feel that the medical care we receive through IHS needs an overhaul. We need more options for our healthcare including those in the alternative fields. I am also a big advocate for the education of our youth and providing them with better opportunities for employment amongst the tribe when their formal education concludes. Semper Fi! Sheldon Allen.

Ferris Paisano III, Seat 2



Wife: Linda J. Paisano
Parents: Ferris and Frances Paisano
Paternal Grandparents: Ferris and Bessie Sarracino Paisano
Maternal Grandparents: Daniel Arthur Sr. and Rachel Penney Arthur
**Paternal great grand-
parents:** Rev. Mark & Mary Arthur
**Maternal great grandpar-
ents:** Benjamin & Mary Penney
Daughter Angela Williams Pinkham; Grandchildren Tyler, Cecelia, Sean, Juan, Solana and Jackson
Daughter Joni Williams; Granddaughter Nalani Frank
Daughter Stephanie Williams-Silver; Grandsons; Jalani Kidd and Sam Silver
Education:
K-12: Lapwai School District# 341
Lewis Clark Normal School, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Education
Continuing Education: Attended Central Washington State, University of Idaho, Gonzaga, University of Colorado and Kansas University.
Life:
Worked most of my life working a commercial cow calf operation with my family. We also raised registered quarter horses.
Retailed and wholesaled fire-works.
Owned and operated a business; a gas station and cigarette shop.
Educator:

* 1969-1972; Taught school for the Wapato School district.
* 1972-2000; Taught school for the Lapwai School District 341. Other duties while teaching included bus driver, track coach and girls basketball coach who 45 years ago won the State Class B state championship. That year we beat Lewiston and Moscow twice. Lewiston played Prairie for the Class A title and beat Prairie.
Work History: Family ranch until we sold in 1988
At the age of fourteen with a driver's license in hand I worked driving truck in the pea and grain fields for; Meacham Farms, Wagner Farms and McGregor farms and also bucked hay for area ranchers.
For two summers I worked for PFI, Potlach Forest Inc. at their plywood plant (summer) before going back to college.
* 1969: I worked for the University of Idaho's first upward bound program.
* 1976: John Spence, Marlene Salway, Jacob Big-horn and myself presented to NPTEC the possibility of starting a Tribal College on the Nez Perce Reservation.
* 1995; Worked for the first HOIST program at the University of Idaho. 1997; Worked for Nez Perce Tribal Fisheries.
* 2001-2017 worked as a Gaming commissioner and then worked for the Gaming Commission as a Gaming Agent.
* 2017-2021 worked as a member of NPTEC. Served this past year as Vice Chair for CRITFC. Served as Chair for the Law and Order Subcommittee as well as Chair of the Natural Resource Subcommittee. I also serve on the Law and Order Subcommittee, Land Enterprise as a member and served as a member on the Climate and Energy subcommittee.
POSSIBILITIES:
Enrollment; any Treaty

Tribe and all Indian CIB blood that is a quarter of more combined. Work for solar energy and other renewable energy resources for the Nez Perce Tribe.
Clean and restore, Blue North Mill Site in Kamiah for Nez Perce Tribal use for industry and governance. Continue work to enhance and restore the return of our fisheries resources; salmon, steel-head and Lamprey as well.
Work diligently with the new administration and its agencies BPA, DOR BIA, EPA AND ACOE to reduce the damage done by the last Administration.
Other:
* 1976 I was appointed to District II Magistrate Commission by Governor Evans which I still serve.
* 1977 I worked with other Lapwai Community members to Celebrate Martin Luther King Day and I'm still involved and support

Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee

Seat 1

* Mary Jane Miles
Ryan Oatman

Seat 2

* Ferris Paisano III
Louis Harris
Scherri R. Greene
July Tess Greene
Mary Tall Bull
Erik Holt

Seat 3

* Shirley Allman
Sheldon R. Allen
James R. Spencer

Nez Perce Tribe Non-Partisan Primary Election Candidate Filing was from January 15 through February 16, 2021.

