

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



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Spring General Council & the 2022-2023 NPTEC



2022-2023 NPTEC- Rachel Edwards, Shirley Allman (secretary), Elizabeth Arthur Attao (assistant Secretary/ treasurer), Mary Jane Miles (chaplain), Samuel Penney (Chairman), Shannon Wheeler (Vice Chairman), Casey Mitchell, Quintin Ellenwood (treasurer), Ryan Oatman

General Council was held May 5 through 7, 2022 at the Páyniwaas Community Center in Lapwai. Nez Perce Tribal members and tribal entity employees gathered for the first in-person general council meeting without COVID restrictions since the pandemic began.

More than 100 people attended day one of general council, with Alan Slickpoo Jr. presiding as chairman. A Nez Perce Tribal Police Department (NPTPD) motion was presented by the resolutions committee, which included Kayla Warden, Margarita Bull Tail, Paulette Smith and Alice Spaulding.

Several people spoke in favor of the resolution, which

would have the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee (NPTEC) request the Bureau of Indian Affairs to appoint a special officer to make recommendations to the NPTPD to bring the department up to the standard of law enforcement around Indian Country. It would also outline protocols and procedures for disciplinary actions.

Chairman, Sam Penney spoke about the executive committee’s handling of the issue and said it is working with the Department of Justice on processing a report on the police department, which the committee can then take action on. People continued to express concern and frustration about drug and alcohol abuse on the

reservation, a homeless encampment at Lapwai where many said drug use and other illegal activity is a frequent occurrence, and problems with retaliation for filing complaints.

Tai Simpson, a community organizer and acting executive director of the Idaho Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence at Boise, said she was surprised to learn of the poor relationship between victim services and the police department while exploring a federal grant that could have brought \$750,000 to the Nez Perce Tribe to work on issues surrounding missing and murdered indigenous people. She said she learned that some people are no longer calling the police, even for serious offenses like sexual abuse of children.

Simpson asked for a financial audit of the NPTPD, a community outreach plan to rebuild community trust, and asked for the policies and procedures of the department to

be made public, establishment of a community liaison officer who people can contact to track their cases and for officers to undergo advocacy and de-escalation training.

“We have to acknowledge that we have a problem without gaslighting the folks who are telling you these stories, and hopefully that’s what I can do to help amplify those stories and help build bridges for accountability and trust.” NPTPD Chief Harold Scott, defended the agency in his opening remarks and said police officers sacrifice to protect the community.

“Law enforcement is very intricate, very delicate, to the point it’s one of the most thankless jobs an officer can get into,” he said.

Problems with the department existed long before his arrival in 2016, he said, and even before the Nez Perce Tribal Police Department became

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from Front Page

independent from the Bureau of Indian Affairs in 1997. Scott said he is proud that the tribe will open its own jail in the fall that will cater to the special needs of tribal inmates.

Nez Perce Tribe's Law Enforcement Executive Officer, Kenton Beckstead acknowledged there are problems and said there is an effort underway to update the policies and procedures of the department. "It's a little frustrating. It's something I would like to snap my fingers and have it done, but for us to do it carefully and constructively, it takes time."

The police department had defenders during the floor debate. David Holt said an officer saved his infant grandchild. "I appreciate the law enforcement officers' response time because it was a matter of time, my grandson would not be alive." Nancy McCallister said police have been responsive when she has called for help. "I

don't think you should throw the baby out with bathwater. I've had really positive assistance with the tribal police."

One woman said tribal officers worked hard recently to locate the source of threats made against Lapwai schools and return calm to the community.

Recently a five year old fell off the top of a jungle gym landing on her head. Tribal officers were first on scene to calm the situation and instruct what to do until the ambulance could arrive from Lewiston to Lapwai.

As people spoke, there was often applause for statements being made in support of the resolution. Slickpoo asked if anyone had any statements against the department or arguments against the resolution, and no one came forward. The resolution then passed.

The motion for a no confidence vote was made by Henry, passed and will be forwarded to the NPTEC.

Nakia Williamson from

the Cultural Resource Program spoke in his presentation about ancestral remains found in Asotin recently.

"When these types of situations occur, we drop everything to address this issue," he said.

The staff from the program was able to respond and the remains of nine to eleven people were found, along with several hundred burial artifacts. Williamson praised the work of those involved and said the remains were handled "in accordance with the traditional way."

Williamson also noted the importance of preserving burial sites for the tribe and that some Nez Perce tribal members originated from the village site in Asotin.

Sarah Moffett and Warden presented a motion to have an amendment committee for the constitution of the Nez Perce Tribe which will create an ad hoc committee for one year to have meetings and address amendments that should be changed. The general council voted in favor of the motion and the committee will start October 1 to give time to build it into the budget. Warden brought up the lack of services in Orofino and suggested the tribe purchase the former Shopko location for education outreach in addition to other tribal services planned for the area, which received an applause. NPTEC member Rachel Edwards thanked Warden for the suggestion.

Kamiah was also mentioned by tribal members as a location needing an increase in services, especially for the youth. Other tribal members brought up issues with Child Protective Services including policies and procedures and how children are placed in care. Some tribal members expressed concern that tribal children were placed in care of Nez Perce County and not the Tribe. Others brought up experiences of services not being provided to unenrolled Nez Perce children, often because they don't meet the current blood quantum.

In addition to care for younger tribal members, some presented concerns about services for the elderly, including home care and issues within senior citizen programs.

Land management, purchase of tribal land and land allotment data not being accessible by tribal members were other issues brought forward by tribal members during discussion. Other resolutions passed by the council include one calling for an action plan to deal with alcohol and drug abuse including opioid use, another to convene a meeting of tribal landowners and one calling for a proclamation in support of missing and murdered indigenous people awareness.

Incumbents Elizabeth Arthur-Attao and Shannon Wheeler won re-election for a new three-year term to the NPTEC, and Mary Jane Miles won the third seat. Three of the nine seats are contested each spring. The NPTEC governs the tribe according to the Tribe's constitution and bylaws.

Arthur-Attao had 352 votes, compared to 219 for her opponent, Nigele Wilson-Williamson. Wheeler had a closer race with 298 votes over Mary Tall Bull with 276 votes. Miles had 347 votes over Nikesa Aubertin with 226 votes. Both Wilson-Williamson and Aubertin were first-time NPTEC candidates.

Arthur-Attao, Wheeler and Miles join Samuel N. Penney, Quintin Ellenwood, Rachel Edwards, Casey Mitchell, Ryan Oatman, and Shirley Allman on the committee. Following the election, NPTEC met briefly to reorganize for 2022-2023. Penney will continue to serve as chairman, Wheeler, vice-chair, Allman as secretary and Arthur-Attao as assistant secretary-treasurer. Ellenwood will serve as treasurer. Miles replaces Arthur Broncheau as chaplain.

As he departed, former NPTEC member Arthur Broncheau encouraged NPTEC members to "respect one another." He advised everyone to "go home with a good heart."

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.

Due to the rising cost of printing and in effort to be more environmentally friendly, we are working to cut down on the number of printed hard copies. Hard copies will now be available with a paid subscription for the low cost of just \$40 annually. Enrolled Nez Perce Tribal elders 65 years of age and older are able to receive hard copies at no cost (limit one per household).

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Jackson Sundown - A Search for History

By Lorie Palmer,
Idaho County Free Press

ACQUES SPUR — A recent Facebook post piqued my interest and led my husband and I on a Sunday afternoon jaunt to locate the gravesite of Jackson Sundown.

Jackson Sundown, or Wana'tón'cickanin', was from the Wal'waáma Band of Nimíipuu (Nez Perce). He was the nephew of Chief Joseph. At age 14, in 1877, he rode with his uncle during battle.

I knew of the famous Sundown because of his involvement in rodeos and due to his famous ride at the Pendleton Roundup and also riding at the Border Days Rodeo in Grangeville. When I heard his gravesite was close by, just past Culdesac, I was determined to find it.

Sundown, who was called Buffalo Jackson in his early years, raised a family on the Flathead Reservation in Montana before moving to Ida-

ho in 1910. He married Cecelia Wapsheli in Idaho, and settled down at Jacques Spur, six miles east of Lapwai. In both Montana and Idaho, Sundown made his living by breeding, raising, breaking and selling horses.