NPTEC Incumbents are: Mary Jane Miles, Ferris Paisano III, Shirley Allman.

More information can be obtained at:
<https://nezperce.org/government/general-council/>

Election Judges:
Melissa Guzman - (208) 843-7332, melissag@nezperce.org
Melissa King - (208) 843-7307, melissak@nezperce.org
Nicole Two Moon - (208) 669-0115, nicoletgc@nezperce.org

(Bios and photos provided were recieved from candidates in time for publication. Any bios and photos recieved after this date can be found through the above link)

Memorandum on Tribal Consultation and Strengthening Nation-to-Nation Relationships

The White House,
whitehouse.gov

American Indian and Alaska Native Tribal Nations are sovereign governments recognized under the Constitution of the United States, treaties, statutes, Executive Orders, and court decisions. It is a priority of my Administration to make respect for Tribal sovereignty and self-governance, commitment to fulfilling Federal trust and treaty responsibilities to Tribal Nations, and regular, meaningful, and robust consultation with Tribal Nations cornerstones of Federal Indian policy. The United States has made solemn promises to Tribal Nations for more than two centuries. Honoring those commitments is particularly vital now, as our Nation faces crises related to health, the economy, racial justice, and climate change — all of which disproportionately harm Native Americans. History demonstrates that we best serve Native American people when Tribal governments are empowered to lead their communities, and when Federal officials speak with and listen to Tribal leaders

in formulating Federal policy that affects Tribal Nations.

To this end, Executive Order 13175 of November 6, 2000 (Consultation and Coordination With Indian Tribal Governments), charges all executive departments and agencies with engaging in regular, meaningful, and robust consultation with Tribal officials in the development of Federal policies that have Tribal implications. Tribal consultation under this order strengthens the Nation-to-Nation relationship between the United States and Tribal Nations. The Presidential Memorandum of November 5, 2009 (Tribal Consultation), requires each agency to prepare and periodically update a detailed plan of action to implement the policies and directives of Executive Order 13175. This memorandum reaffirms the policy announced in that memorandum.

Section 1. Consultation. My Administration is committed to honoring Tribal sovereignty and including Tribal voices in policy deliberation that affects Tribal communities. The Federal Government has much

to learn from Tribal Nations and strong communication is fundamental to a constructive relationship. Accordingly, I hereby direct as follows:

(a) The head of each agency shall submit to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), within 90 days of the date of this memorandum, a detailed plan of actions the agency will take to implement the policies and directives of Executive Order 13175. The plan shall be developed after consultation by the agency with Tribal Nations and Tribal officials as defined in Executive Order 13175.

(b) Each agency's plan and subsequent reports shall designate an appropriate agency official to coordinate implementation of the plan and preparation of progress reports required by this memorandum. These officials shall submit reports to the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy (APDP) and the Director of OMB, who will review agency plans and subsequent reports for consistency with the policies and directives of Executive Order 13175.

(c) The head of each agen-

cy shall submit to the Director of OMB, within 270 days of the date of this memorandum, and annually thereafter, a progress report on the status of each action included in the agency's plan, together with any proposed updates to its plan.

(d) The Director of OMB, in coordination with the APDP, shall submit to the President, within 1 year from the date of this memorandum, a report on the implementation of Executive Order 13175 across the executive branch based on the review of agency plans and progress reports. Recommendations for improving the plans and making the Tribal consultation process more effective, if any, should be included in this report.

Sec. 2. Definitions. The terms "Tribal officials," "policies that have Tribal implications," and "agency" as used in this memorandum are as defined in Executive Order 13175.

Sec. 3. General Provisions. (a) Nothing in this memorandum shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect: (i) the authority granted by law to an executive department or agency, or the head thereof; or (ii) the functions of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.

(b) This memorandum shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(c) This memorandum is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

Sec. 4. Publication. The Director of OMB is authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the Federal Register.