According to Mary Hawkins, Nez Perce Tribe, "In his late 40s, Sundown entered rodeos in Idaho and Canada. He became a favorite because he was tall, lean and handsome, wore his hair in braids tied under his chin, and always wore elegant, brightly colored outfits. Sundown's riding ability was so superior that cowboys, mostly non-Indian, would not take part in contests that he entered. Eventually, rodeo managers decided to remedy this by paying him \$50 a day to entertain the crowd, rather than enter the contests which he was sure to win."

In 1915, Sundown (age 52) placed third at the Pendleton Roundup. Sundown planned to retire from the ro-

deo, but was persuaded to enter the 1916 Roundup by sculptor Alexander Phimester Proctor, who paid his entrance fee.

Hawkins relayed that Sundown's ride at the 1916 Pendleton Roundup finals is legendary. At age 53, Sundown took on a fierce horse named Angel. Angel bucked so furiously that Sundown removed his hat to fan it. Spectators reported that horse and rider merged into one during that frenzied ride. According to one account, "The crowd went wild, and threatened to take down the grandstands board-by-board if Sundown wasn't awarded the title he had so clearly won." Sundown won the all-around event and entered the realm of myth for horse riders and rodeo enthusiasts alike.

Jackson Sundown died of pneumonia in 1923 at age 60. His memorial is located at Slickpoo Mission Cemetery near Jacques Spur. He was not considered an American citizen by the U.S. government at the time of his death. He was inducted into the Idaho Hall of Fame in 2014.

Where to visit the grave: Sundown is buried at Slickpoo Cemetery. From Grangeville, drive on U.S. Highway 95 North toward Culdesac. It takes about an hour to get there (55 miles). Drive past Culdesac and turn left on Mission Creek Road. The entrance to the cemetery is located about 3.8 miles on the left side of the road.

Note the driveway is privately owned, but is the only access to the public cemetery, so it is OK to use it. You have to park and hike up a hill a ways, but will see the large cross at the cemetery from where you park.

I read online it is not advisable to visit the cemetery in late July and August due to rattlesnakes. Note that winter might not be the best time, either. Spring makes an area of the hike across a field up to the site a little slick if it has been wet, but it is not bad.

The cemetery was formerly part of a Roman Catholic mission built in 1867, with permission of the Nez Perce Tribe's Chief Slickpoo, by Father Cataldo, who would later go on to establish Gonzaga University. Just up the road from the cemetery is the old mission church building, which is now privately owned and unsafe for anyone to go in, according to the new owner (who does not want anyone on his property); however, although there is no public access to the church, you can clearly see the building and old signage from the road). The mission, which closed in 1958, included 600 acres at one time, and other remnants of it can be seen along the road, as well, including crosses and an old school building on the right side. Everything except the cemetery is now privately owned.

In the cemetery, most of the grave markers are those of children. We were told there were at least two fires at the mission and many children died, some of whom only had wooden markers in the graveyard. The site is unkept with many grave-stones broken and the ground is very uneven on the hillside. We were also told the cemetery does not accept any new burials.

For the history buff or anyone interested in rodeo or the Nez Perce people, the trip is interesting and worth the drive.



Jackson Sundown (Wana'tón'cickanin'). (Lorie Palmer Photo)



Jackson Sundown at Slickpoo Cemetery. (Lorie Palmer Photo)

Johna Boulafentis: Her Own Story



Johna Boulafentis works for the Nez Perce Tribe's ERWM Division Air Quality Program as the Environmental Specialist. She has been with ERWN for 17 years full-time (March 2005) plus 10 weeks in the summer of 2004 as an Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) Summer Intern.

Johna's position focuses to serve and engage with communities and partners to gather and share air information that improves air quality.

The ERWM Air Quality Program began in the late 1990's and has developed into a robust tribal air program. One of their critical tasks is operating an air monitoring network. Johna and her team have year-round air and meteorological sites in Lapwai and Kamiah, and has seasonal sites from July through October in Orofino, Nezperce, and Reubens. There is also another site outside of Kamiah that monitors a number of air pollutants including ozone. Through a partnership with the public libraries on the Reservation in 2021, there are now air sensors at each location.

Another crucial responsibility is overseeing open, agricultural, and forestry burning on the Reservation. ERWM does in-house burn forecasting and coordinating with air quality and fire agencies, communicate with thousands of burners each year, and issue Air Quality

They also conduct indoor and outdoor air research, partnering with tribal homes, other Tribal programs, universities, organizations, and agencies. They provide outreach and education in school classrooms and events reaching approximately 700 students per year, and interact with adults through collaborative activities with Nimiipuu Health, Nez Perce Tribal Housing Authority, and Northwest Indian College - Nez Perce Campus.

Over the last three years, through the Volkswagen Settlement, they have assisted a few tribal programs in receiving upgraded diesel vehicles and funding towards Electric Vehicle Fast Charging Stations at Nez Perce Tribal Enterprise properties. During the summer and fall,

Johna and her coworkers are in the field monitoring agricultural burning unless wildfire smoke is bad and then working with partners on public messaging. Throughout the year, Johna leads the outreach and education efforts, mentor interns, and manage our indoor air projects and assessments. Her latest projects include expanding the partnership with public libraries and managing the radon project.

Though Johna has been in this field for a long time, she still has days or times where she doubts herself, impostor syndrome as she likes to call it. "I counter those thoughts with trying to not take myself too seriously and remember that I'm doing my best," she said.

"My main challenge at my job and in life is the mistreatment of Mother Earth. To counter that frustration, I try to focus on solutions, working together, and doing my small part for others and our planet."

Johna's current hobbies at the moment include gardening and volunteering with community groups. I also enjoys jigsaw puzzles, nerd alert!" laughed Johna. "Also 90's movies and chilling with my hus-

band and our fur babies. With summer upon us, I am itching to go camping," she said.

"Something really random about me is that I had a collection of Pepsi merchandise as a kid," said Johna. "I grew up back east and my dad was a hotdog pushcart vendor so we collected a lot of Pepsi points. I still have a cd case, but I miss the beach chair. Today, I enjoy a good glass jar that I can store things in. I have a lot of jars."

There are many people Johna would like to thank. "The school students for bringing laughter to my day, my coworkers for their dedication and support, the families who have opened their homes and shared time with me during projects, our interns who provide new ideas and skills to enhance our work, and last but not least the Appaloosa Express for getting me to work on time," said Johna.

"I would like to give a shout out to all the teachers and educators who encouraged me to not give up."

When asked what inspires her, Johna responded with one word: kindness. "Kindness inspires me. There is a lot in this world that can get us down, so I try to focus on the kindness."





Summer 2022

**ESTATE
PLANNING
WORKSHOP**

Date: Wednesday, May 25, 2022
Time: 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Place: Miyo'oxat Room, Clearwater River Casino

FREE DINNER PROVIDED (limited to 45 people)

This workshop is open to any tribal member interested in working with a Legal Intern this Summer to draft, finalize, and sign your Last Will & Testament. In this workshop you will learn what is needed to prepare for your meeting with the Legal Intern.



Sponsored by:
Nez Perce Tribe
Nimiipuu Fund
U of I College of Law

Exquisite “Matriarch” Art Piece to Reside in Nimiipuu Health Optometry

Nimiipuu Health (NMPH) is very moved and privileged to house this 30"x40" work of art in our soon-to-be new Optometry Clinic. Originally created as a submission in a Wool Blanket Design contest for a Native Owned Business, 8th generation, “Matriarch” is a breathtaking depiction of the late beloved Nimiipuu tribal elder, Loretta “Chet” Halfmoon.

The artist who created this piece is the great granddaughter of Loretta, Savannah LeCornu. LeCornu is of the Nez Perce, Haida, Athabaskan, and Nisga'a tribes. Originally from Ketchikan, Alaska, she now resides in Bellingham, Washington. She prefers to explore her artistic side digitally but also works with ink and paper, painting, and beading. Having always been an artist, LeCornu says she started to find her style around 12 years ago, inspired by places she has lived, her cultural ties, and her family. She submitted this beautiful piece along with two others for the Warrior Blanket category. It pays homage to community members and warrior women

who have fought to preserve Indigenous rights and practices, when others tried to diminish them. This included Loretta Halfmoon who fought for treaty and fishing rights of the Nimiipuu People. With the original art on a smaller scale, LeCornu has remastered it to fit the scale necessary while still upholding its great quality.

The “Matriarch” piece was spotted by Ileen Huh O.D, Supervising Optometrist at NMPH in summer of 2021 on Facebook. She says of the piece, “Having cared for her before her passing, I immediately recognized her even without the details on her face. Her powerful presence in regalia was beautiful. Her glasses stood out to me, which was not only who Loretta was, but also a part of what we do here in the Optometry department/clinic. I thought it was a great depiction of what we do here and who we are, without separation between care giver and patient.”

Medical Director R. Kim Hartwig, MD, reached out to the family for permission to



display this piece, which she thankfully received. “After seeing the beautifully and proudly created image of such a strong Nimiipuu Ayat, I reached out to Savannah and informed her of our pharmacy and optometry remodel and requested that she consider letting us display her creation. Savannah replied that she was “touched that (we) would like to display her work, especially one that is so close her heart.”” As stated previously, NMPH is very honored to have this

piece for all who enter the Optometry Department to enjoy.

LeCornu is honored that her art piece of a personal treasured family member will be on display at the Nimiipuu Health Optometry office in Lapwai. It is a striking depiction of beauty and grace and will be admired by all who enter the Optometry Department.

You can find more of Savannah LeCornu’s work at <https://www.etsy.com/shop/savannahpantsart> or @savannahpants on Instagram.

Trina
PRC Referral Specialist
Phone extension 2853
E-mail: trinar@nimiipuu.org

- Purchase order numbers
- Pre-authorizations

Trina issues purchase order numbers for referral care with outside providers.

Cheree
PRC Technician
Phone extension 2860
E-mail: chereel@nimiipuu.org

- Patient Bills

Cheree assists patients with outside provider bills.

Yvonne
PRC Claims Specialist
Phone extension 2817
E-mail: yvonne1@nimiipuu.org

- Outside Provider Claims

Yvonne reviews and approves outside provider claims for payment.

Nimiipuu Health Purchased/Referred Care (PRC)

(formerly known as Contract Health Service)

Meet Your PRC Team!

Who’s in PRC and What do they do?

Contact the PRC Staff at 208-843-2271

PRC Fax: 208-843-2687 PRC Hotline 208-621-4955

Have you received a bill for medical or dental services? Please submit the bill to the PRC office. Bills can be dropped off at the Lapwai and Kamiah Nimiipuu Health Clinics; faxed to the PRC office at fax number 208-843-2687 or e-mailed to chereel@nimiipuu.org.

Did you go the emergency room? You must report the emergency room visit to PRC within 72 hours (3 days) by contacting any PRC staff member or calling the PRC Hotline 208-621-4955. When leaving a message please be sure to provide the patient’s name and date of birth, the name of the facility where the care was provided, the date of the visit and the purpose of the visit.

Don’t know if you are PRC eligible? Contact a Patient Care Coordinator (PCC) at the Lapwai or Kamiah Nimiipuu Health Clinics. A PCC can assist you with a patient chart update and PRC eligibility.

Celiisa
PRC Technician
Phone Extension 2989
E-mail: celiisab@nimiipuu.org

- Provider Claim Status
- Provider Refunds

Celiisa responds to provider requests for claim status and processes provider refunds.

William
PRC Data Entry Technician
Phone extension 2813
E-mail: williama@nimiipuu.org

- Data Entry Payments

William enters payments to generate checks to outside providers.

Pam
PRC Supervisor
Phone extension 2836
E-mail: pamr@nimiipuu.org

Pam oversees the daily operations of the PRC Program.

Higheagle Strong Named First Systemwide Tribal Liaison to the President



Zoe Higheagle Strong, WSU's first-ever vice provost for Native American relations and programs and tribal liaison to the university president as of April 15, 2022.

By RJ Wolcott,
WSU Insider

After more than three years of serving as executive director for tribal relations primarily focused on the Pullman campus, Zoe Higheagle Strong is taking on broader, systemwide responsibilities and coordination of tribal relations and Native American programs and initiatives.

Higheagle Strong became WSU's first-ever vice provost for Native American relations and programs and tribal liaison to the university president on April 15.

"In elevating Dr. Higheagle Strong to this systemwide role, WSU is further

committing itself to better understanding the perspectives of tribal groups across the region as well as enhancing the relationships we have with these communities," WSU System President Kirk Schulz said.

In this new role, Higheagle Strong will contribute as a member of systemwide collaborative groups, bringing insights from Native American leaders and groups into foundational conversations of policy and practice.

"I'm excited to be serving in this new systemwide capacity, which allows for the inclusion of native and tribal advisory group perspectives earlier in the decision-making

process," Higheagle Strong said. "I celebrate WSU's decision to move tribal relations to the Office of the President acknowledging the sovereign status of Tribes and tangibly supporting the growing work stemmed from Executive Policy 41 – Tribal Engagement, Consultation and Consent for Joint WSU-tribal research activities and projects."

EP 41 is the first of its kind among the Pacific Northwest universities.

Higheagle Strong will continue to supervise the Office of Native American Programs, which will remain in the Office of the Provost. "The continued support and expertise of Provost Chilton as it pertains to academic and student services is also vital to improve the quality of educational services and opportunities provided to Native American students at WSU," Higheagle Strong said. She will also coordinate with and support Native American programs on all campuses beyond Pullman.

WSU also recently secured additional funding via a USDA grant Higheagle Strong is the principal investigator on to expand the university's Tribal Nation Leadership Program. The program has been enhanced to offer classes sys-

temwide and has more funding available to bring Native cultural representatives and elders to speak on campuses.

Higheagle Strong says she's looking forward to resuming visits to Native American communities in the near future as well as attending native advisory board meetings across the system. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, visits to native communities were shut down, slowing progress on the development of further memorandums of understanding with the region's tribes.

In addition to her new systemwide responsibilities, Higheagle Strong will continue to serve as director of the Center for Native American Research and Collaborations. She was recently promoted to associate professor of educational psychology, whose research focuses on social, emotional, and environmental factors that shape Native American adolescent development and educational outcomes.

Higheagle Strong is a member of the Nez Perce (Nimiipuu) Tribe. She earned both her master's and PhD in educational psychology from the University of Washington and is an assistant professor of educational psychology in WSU's College of Education.

SAVE THE DATE

June 22 & 23, 2022

GATHERING OF NATIVE AMERICANS

Gathering of Native Americans (GONA) for youth is a safe place to share, heal, and plan for action.

LOCATION: CLEARWATER RIVER CASINO

SAVE THE DATE

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‘Oxford House’ in Moscow Gets One Step Closer

Latah Recovery Center secures funding, property for sober living group home

By Rachel Sun,
Lewiston Tribune

MOSCOW — When Annaleah Vallee left the Nez Perce county jail in 2018, she would begin yet another of several attempts at sobriety.

At 25, Vallee was addicted to methamphetamine and pills after being introduced to drugs at around 15 years old, she said. Between ages 10 and 18, the Lapwai resident bounced in and out of foster care and Nez Perce children’s homes.

“It was pretty much always around from childhood, the lifestyle itself,” she said. “It’s from the time that I was a kid. And so as I got older, I see people using and drinking and stuff. It was nothing to me. To me, it was familiarity, I guess you could say.”

When she left jail, Vallee was desperate to get clean, she said. She had a son who was 7 when she was arrested, and had painfully recalled him seeing reports about her and trying to understand.

“I could just hear the hurt in (my son’s) voice, having to see and hear about his Mom,” she said. “For years, I did my best to try and cover my tracks. ... So everything just kind of came to a head when I got my last charges.”

When she got out of jail, Vallee enrolled in outpatient treatment. During her time going, she told the women in one of her groups that she had nowhere to stay, and one of them offered an opening at her house in Lewiston.

That house, Vallee would learn, was an Oxford house — a type of sober group living.

Unlike other sober houses, which are run by one overseer, Oxford houses are maintained entirely by the people living there. New members have to be voted in with at least 80% approval by current residents, and are given duties and expected to contribute financially for upkeep. Those living in an Oxford house can also be

voted out if they’re found to be, or suspected of, using drugs.

Vallee stayed in the Oxford house for a year and a half, and is three years and four months sober. She has regular visitations with her son, who lives with his grandparents. She’s also Idaho’s state outreach worker for Oxford House, which she credits for helping her reach long term sobriety.

“(The difference with Oxford House is) you might be able to fool and manipulate one person, but your entire household as a whole, if you’re having behaviors of relapse or ... just bad behavior in general, the girls are gonna call you out on it,” she said. “They’re seeing you at three o’clock in the morning, underneath your hood, throughout the morning, cleaning out your car.”

There are currently three Oxford houses in Idaho — all in Lewiston — with a fourth planned to open in May. There is also an Oxford house across the state line in Clarkston. Now, organizers in Moscow are hoping to add a fifth in Idaho, and give more people an opportunity like Vallee’s, said Darrell Kiem, director of the Latah Recovery Center.