Nez Perce Tribe January Employee of the Month

Wynter Erickson- Police Department



"Wynter serves as a Detective in the Investigations Division of Nez Perce Tribal Police, she has increased the capabilities of the department especially when it comes to investigations and interviewing women and children victims. Wynter puts her best foot forward in all she does and raises the bar for all women in law enforcement. No one can accuse her of being a lazy tribal employee as she looks for work that needs to be done and is always willing to lend a hand. Which is why Wynter is well deserving of this recognition of Employee of the Month." —Marie Baheza

Western Native Voice Supports the Nomination of Congresswoman Deb Haaland

Western Native Voice, a grassroots, non-partisan social justice organization, supports the nomination of the first Native American Nominee for Secretary of the Interior, Congresswoman Deb Haaland.

Western Native Voice Director of Community Development, Rika Powaukee said, "We are looking forward to the economic growth toward renewable power development on Tribal lands by confronting climate change head on. By heritage and position, her diligence for healing the long fractured relationships between sovereign nations in a never-before-seen government to government partnership is hopeful anticipation."

Western Native Voice educates Native Americans on opportunities and strategies to expand and inspire civic responsibility that includes year-round community organizing, voter registration voter mobilization, policy education and engagement. Training

on engaging in the legislative process is also available. We ensure that the Native Voice is apart of public policy from creation to implementation. For more information on becoming a member please contact Rika Powaukee at rika@westernnativevoice.org or 208.816.2578.

Western Native Voice, established in Montana in 2011, is a nonprofit, nonpartisan social justice organization working to strengthen Native American communities through civic engagement, education, leadership, and advocacy. Find us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

Western Native Voice is a non-profit, non-partisan social justice organization working to inspire Native leadership through community organizing, education, leadership, and advocacy. WNV organizes in both rural and urban communities using a culturally tailored community organizing and citizen education model to build Native leadership.



Congresswoman DebHaaland. (Photo from haaland.house.gov)

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‘Alatam’áal | February

By Drew Mikkelsen,
king5.com

In a proposal, a statue of Native American activist Billy Frank Jr. in the US Capitol would replace one of missionary Marcus Whitman.

OLYMPIA, Wash. — Washington might have a new statue representing the state at the U.S. Capitol in Washington D.C. State lawmakers are proposing replacing the statue of missionary Marcus Whitman with one of Native American activist Billy Frank, Jr.

Frank, who died in 2014, received the U.S. Medal of Freedom and was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

He fought the U.S. government over fishing rights that had been guaranteed to Native Americans under treaties signed between tribes and the federal government.

A National Wildlife
Refuge site near Olympia is

named after Frank, who was a member of the Nisqually Tribe.

Marcus Whitman was a physician and missionary who introduced Native Americans to Christianity in areas of what is now eastern Washington in the mid-1800s. Whitman's mission near Walla Walla is now a National Historic Site.

According to historical accounts, eleven members of the Cayuse tribe killed Whitman and other settlers after he was blamed for a measles outbreak that killed half the tribe.

Whitman's statue has been on display in Statuary Hall in the nation's Capitol since 1953.

Bill sponsor Rep. Debra Lekanoff, D-Skagit Valley, said the state should preserve Whitman's statue but that it's time for a change in the state's representation at the U.S. Capitol.

"We honor the past. We recognize today, and we build

the future. And Billy has always built the future for us. The honor, he brings the respect he brings, especially during a time of COVID and a time of healing, this is who Billy is. And he has a way of bringing everyone together," Lekanoff said.

The proposal had a public hearing Monday and no one testified against the bill.

Frank's son, Willie Frank, III, now a tribal council mem-

ber with the Nisqually Tribe, said having his father's statue in Washington, D.C., would be a great accomplishment.

"To think that this young Nisqually boy who grew up his whole life being arrested for exercising his treaty rights and his tribal sovereignty, to protect our way of life, to think that that that'll be there to represent the state is amazing," he said.



A state senator from Seattle wants to replace the statue of Marcus Whitman inside the entrance to the Washington State Capitol - as well as an identical one in the U.S. Capitol - with another figure from history. (Photo from kuow.org)

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-Libba Bray

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Bill to Ban Native American Mascots Passes House Committee

By Nicholas K. Geranios,
thecourierexpress.com

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) — A bill that would ban the use of Native American mascots from most public schools in Washington was passed out of committee on Friday and sent to the full Washington state House of Representatives.