The recovery center first started looking into sober housing a year ago, Kiem said. They received \$200,000 from the Latah County Commissioners in February to purchase a house, and approached the Moscow City Council for an additional \$200,000 at their April 4 meeting.

That decision was tabled because of a \$25,000 limit on grants to nonprofits, with plans to revise the language.

Though the center’s board is still hopeful about still getting funds from the city, Kiem said, they decided they couldn’t wait any longer. This week, an offer of \$450,000 for a property in northeast Moscow was accepted.

“We decided to take a leap of faith and put an offer on the place that we’ve been



Annaleah Vallee (left) stands with Jasmine Higheagle at the Idaho Conference on Alcohol & Drug Dependency held on May 9-12, 2022 in Boise, ID.

trying to get,” he said. “We’re taking out a mortgage and dipping into our reserves to make it happen and hoping that the city comes through with at least some money so that we can replenish our reserves a little bit, maybe set some of that money aside for working on that on the house.”

The center’s board hopes to close on the deal for the home, which is off Mountain View Road, by May, Kiem said. If they’re successful, the property could be ready for residents as soon as June. The house itself is expected to accommodate eight to 10 people.

That would likely start with a men’s facility, with plans for a women’s Oxford house in the future, he said.

Advocates for Oxford House say the model has created unprecedented success rates for long-term sobriety. In Idaho, Oxford houses have an 87% abstinence rate, said Stacie Hatfield, the Washington and Idaho senior outreach coordinator.

Research from National Institute on Drug Abuse found similar results in Oxford Houses throughout the country, with a rate of 86.5% sobriety for participants in Oxford House, and 81.5% for those who had left an Oxford house.

So far, Kiem said he hasn’t gotten any unsolicited feedback from the community. Sometimes, residents can be skeptical of sober housing, Hatfield said, but she considers Oxford houses to be an asset to the community.

“Sometimes that can be another deterrent, is landlords not wanting to rent to us, you know, drug addicts and alcoholics in recovery. Because they don’t hear the word ‘in recovery’ part,” she said.

Although there’s stigma around recovery, Hatfield says the people in Oxford houses tend to make good neighbors, and are often quieter than large families with children.

“Every single case that I have had — and I’ve been doing this for 14 years — is that (I say), ‘Give the guys a chance. ... Here’s my card, here’s my number, you can call me at any hour at any time, if anything goes sour, or sideways,’” she said. “Three months later, I get the call saying that they’re wonderful guys, and they are baking them cookies and baking them bread and the guys are mowing their lawn and shoveling their sidewalk. We don’t always get the feedback from the neighbors. But when (we do) it’s never gone to a sour point for me.”

Listen. Ask Questions. Learn

Lapwai 5th grade students interview Nez Perce elders for book project about the Tribe's culture

By Kaylee Brewster,
Lewiston Tribune

LAPWAI — Fifth grade Lapwai teacher Traci McKarcher was at a Nez Perce Circle of Elders meeting when she heard this advice: When an elder is speaking, you listen and ask questions.

"That advice was really meaningful to me and I wanted to carry that on in a meaningful way," McKarcher said. "This book was a beautiful way to do that."

The book is the project her fifth grade students are working on; it will include the wisdom and insight the students glean from interviews with elders about Nez Perce culture. It's how McKarcher is teaching them to listen and ask questions of elders. McKarcher got a grant from the tribe for her students to write and publish the book. About 15 students have been interviewing elders on a variety of topics.

The interviews began in February and students were excited to make the book and show it to their families.

"At the end of fifth grade, you get a memory," Leilani Penney said.

Some of the students like Himiim Powaukee and Ryker Samuels have already completed their interviews. Powaukee talked to an elder about dug-out canoes and Samuels interviewed an elder about powwows a couple of weeks ago.

Other students like Karvehl Bisbee and Josephine Arthur still have their interviews to do. Arthur's topic is Mud Springs, a camp she goes to every year. She came up with the idea from her mom and "I got an elder in our family that owns it," she said.

Some of the students like Jaleia Sonneck and Dawson Whitman interviewed their own grandparents while others interviewed other elders. Aviana Wheeler said McKarcher asked them what they wanted



Dawson Whitman interviews his grandfather Silar Whitman on May 10, in his fifth grade class at Lapwai Elementary. The class members are interviewing tribal elders to write a book about Nez Perce culture. (August Frank Photo)

to learn about, then found elders to speak on those topics.

Wheeler and Rhianna Arthur didn't know the elders they interviewed, which they said made it a little bit harder. However, students like Whitman said it was easier and fun to have his grandpa in the classroom.

"I like seeing different elders," Kylee Yallup said of the visitors who came to the class.

"We're learning a lot about our culture," Reese George said.

Katrell Samuels said he's been learning new things like how the Nez Perce's original homeland was in Wallowa and "how rich they were with cattle."

McKarcher said the project is a way to remember and honor their culture and traditions. "I'm sure they'll remember this their entire lives," she said.

She is proud of her students for taking on the project and showing respect to the elders who come to the class. When the elders visit the students, they are each

given a gift from the class.

There were three elders who visited the fifth graders Tuesday. Jenny Williams was the first person who came, and she showed the students her weaving. She passed around hats, bags, earrings and necklaces weaved with corn husks or commercial hemp.

As the fifth graders passed the weaved items around the room, Williams pointed out details of the designs, like the Nez Perce star or ones modeled after petroglyphs. Some of the items had dyed corn husks and others had yarn incorporated into the design, some more complex than others.

"The simple design is just as pretty as the intricate design," she said.

Williams showed students the hemp she uses and described how she uses corn husks so they could learn about the weaving process from start to finish. As part of that process, she brought a hat she was working on that Sonneck tried on.

"It's hard to imagine the time it takes," Williams said about finishing a weaving project.

Whitman interviewed his grandpa, Silas Whitman, about first-kill ceremonies. Silas had his own first kill-ceremony when he was 10 years old, 70 years ago, and has helped in about 20 ceremonies.

He said the ceremony is important in recognizing the achievement of the hunter because they are providing for their families and the tribe. Sometimes a person adopts a name at their first-kill ceremony. Other people help with field dressing the animal and some of the food is given to older people or families in need. There are also prayers and songs given in thanks for the animal.

"It brings families together," Silas said of the ceremony. "It helps people. You're a helper; you help your people survive."

At the interview, Silas gave his grandson Dawson a

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necklace made from antlers for catching his first salmon. He placed the necklace on Dawson and congratulated him on the catch and practicing with the net and hook.

Silas, the chairman for the Circle of Elders, repeated the statement given to McKarcher when Dawson asked what advice he would give young people.

"To ask the questions and know what the customs of our people are," Silas said. "Ask the questions. There's no such thing as a stupid question, just a stupid answer. And I hope I can give you the answers."

Silas encouraged the students to learn how to dig roots, help in berry picking and participate in the dances that he and other elders can't do anymore.

"The power of the medicine, the power that makes me so old, is the dance of the young people,"



Kylee Yallup, from left, Reese George and Leilani Penney examine one of Jenny Williams' pieces at Lapwai Elementary. (August Frank Photo)

he said. "It charges my battery (to see young people dancing). ... You give us (elders) power when you dance."

Sonneck then interviewed her grandma, Vera Sonneck, who told the students of what life was like when she was their age. She told the students that she spoke Nez Perce in her house with her mother and father ever since she learned

to talk. "We learned to communicate in our language," she said. Now Vera said English is spoken more and it's hard for her to find others she can speak with in Nez Perce.

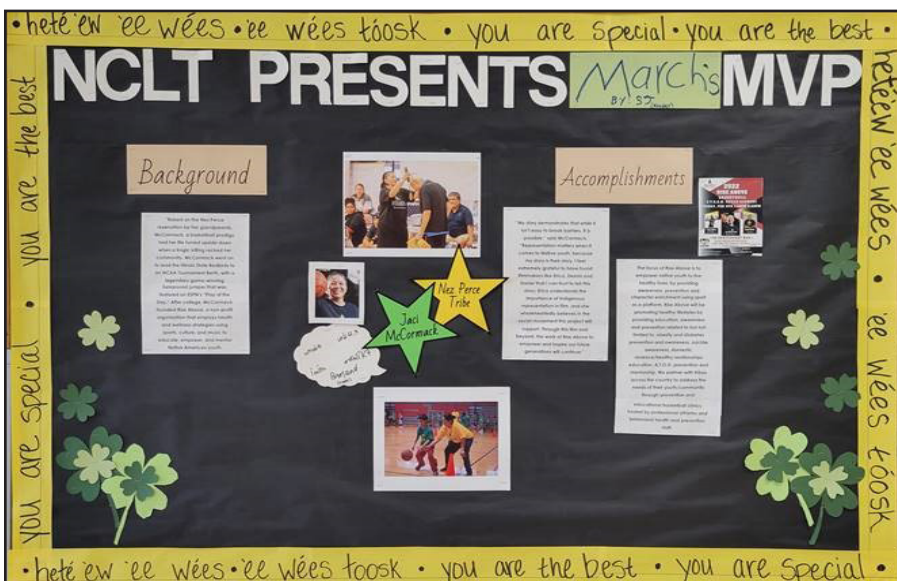
"I think it's kinda sad the language isn't spoken in the home any more," she said, and then encouraged students to learn the language and other parts of Nez Perce culture, including root digging.