The House Education Committee voted 11-2 in favor of the bill, which supporters say seeks to end the use of Native American mascots by next Jan. 1. Two Republicans voted against it.

Supporters of the bill contend such mascots do not honor individual tribes, but dehumanize Native Americans, erase the history of genocide and parody what indigenous people look like.

The bill was introduced by state Rep. Debra Lekanoff, D-Bow, an Alaska Native who is Tlingit and Aleut and the only Native American member of the Washington Legislature.



Massachusetts protesters rally against the state flag and seal at the Massachusetts State House on July 16, 2020. (Photo from wgbh.org)

"Native Americans are not animals," Lekanoff said during a recent public hearing on the measure. "They are people."

House Bill 1356 seeks to ban Native American names, symbols and images for use as public school mascots, logos

or team names. The ban does not apply to schools located within Native American areas, or to schools in counties adjacent to Native American areas. Washington state has 29 tribes.

The bill contends that the use of such names and

symbols singles out Native Americans for derision and cultural appropriation. It fails to respect the cultural heritage of Native Americans or promote a productive relationship between governments.

The National Congress of American Indians says there are about 1,900 schools nationwide that continue to use tribal mascots. But there are only 31 in Washington state who do, Lekanoff has said.

"We have to respect everybody's culture," state Rep. Alex Ybarra, R-Quincy, said Friday in support of the bill. "We have to listen to their points of view. This bill will help that effort."

State Rep. Bob McCaslin, R-Spokane Valley, said he voted against the measure because he wanted to ensure that schools that have already consulted with tribes about the use of Native American mascots are accounted for. "There is no one-size-fits-all for every school district," he said.

Antoinette Eneas

Behavioral Health (BH)
Administrative Assistant



Please welcome **Ms. Antoinette Eneas**, or '**Toni**,' as Nimiipuu Health's (NMPH) newly hired **Behavioral Health Administrative Assistant**. Toni is an enrolled Nez Perce Tribal member, she grew up around the Lapwai Valley, but attended High School in Isle, Minnesota. She graduated from Isle in May 2007.

After High School, Toni attended St. Cloud State University, from 2007 – 2008; and then decided to transfer west, or back to her childhood home. She enrolled and attended Walla Walla Community College for a year.

Upon returning home, Toni began looking for employment and found a job at Macys. She worked for Macys, in Lewiston, Idaho, from 2010 – 2012. In the beginning of 2013, Toni was an On Call Employee at the Nimiipuu Health Clinic – filling in various positions such as an Office Assistant or an Information Technology Technician.

August 2013, Toni was on her way back east, set to attend Haskell Indian Nations University (HINU), in Lawrence, Kansas. She attended HINU from 2013 – 2015, and in May 2015 she achieved an Associate Degree in Social Work.

July 2015, Toni was rehired at the Nimiipuu Health Clinic, becoming the Patient Registration Technician, then to the Patient Care Coordinator. In August 2016, she was hired as the Contract Health Referral Specialist. Now, Toni joins the Behavioral Health Department team, as the **Behavioral Health Administrative Assistant**.

If you have any questions about the Behavioral Health (BH) Department, please feel free to contact **Ms. Antoinette Eneas**, using the information listed.

Email:
antoinette@nimiipuu.org
Phone: (208) 843-7244

Nimiipuu Health
111 Bever Grade Road
P.O. Drawer 367
Lapwai, ID 83540



Ryan Oatman

Patient Advocate



Please welcome **Mr. Ryan Oatman** as Nimiipuu Health's (NMPH) newly hired **Patient Advocate**. Ryan is an enrolled Nez Perce Tribal member and grew up in Lapwai and Kamiah communities.

Ryan has worked for the Nez Perce Tribe, on and off, for over thirty years now. He started out as a High School Intern for the Tribe's Fisheries Department, and finding his passion in Education and Social Services. Ryan began working part time with the Students for Success Program. During his time at Students for Success, Ryan developed his passion for Youth Advocacy. He was mentored by Joyce McFarland, she showed Ryan how to facilitate the Lapwai Teen Nights, held at the Pi-nee-waus Gym on Saturdays throughout the year.

Ryan worked for the Early Childhood Development Program from 2000 to 2006. Ryan graduated from Lewis-Clark State College with a Bachelor in Social Work (SW) in 2011, and completed his Master Degree in Social Work (MSW), at Boise State University In 2012. After completion of college Ryan was selected as the Coordinator for the IVision Program and worked from 2010 to 2020.

Ryan biggest accomplishment is when he decided to quit drinking alcohol and live a sober lifestyle. Ryan does not believe our Nimiipuu Ancestors needed alcohol, so why should he. Being sober has allowed Ryan to be a positive male role model for youth living on the Nez Perce reservation. Ryan also makes a connection with his ancestors by playing "Stickgames," which is a social game played for thousands of years.

If you have any questions for the Patient Advocate, please feel free to contact **Mr. Ryan Oatman**, using the information listed.

Email:
patientadvocate@nimiipuu.org
Phone: (208) 843-2271,
Ext. 2973

Nimiipuu Health
111 Bever Grade Road
P.O. Drawer 367
Lapwai, ID 83540



Prairie River District Library Update

Craigmont Library

is open 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The library is hosting a monthly book club and the pick for Feb. 12 was Remote: Finding Home in the Bitterroots by DJ Lee. Take-home five bean soup jars and children’s take-home kits will be available this month. Please call Anne at 208-924-5510 or stop by the new location at 113 W. Main.

Culdesac Library

is open 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday at from 4-5 p.m. on Thursday. Call Lynda at 208-843-5215 for more information or stop by 714 Main St.

Kamiah Library

is open 12-6 p.m. on Tuesday and 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Wednesday-Friday. February take-home bags are available while supplies last. See our display of how to say “I love you” in 20 languages in the front window. Follow Kamiah Library on Facebook/Instagram, call April at 208-935-0428, or visit 505 Main St. for more info.

Kooskia Library

is open Tuesday-Friday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. offers a take-home bag with winter crafts by request. Follow Kooskia Library on Facebook/Instagram for programs, visit 026 S. Main St., or call Dena at 208-926-4539.

Lapwai Library

is open 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Take-home craft kits with a different theme each week are also available by request. Contact Julie at 208-843-7254 for details, find the library on Facebook, or stop by 103 N. Main St.

Nezperce Library

is open 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Terra offers a monthly drive-in family story time where you listen through your car speakers. Book of the Month is still meeting with pandemic precautions. A Story Stroll has been installed on the fence outside of the school playground so stroll by and read A Bad Case of the Stripes by David Shannon through Feb. 25. NatGeo craft kits for kids are available now. Call Terra at 208-937-2458 for more info, find the library on Facebook, or stop by 602 4th Ave.

Peck Library

is open 11 a.m.-5 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday. The library serves the Peck Elementary School in daily programs, following pandemic precautions and is closed for public use during these program times of 12:30-1:30 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday. Patron computer use is available on a limited basis due to pandemic precautions. Call Doreen at 208-486-6161 for details or stop by 217 N. Main. St.

Winchester Library

is open 12-5:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday. Homework help afterschool and story time for families is available on a limited basis due to pandemic precautions. Laptop computers and Wi-Fi hot spots are available to borrow. The library is also on Facebook, call Chris at 208-924-5164 for more info, or stop by 314 Nezperce St.

Nez Perce Tribe ERWM Air Quality Program has provided PRLD libraries with lung model activity kits. Appropriate for children in K-2 with supervision or older people with less assistance, this model and accompanying material demonstrates how the respiratory system works. An instruction video can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/MO1ZIZAtHh4>.

Call your library to request one or more kits.

Visit prld.org for more information on any branch or to access your Valnet account. Masks and hand sanitizer are required to enter PRLD libraries. Curbside service is also available during open hours.