Vera advised the students to build up their spiritual lives by going to church, reading the Bible and learning to pray in Nez Perce. "To pray in your language — that's powerful."

She echoed the advice of Whitman to listen and learn from the elders while they are still here. "Be with the adults to learn," she said.

Something the students are putting into practice well.

Lapwai Elementary Promotes the Accomplishments of Native Americans



The Lapwai Elementary Native Culture & Language Team's bulletin board showcasing Jaci McCormack as the NCLT March MVP. (Alicia Wheeler Photo)



The Lapwai Elementary Native Culture & Language Team's bulletin board showcasing Titus Yearout as the NCLT April MVP. (Alicia Wheeler Photo)

By Alicia Wheeler, STEP Technical Assistance Coach

Lapwai, ID- The Nez Perce State Tribal Education Partnership (STEP) Program partners with the Lapwai and Kamiah school districts to form Native Culture & Language teams at the Elementary and Middle/High School levels. The teams are com-

prised of community members, school staff, and administrators. Each team uses the fourteen Native Star Culture & Language Indicators to create an action plan. The indicators are broken down into three areas: Providing leadership for culture and language, infusing culture and language in curriculum and instruction,

and Engaging the community with culture and language. One of the indicators is "the curriculum for all grade levels includes lessons on the accomplishments of Native Americans." The Lapwai Elementary Native Culture & Language Team came up with a unique way to show the teachers and students the

accomplishments of Native Americans. The team is using the bulletin board in the school's main lobby to highlight the accomplishments of Native American, including Nez Perce people, each month.

The pictures demonstrate ways the team gets the information out for the teachers and students to see monthly.

Breaking Silence and Finding Justice

StrongHearts Native Helpline,
strongheartshelpline.org

Highest Rates of Child Abuse: Statistically, Native Americans experience the highest rates of violence in the country, and sadly, that includes cases of child abuse and neglect. As Native peoples, we know that violence was introduced by colonizers. It is not shameful that we were subjugated by colonizers; nor that we continue to endure violence predominantly at the hands of non-Natives. Our healing has only just begun and we speak our truth so that we, and others, may find healing.

Hania's story: Born on a Navajo reservation, she was named "Hania" meaning spirit warrior. It is customary for Native peoples to honor their ancestors with children bearing a name with purpose and promise. So it was with Hania, a little girl with the spirit of a warrior.

"Every weekend, we were left alone to fend for ourselves," said Hania. "Adults would go to one house and leave their children at another so they could drink." It might not have been a bad thing to do for a couple of hours, but most times the youngins were left alone for an entire weekend.

"Our cousins would come over and we'd play 'house,'" said Hania who explained that without supervision, the children would reenact what they



saw in everyday life. It was like a glimpse into the past and the future at the same time.

Grandmother Mother: In Indian Country, it is not uncommon for children to be raised by their grandparents or even aunties and uncles. Such was the case for Hania who spent more time with her grandmother than at home. She remembers that she was not alone. Her eldest brother also lived with her grandmother. He was his mother's first-

born son who was conceived through rape. When his mother was to wed, her new husband would not accept another man's child leaving him to be raised by his grandmother.

Trauma Bond: Hania's brother didn't understand why he couldn't live with his mother and siblings. He only understood that he was an outcast. He grew up hating his mother for leaving him every time they came to visit. His feelings of hurt turned to frustration and rage. Ultimately, his spirit was crushed under the weight of feeling unwanted. Despite his anger and rage, his grandmother still loved and cared for him. In the wake of domestic and sexual violence, trauma bonds are formed - cyclical, normalized, seemingly unbreakable.

"My grandmother had that trauma bond with my uncle too," said Hania. She explained that her uncle lived only a few hours away and would come back to the reservation to visit, drink and then physically abuse her grandmother. He also abused his wife and his daughters and if that wasn't bad enough, he was a sexual predator who took advantage

of young women and children, raping them and robbing them of their innocence. This sexual violence was accepted as normal, so they silently endured the abuse. They didn't know that their silence protected him.

Grandmother's Help:

It was just another weekend, like all of the rest, when Hania spent the night with her grandmother while her cousins, aunts and uncles began their weekend binge. Whenever anyone got out of hand, grandma was depended upon to go pick up her sons before they got into trouble.

"My uncle was intoxicated and it was my grandmother's first instinct to go and help him in any way that she could," said Hania. "I pleaded with her not to because he was going to beat her up. [It was just normal for grandma to care for her children despite the potential risk]."

When grandmother returned, Hania was hiding under her mother's car because she didn't want to be near her uncle. Ultimately, she had to respect her grandmother who beckoned her to come back into the house. Her uncle was waiting and asked her to help him find some tools.

The Inevitable Rape:

"I was just being helpful," said Hania who went inside a vacant mobile home next door to her grandmother's house where her uncle once lived. "I could hear my grandmother and my [other] uncle calling out mine and my uncle's name. They were right outside of the mobile home where I was being raped."

"When he finished, he walked away like nothing happened and told me not to tell anyone," Hania continued. "I ran to my grandmother and uncle and told them that he raped me. I was eight years old when I said those words."

Tribal police were called and her uncle was arrested. From then on, Hania was told not to speak of the rape. She knew that her mother and grandmother had also been

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MARSH'S TRADING POST

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GRADUATION GIFTS, CARDS, GIFT WRAP & MORE

**Breaking Silence Continued
from Page 10**

victims of rape and didn't know how to navigate finding justice - they only knew that a price had to be paid.

Ostracism After Justice : "Other women had been sexually abused by him, but I was the only person who spoke up. I'm the only person who put someone in prison for sexual violence," said Hania who knew what had happened to her was wrong, but she didn't know that she too would pay a price for justice.

"We were ostracized by cousins, aunts and uncles because this person had to go to jail," said Hania. "We used to have birthday parties, family reunions and camping trips. Whenever I did come forward, that's when the family fell apart. That's why no one speaks up."

Transparency and Healing: Hania grew up knowing that transparency is lacking on Tribal reservations where Native peoples are reluctant, if not forbidden, to speak out against domestic and sexual violence.

"Fear of reputation, ac-

countability, not being believed and fear of change [all contribute to women being silent]. I experienced harassment and being verbally abused by my cousins. They told everyone at school - told them that I had sex with an older man," she explained adding that her mother didn't know what to do.

Her mother packed her bags and took Hania to live in Albuquerque, New Mexico where Hania's older sisters lived. Hania's father was left behind because he too was abusive. This new life away from the reservation was the beginning of a long healing journey that would eventually prepare Hania for her work as a victim-survivor advocate and as a parent.

"I think being transparent with people around you is very empowering and maybe being transparent is what people need. It's important for me to have those conversations with my children because it's part of safety planning," Hania concluded.

"My mother struggled with alcoholism. Nobody has sat her down and taught her

how to heal. My grandfather was abusive toward my grandma. It was normal to see someone get beat up. No one ever told her that this wasn't okay."

No More Silence: Native people only speak of trauma when ready to heal. We use our voice to remove trauma from our bodies with the spoken word. Though our voices have been silenced for centuries, our people still gather in trusted community driven healing spaces. We participate in sweat lodges, vision quests, sundance and pow-wows and other avenues seeking a path toward healing. It's our way of speaking to the next of many generations to come - that despite the reality of domestic and sexual violence - we are survivors. Native Americans use storytelling to share oral history, to pass down teachings to younger generations and to provide a space for healing. Talking circles can be a source of therapy where victim-survivors find common ground and help each other to navigate domestic and sexual violence. It is in these

safe spaces where the need to keep quiet dissolves and transparency can be transformative.