Congratulations

Jeanette Moody
University of Idaho Law School
Fall 2020 Dean’s List

Lapwai School District Notice

Lapwai School District Planning Toward Full-Day In-Person Learning on Monday, March 1st

The Lapwai School District continues to work closely with health officials to ensure the safest approach to learning possible for our students, staff and their families. We are grateful to report our approach to health and safety is working with zero contact tracing leading back to instructional time.

Beginning January 21, 2020, the Nez Perce Tribe changed its COVID-19 response to correspond with Stage 3 of the Idaho Rebounds guidelines. The Covid-19 positive testing rate is the lowest it has been on the Reservation since September at 9.2% with only 7 active cases as of January 19th. The widespread distribution of the vaccination has included extending the opportunity to Lapwai School District staff as well. Our partnership with Nimiipuu Health has provided unprecedented access to CDC health officials including a Senior Advisor, Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer, Contact Tracer, Health Communications Specialist, and Infection Prevention and Control Specialist. We also continue to consult

weekly with Nimiipuu Health Medical Director, Dr. Hartwig, and Idaho Public Health District Director, Carol Moehrle.

As local data remains reassuring, we can anticipate safely returning to full-day in-person instruction beginning Monday, March 1st. Stringent protocols for disinfection will continue. The remote only learning option will continue as well. Masks will remain required with the greatest social distancing possible in the classroom. The rigorous health and safety protocols which will remain in place are posted on our website at Lapwai.org.

Please expect additional updates to follow as we continue to consult with health officials and plan the safest transition back to full-day in-person learning possible. Please contact your child’s school or the Superintendent with questions.

Remote and Blended Learning Options Will Continue Remote and blended learning options will continue through the remainder of the school year. Please reach out to your child’s school for details.

NMPH COVID-19 Update

Nimiipuu Health Monitoring and Tracking of Novel coronavirus (COVID-19) on Reservation.
Updated 2/12/2021. Numbers are subject to change on review.

Vaccine Information:
2,000 Doses Received
1,200 Primary Doses
and 800 Booster Doses.

Vaccines Administered

1,696
Updated 2/12/2021
Source: NMPH_Covid-19 Test Results

Vaccine 1st Dose

1,099
Updated 2/12/2021
Source: NMPH_Covid-19 Test Results

Vaccine 2nd Dose

597
Updated 2/12/2021
Source: NMPH_Covid-19 Test Results

Overnight Warming Shelter Usage

Due to dropping temperatures and adverse weather conditions, the Nez Perce Tribe's community centers in Lapwai, Orofino and Kamiah will be available temporarily for use as overnight warming shelters for those in need. This policy sets forth the rules and guidelines for use of the facilities in this manner and is subject to change at any time.

This service is subject to cancellation in the event of funeral service needs.

This temporary service will be discontinued for the year, once weather conditions have improved.

Opening and Closing:

Each community center (Pi-Nee-Waus, Teweepuu, Wa-A'Yas) being used as a temporary shelter will be opened at 11:00 p.m. each evening and closed at 7:00 a.m. each morning, until further notice. An officer from the Nez Perce Tribal Police Department will open and close the facilities and perform periodic check-ins for each facility.

Advance notice will be provided of the dates when this service is discontinued for the year.

Requirements:

For use of the facility, guests must abide by the Nez Perce Tribe's COVID-19 safety protocols. This includes the following:

- Masks must be worn as much as possible
 - * Exceptions for eating, drinking or showering
- Social distancing of at least 6 feet where possible
- Regular hand sanitation/washing
- Regular wiping down of communal surfaces (i.e. sinks, toilets, etc.)

Guests must abide by the listed rules and regulations:

- Alcohol and drugs are not permitted
- Fighting and confrontation will not be tolerated
- Locker rooms are available for men and women; guests are expected to only use the locker rooms designated for their gender
- Cleaning up of space and items each morning before departure
- Guests must bring their own supplies/toiletries for the evening
- Trash must be placed in the trash receptacles provided

Any violation of these requirements may result in immediate removal from the facility and in certain cases a permanent ban from further use of the facility for this service.