One-by-one, StrongHearts Native Helpline listens to stories of victim survivors with the hope of leading the way to safety and sovereignty. We believe that healing can begin with storytelling. That is why it is so important to lift their voices - especially in Indian Country where secrecy and shame are deeply embedded into the construct of life on a reservation where colonizers - the dominant society - ravaged the land and people of Turtle Island.

If you've been sexually assaulted, StrongHearts Native Helpline can help. StrongHearts is an anonymous, no-cost confidential service for Native Americans and Alaska Natives. For more information, call or text 1-844-7NATIVE (1-844-762-8483) to speak with a StrongHearts advocate. For more information about the impact of domestic violence on children visit our website at strongheartshelpline.org. Read: PTSD Effects On Native Children Who Witness Domestic Violence.



MAY IS FOSTER CARE AWARENESS MONTH

IT TAKES A VILLAGE TO RAISE A CHILD



17% of American Indian children in out-of-home care live with American Indian caregivers. Native foster homes are important to preserve cultural connections.

TYPES OF PLACEMENT:

Emergency Placement = 24-48 hours **Temporary Placement** = Not to exceed 18 mos. **Permanent Placement** = up to age 18 yrs old

PREFERRED PLACEMENT OPTIONS:

- 1) A member of the Indian child's extended family
- 2) A foster home licensed, approved, or specified by the Indian child's tribe
- 3) A native foster home licensed or approved by an authorized non-Indian licensing authority; or
- 4) An institution for children approved by an Indian tribe or operated by an Indian organization which has a program suitable to meet the child's needs.

RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR FOSTER FAMILIES:

- ◆ Monthly foster care stipend
- ◆ Assistance with household needs & clothing for children in care
- ◆ Transportation assistance
- ◆ Respite Care services
- ◆ Free classes and trainings for foster parents

FOSTER HOMES NEEDED FOR:

- ◆ Sibling sets up to 4 children
- ◆ Children ages 2-9
- ◆ Adolescents & Teens up to 17

Foster families provide children with predictability and safety during a difficult time in their life.

HOW DO I BECOME A FOSTER PARENT?

- 1) Fill out Foster Care Application
- 2) Complete criminal background check with the state of Idaho.
- 3) Medical Clearance Form signed by your physician
- 4) Home safety check completed by Foster Home Licensors
- 5) Home Study completed by Foster Home Licensors

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Federal Official Announces ‘Down Payment’ on Improving Columbia River Treaty Fishing Sites

By Chris Aadland,
Indian Country Today

Inadequate sewer and power systems, unsuitable housing or shelter, increasing crime, lack of internet or cell phone service, drinking water wells that are easily contaminated, and abandoned vehicles and boats — those are just some of the problems that have stacked up for managers of the 31 so-called “in-lieu” and “treaty fishing access sites” along the Columbia River.

The federal government created the sites in Washington and Oregon after the construction of dams on the river flooded tribal villages and fishing sites and displaced citizens of the four Columbia River treaty tribes whose ancestors had lived along the river and relied on its salmon for thousands of years.

But now, after the four treaty tribes have fought for years to be compensated for the loss of the land, the federal government says it’s serious about finally addressing the sites’ infrastructure deficiencies.

During a tour of three sites on May 3, the top federal official overseeing tribal affairs in the U.S. announced that the government would provide \$880,000 to allow for the development of a plan to upgrade infrastructure at three of some of the neediest tribal treaty fishing sites. The money will also be used to tackle immediate problems like fixing shower and bathroom facilities and removing hundreds of abandoned vehicles and boats.

“This is a down payment,” Department of the Interior Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Bryan Newland said while visiting the Cooks Landing in-lieu site on the Washington side of the river. “We’re trying to get the infrastructure here up to a place that’s fit for the people who’ve always called this place home.”

The money is part of larger project funding announcements that Newland made during his visit.

On May 3, Newland announced a \$10.65 million package to repair and upgrade Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)-owned water systems that had experienced contamination, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) violations or were at risk of failing. More than \$8.7 million will be used to address unsafe arsenic levels in drinking water on the Hopi Tribe’s reservation in Arizona, in addition to \$1.05 million to replace a deficient and deteriorated water distribution system for the Pacific Northwest’s Nez Perce Tribe.

The following day, Newland announced nearly \$10 million to augment or start six irrigation projects across Indian Country, including a \$3.74 million project on the Yakama Indian Reservation in Washington. Newland was also scheduled that day to attend a day-long event hosted by the Yakama Nation to hear from tribal leaders and community members about the missing and murdered Indigenous person epidemic and the need for more urgent federal actions in central Washington to stem the crisis.

The allocations that Newland announced come from a \$13 billion pool of money set aside for tribal communities and Indian Country projects in the \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill signed by President Joe Biden last year.

‘A historic lack of investment’: The construction of dams on the Columbia River, starting in the 1930s, led to millions of jobs, economic development for the region and cheap hydroelectric power. But the dams also meant the loss of fishing sites and villages where tribal members lived and fished for sustenance and their livelihoods, which, according to tribal leaders, has contributed to chronic poverty and unhealthy and unsafe living conditions for tribal members living along the river today.

To compensate the tribes for the loss of those traditional places, the federal government

began acquiring and developing a series of in-lieu and treaty access fishing sites to enable tribal citizens to again exercise treaty-guaranteed fishing rights in “usual and accustomed places.” Development of the last site was completed in 2011.

The sites were designed to allow tribal members to access the river on a temporary basis. But, with a lack of affordable housing nearby, many tribal citizens began living at the sites, which were far from the four tribal nations’ reservations and the services, like health care, located there. With the combination of overcrowding from unintended habitation and the federal government not providing adequate services at the sites, people at many of the sites now live in distressed, unsafe and unhealthy conditions.

When it was acquired in the late 1950s, Cooks Landing where Newland made his announcement was one of the first in-lieu sites to be developed. Between 20 and 25 Indigenous people live there year-round, a number that grows to 45 or so during the fishing season, according to the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC), which manages the 31 treaty sites.

“Access to clean water is a fundamental human right. For decades, tribal fishers have struggled trying to meet this need,” said Aja DeCoteau, CRITFC’s executive director. “The water system improvements this funding will make possible will improve the health and dignity of tribal fishers and their families along the Columbia River.”

The four Columbia River treaty tribes — the Nez Perce Tribe, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation and the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation — formed CRITFC in 1977 to help them advance their policy and management interests in the Columbia River Basin. While the Portland-based

treaty rights organization’s goal centers around protecting and restoring salmon populations, it has grown to operate a police department that is responsible for public safety at the in-lieu and treaty fishing access sites. The organization also provides basic services and management at the sites.

At Cooks Landing, the water supply wasn’t meant to handle its current level of use, and contaminated well water led to an EPA violation levied against the BIA in 2019, according to CRITFC. A new well has since been drilled.

In addition, the wastewater system, which requires frequent and costly pumping, also needs to be upgraded, and there’s no nearby fire hydrant to help extinguish fires. The bathroom and showers are also in need of improvements. And despite clean-up attempts, abandoned vehicles and other types of discarded property quickly accumulate among the trailers, campers and small shacks that site residents call home.

During his tour, Newland said the condition of the site and the well contamination weren’t the fault of those who lived there, but instead the “result of a historic lack of investment in the basic infrastructure here.”

“You don’t have to spend a lot of time here to see that ... infrastructure is lacking, so I’m really glad and excited that we’re able to make this investment,” Newland, who is a citizen of the Bay Mills Indian Community, said.

Attempts to fix the problems: CRITFC employees on the tour said conditions at the sites vary, but the need for the federal government to address basic infrastructure needs is apparent at all.

The \$880,000 isn’t the first attempt to address issues at the sites in recent years.

In 2019, Biden signed a bill spearheaded by Congressional Democrats in the Pa-

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cific Northwest that dedicated \$11 million to begin addressing unmet federal obligations to maintain the sites through safety and infrastructure projects like electric hookup improvements and the hiring of more police officers.

The legislation also called for the sites to be studied. CRITFC recently started the assessment, which will lead to recommendations for improvements and determine usage levels, current conditions and deficiencies at the sites, as well as cost estimates for improvements. A final report is expected this summer.

When the need for basic services became more glaring during the COVID-19 pandemic, CRITFC began offering some basic healthcare measures like administering vaccines and partnering with local healthcare provider One Community Health and the Oregon Community Foundation to buy and outfit a mobile medical van.

Another urgent need, according to CRITFC, is affordable housing that allows access to the sites and gives residents a safe, adequate place to live near the river. Instead, many tribal members have used the sites, including the one Newland toured with an Indian Country Today and Underscore.news reporter, as long-term or permanent housing in small plywood shacks, trailers or campers. Neither the 2019 legislation nor the recent announcements from Newland addressed housing.

The Yakama Nation is working on an affordable housing development near the river on the Washington side in Wishram Heights. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is also developing a plan to build homes for tribal citizens near The Dalles to replace homes lost to flooding due to dam construction.

The recent tour wasn't the first time high-ranking federal officials and politicians have visited the sites; Newland also toured some of the sites last fall

with Oregon's two U.S. senators.

Someday, DeCoteau envisions well-kept sites with ample access to amenities like fresh water, showers, working toilets and electricity hookups. She said the government's fulfillment of its promises would also include access to affordable housing near the sites so tribal citizens could live near the river without inundating the treaty fishing sites and overwhelming their services.

DeCoteau, a citizen of the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation and a descendent of the Cayuse, Nez Perce and Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, said CRITFC is discovering that conditions at many sites make them unappealing to many tribal members who might otherwise take advantage of them.

"People know these sites exist. They don't want to bring their kids down here, though," DeCoteau said. "How do we teach our next generation of fishers if they don't even feel safe coming

to these sites where they can catch a treaty-reserved fish?"

Jeremy Takala, who is a member of both the Yakama Nation Tribal Council and CRITFC governing board, said the hydroelectric dams have led to advances for the region, but that citizens of the four Columbia River treaty tribes and those who use the fishing sites are "getting left further and further back." The severed connections to the river resulting from the dam construction and flooding, he said, have contributed to the ongoing historical trauma many Yakama and other Indigenous people experience.

Still, Takala and DeCoteau said they're optimistic that the \$880,000 infusion, along with the two recent visits from government officials and lawmakers, is a sign the government is committed to fulfilling its promises.

"I know things don't happen overnight," Takala said at the Cooks Landing site. "But I hope that we keep moving forward to the next steps."

COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION

CRITFC IS HIRING!

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- Native hiring preference as part of our commitment to building tribal expertise, workforce development, and education.



F&G hosting “Fish Idaho Fest - McCall” on June 10

The event will be a party bringing anglers, conservation groups and resource management agencies together

If you are interested in learning about and getting more involved with fisheries and aquatic resources management in the McCall area, and having some fun while you are at it, mark your calendars for June 10, 2022 and join Idaho Fish and Game and our various partners for “Fish Idaho Fest - McCall.”

Idaho Fish and Game is hosting the event from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday, June 10 at Broken Horn Brewery, 201 Mission St. in McCall. The event includes live music; fly casting and fly-tying demonstrations; food trucks; booths from nonprofits and government agencies involved with fisheries and aquatic resources management; and more.

The purpose of “Fish Idaho Fest - McCall” is to

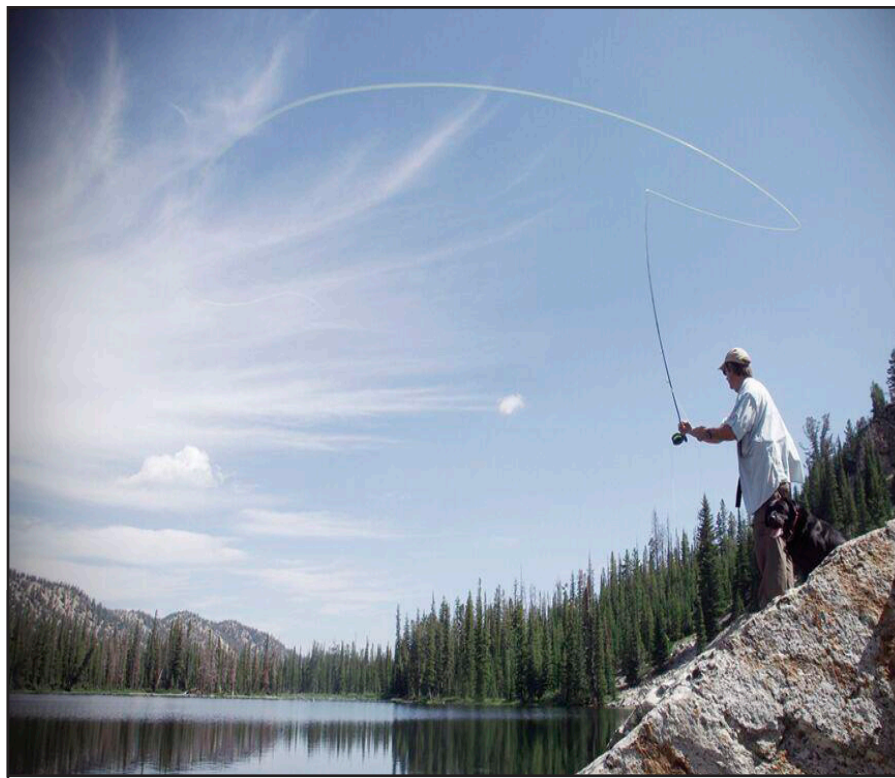


Photo by Debi Jensen

bring the various entities involved with fisheries and water resource management together in one place and provide a fun and informal event for the public to interact with these groups,

ask questions, and become more involved in the management of their resources.

“This is a party for those who want to learn more about the management of their fisheries and aquatic resources,”

said event organizer Jordan Messner, regional fisheries manager in Idaho Fish and Game’s McCall office. “We are hoping that the public comes for the festivities and leaves with a better understanding of the work all of these groups do to make fisheries and aquatic resources better in the McCall area, and with the tools to be more involved in the management of those resources.”

Sponsors for the event include Fish and Game, Broken Horn Brewing Company, Drift West, and the Reed Gillespie Chapter of Trout Unlimited.

Exhibitors include Fish and Game, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, Nez Perce Tribe, Payette National Forest, Boise National Forest, Lake Cascade State Park, Ponderosa State Park, Trout Unlimited, Friends of Lake Cascade, Big Payette Water Quality Council, and Backcountry Hunters and Anglers.



Community Meeting



Do you or a loved one have a disability?
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We want to hear from you!

The Idaho State Independent Living Council (SILC) is partnering with DAC-NW to host a community meeting.

Why are we having a meeting?

Tell us about your needs as an Idahoan with a disability

- Housing
- Independent Living Supported Services
- Transportation
- Community access
- Life Skills
- Interests

Meet SILC and Center for Independent Living staff to learn about what we do

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WHEN	WHERE
Thursday, June 2, 2022 10:30 am - 1:00 pm & 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm Light refreshments will be served	Lewiston Library 422 D Street Lewiston, ID 83501

All locations are accessible. Materials are provided in accessible formats. To request language interpretation (ASL, Spanish, etc.) or disability accommodations, call the SILC at least 10 days in advance 208-334-3800; toll-free 1-800-487-4866 or email: janey.bruesch@silc.idaho.gov



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QPR stands for Question, Persuade, Refer – Three steps you can learn to help prevent suicide. This training will teach you how to recognize warning signs, offer hope, & know how to get help to save a life.

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TIME: 2pm–4pm
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QUESTIONS?
 Contact Jennifer at jandrews@phd2.idaho.gov or call (208) 799-0367.



White House Seeks Course Change in Salmon Recovery

Senior administration members and six Columbia Basin tribes met for a ‘nation-to-nation’ talk on protected fish

By Eric Barker,
Lewiston Tribune

The Biden administration reiterated Monday its determination to change course on the decades-long, \$17 billion effort to recover wild salmon in the Snake and Columbia rivers and to uphold the treaty rights of the Nez Perce and other tribes of the basin.

But it did not say how it hopes to improve those efforts, which have yet to prove successful.

Four runs of Snake River salmon and steelhead and nine others in the Columbia River basin are protected under the Endangered Species Act. Several tribes in the basin signed treaties in the mid 1800s that ceded millions of acres of land to the federal government but reserved, among other things, their rights to hunt and fish in “usual and accustomed places.”

Senior members of the administration including Interior Secretary Deb Haaland, Energy Secretary Jennifer M. Granholm and Council on Environmental Quality Chairwoman Brenda Mallory, held “nation-to-nation” remote meetings with Columbia Basin tribes last week. Representatives from six of the tribes gathered at the Clearwater River Casino on the Nez Perce Reservation for the talks.

A four-page statement released as a Council on Environmental Quality blog summarized the discussion. It recognized federal dams as a significant source of salmon mortality and tribal injustice, while also noting the positive attributes dams provide to citizens across the Pacific Northwest.