Contact Austin Domebo for more information at 208-790-0857

Nimiipuu Tribal Tribune Advertisements

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,

Birthday Shout-Outs \$10 an issue. Submit obituaries for free.

To submit an article, inquire about previous publications,

or to subscribe, contact NPT Communications.

208-621-4807, communications@nezperce.org

Letters to the editor are also welcomed.

**Keep watch for Communications surveys
for a chance to win awesome prizes!**

Request to Submit Letters of Interest

The Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee ("NPTEC") is soliciting letters of interest from all qualified tribal members interested in nomination to the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council ("NEJAC") to advise the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"), and act as a liaison to the National Tribal Caucus.

NPTEC seeks to nominate an individual to the NEJAC, based on criteria set forth in the official request, including demonstrated experience with environmental justice and community sustainability issues; excellent interpersonal and consensus-building skills, willingness to volunteer their time to the committee; ability to be constructive; and having a diverse background. This will be for terms through September 2022.

Please submit letters of interest to the NPTEC, attention of Marie Baheza, NPTEC Executive Assistant, by the close of business (4:30 p.m.) on Friday, February 19, 2021. Marie may be reached at mariea@nezperce.org or (208) 621-3685. The NPTEC will choose from the letters of interest received and forward to EPA who will make the final choice of nominees.

Please see the Federal Register notice for further details at

<https://nezperce.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/2021-02-02-Federal-Register-Notice-RE-NEJAC.pdf>

NPTHA Job Posting**Grants Coordinator**

for a one-year appointment to manage the Emergency Rental Assistance Program activities and other office support functions. HS diploma or GED, two years of college, two years administrative experience, excellent skills in customer service, math calculations, typing, organizing, office machines, & proficient computers & technology skills, valid driver's license and bondable. Open until filled. Nez Perce and Indian Preference applies.

Submit NPTHA application to:

Nez Perce Tribal Housing Authority,
P.O. Box 188, Lapwai, ID 83540.

For job description or more information,
please call (208)843-2229.

Finance & Operations Manager

to administer and manage all aspects of accounting and general operations. Full time w/excellent benefits. Bachelor degree in Business or Accounting; 5 yrs experience as full charge bookkeeper; or Associate degree w/five years full charge bookkeeping in Indian Housing Program; 3 yrs supervisory, preferably property management or construction related. Direct experience in public/Indian housing accounting, banking, financing, audit preparation is desirable, applicant must possess excellent verbal and written communication skills, knowledge of human resource requirements, financial reporting, proficiency in financial software applications, and procurement practices. Salary - DOQ, Indian preference will apply, Open until Filled.

Send NPTHA job application and 3 work related references to:

Executive Director, Nez Perce Tribal Housing Authority,
P. O. Box 188, Lapwai, ID 83540.

Or email lauriec@nezperce.org.

For more information please call 208 843-2229.



Clearwater River
CASINO & LODGE

SUNDAY - THURSDAY 8am-12am
FRIDAY - SATURDAY 8am-2am

crcasino.com



BINGO! FEBRUARY 21st

February Fortunes

FEBRUARY 21ST & 28TH
10 Drawings
10am - 7pm

\$5000

Lucky Seven

Saturday's
1pm to 7pm

7x \$700

Lucky Seven GOLDEN WHEEL

Every Thursday earn 200 points to play the Golden Wheel Kiosk Game for extra entries to the Lucky Seven Drawing every Saturday!

WINTER Wonderland

EVERY THURSDAY EARN 200 POINTS TO PLAY THE WINTER WONDERLAND KIOSK GAME FOR BONUS ENTRIES TO THE MAIN EVENT DRAWING.

IT'S E-YE-YE CASINO

MAIN Event

\$5000

Saturday February 27th **4, 6, 8, 10pm**

IT'S E-YE-YE CASINO

SUNDAY - THURSDAY 9am-10am
FRIDAY - SATURDAY 9am-12am



IT'S E-YE-YE
CASINO