The statement said the administration was asked by tribal governments such as the Nez Perce to breach the four lower Snake River dams. Many scientists say the dams must



be removed if wild fish are to be recovered. The statement acknowledged Idaho Congressman Mike Simpson’s dam removal and economic mitigation plan, and that Washington Gov. Jay Inslee and Sen. Patty Murray are studying the issue.

Administration officials said they were asked by the tribes to better fund salmon recovery; to give tribes and states a larger role in the effort; and to expand anadromous fish recovery to the upper Columbia and Snake rivers, where large hydroelectric dams drove fish to extinction in the mid 1900s.

“As we reflect on what we heard, we know that any long-term solution must account for the varied and crucial services provided by the dams, as well as the people, communities, and industries who rely upon them,” the administration officials wrote. “We cannot continue business as usual. Doing the right thing for salmon, Tribal Nations, and communities can bring us together. It is time for effective, creative solutions.”

Nez Perce Tribal Chairman Samuel N. Penney described the meeting as positive and said he sought to convey the urgency required to recover

salmon, steelhead and pacific lamprey. Last year, analysis by the tribe’s Department of Fisheries Resources Management found 42% of wild Snake River spring chinook populations and 19% of wild steelhead are tipping toward extinction.

“We are at a crisis state with salmon recovery,” Penney said, “and we expect the federal government to uphold their (treaty) trust responsibilities and that there is still tribal injustice to this day that needs to be addressed.”

The tribe has sued the federal government over several iterations of its plan that aims to balance the needs of protected fish with operation of the Columbia River Hydropower System. Last fall, the Biden administration announced the long-running litigation — which includes the state of Oregon and a coalition of environmental and fishing groups as plaintiffs — would be paused while the two sides seek long-term solutions. That process is expected to wrap up at the end of July. Inslee and Murray are expected to release a draft of their Snake River salmon recovery plan next month and make a final decision on breaching by July 31.

The statement that was signed by Haaland, Granholm, Mallory, assistant secretary of the Army for Civil Works Michael Connor, and administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Richard W. Spinrad said the government has also been talking with other stakeholders in the region and formed an interagency group to “identify a durable path forward that ensures a clean energy future, supports local and regional economies, and restores ecosystem function, while honoring longstanding commitments to Tribal Nations.”

Kurt Miller, executive director of Northwest River Partners, said he has twice met with federal officials about the government’s intention on changing course. He said his group is supportive of salmon recovery efforts but said Monday’s statement put too much emphasis on dams as a source of salmon mortality and ignored other factors such as ocean conditions, predators and climate change. He said his and other groups stressed that salmon survival has declined up and down the West Coast.

“We think there are ways to help salmon that don’t involve getting rid of those four lower Snake River dams,” Miller said. “We wish they had expanded the discussion to those things.”

Justin Hayes of the Idaho Conservation League at Boise, said he is happy the administration recognizes a new strategy is needed.

“They are saying we cannot continue business as usual,” Hayes said. “That is something many people in the region have been saying — tribes, conservation groups, fishing groups and even industry groups — that the status quo is not working and it’s time to do something very different.”

Readout of the White House's First Stakeholder Convening on Mining Reform

On 150th Anniversary Of 1872 Mining Law, Biden-Harris Administration Convenes Representatives from States, Tribes, The Mining Industry, Environmental Groups, Legal Experts to Discuss Much Needed Reform to Outdated Law

Yesterday, the White House convened over 20 representatives from states, Tribes, the mining industry, environmental groups, labor unions, automakers, legal experts, and other stakeholders on the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Mining Law of 1872 to discuss the need for reforms and improvements to establish strong, 21st Century environmental and engagement standards that would allow for the responsible and sustainable development of domestic hardrock minerals.

This meeting was the first external engagement of the Department of Interior-led Interagency Working Group on Mining Regulations, Laws, and Permitting, which is charged with providing recommendations to Congress on how to reform the mining law to ensure new production meets strong environmental standards throughout the lifecycle of the project, ensure meaningful community consultation and consultation with Tribal nations, and reduce the time, cost, and risk of mine permitting. Additional stakeholder meetings will be held over the coming months, and comments can also be submitted in response to the Request for Information that was issued by the Department of the Interior on March 31. Comments can be made through July 31, 2022 at Regulations.gov.

Participants discussed the shared benefits, challenges, and opportunities of reforming the current system. The General Mining Law of 1872 governs the extraction of critical and valuable minerals on federal lands across the country, and has remained fundamentally unchanged since Ulysses S. Grant signed it to promote



westward expansion. The law does not require royalties to be paid to the taxpayers for the extraction and sale of valuable minerals, does not include any environmental, reclamation or financial assurance provisions, and fails to have a single department in charge of mining, leaving stakeholders and companies to navigate a morass of systems and laws. As we grow the clean energy economy, critical minerals for electric vehicles, large capacity batteries, wind turbines, and other clean energy technologies, such as lithium, cobalt, and nickel, are projected to increase in demand by 400-600% in the coming decades. The current global supply chains for these minerals too often fail to adhere to strong social and environmental standards, despite the demands of the end customers and companies. Creating a modern legal framework for the socially and environmentally responsible and sustainable mining and production of these minerals is essential to the Biden-Harris Administration's efforts to strengthen our critical supply chains; the administration issued principles for mining reform in February to guide this effort.

After participating in the convening, participants ranging from companies, Tribes, environmental groups,

trade groups, experts, and labor unions all highlighted the importance of the discussion and common goals to improve the current system:

Tom Palmer, President and CEO, Newmont Corporation: "Newmont Corporation was honored to be a part of today's discussion with the White House on modernizing the General Mining Law. This historic gathering of diverse stakeholders, including federal and state government agencies and representatives, Native American leaders, Labor, NGOs, Academia, and consumers provided a rare opportunity to discuss updates to the Federal regulatory system to incentivize responsible domestic metals and minerals mining in a challenging global environment. We appreciate the Administration convening this productive session and initiating the discussion on the future of mining in the United States. We look forward to Newmont's continued participation and collaboration."

Jennifer Krill, Executive Director, Earthworks: "Meeting the President's climate and environmental justice goals depends on a shift in the way we source and use minerals. To ensure that our emerging clean energy system is not built on dirty mining, we must reform the rules

of the road for mining and invest in creating a sustainable minerals economy. On this 150th anniversary of the 1872 Mining Law, Earthworks looks forward to working with the Biden-Harris administration and a broad group of stakeholders to promote a rapid, just, and equitable renewable energy transition using responsibly sourced materials."

Joe Britton, Executive Director, Zero Emission Transportation Association: "We had a great conversation today with a diverse array of federal, tribal, electric vehicle and critical mineral stakeholders committed to climate action, sustainable economies, and conservation. There was strong consensus on the need to both encourage community consultation and take action that reflects the urgency of responsibly procuring the critical minerals needed for climate solution technologies. ZETA thanks the Biden-Harris Administration for leading these tough discussions and looks forward to making progress on the decarbonization needed to make us all better off."

Rich Nolan, President and CEO, National Mining Association: "The NMA was pleased today to join the Biden administration's Interagency Working Group on mining law reform at the White House. The strength of the U.S. economy depends on mining, and industry stands ready to work with the government to find a productive path forward that will help reshore essential supply chains, reduce our mineral import overreliance and build the materials industrial base needed to underpin the energy transition and the EV revolution. We look forward to continuing to contribute to the work of this important group."

Sam Penney, Chairman, Nez Perce: "The Nez Perce Tribe appreciates the White House convening the

Continue Reading White House on page 17



Nez Perce Tribe Recycling Program Newsletter—May 2022

'apaqa'áño' 'ee kaa 'epeqíicxnu' wéetesne

- Respect and take care of the earth.



Nez Perce Tribe Water Resources Division - Solid Waste and Recycling Program

Lapwai Contacts: Jon Van Woerkom . (208) 791-3965 or Linda Nemeth . lindan@nezperce.org

New Study Released: National Sword Increased U.S. Landfill Plastic

China's National Sword policy (banning import of recycled materials) caused the quantity of plastic landfilled in the U.S. to jump by 23% in 2018, the year China's import bans began to take effect.

That was the same year that our new Recycling Program began. Talk about bad timing! - We could not send plastic bottles anywhere to be recycled.

The good news is that while others threw their plastic bottles in the landfill, the Nez Perce Tribe kept collecting, sorting, baling, and storing them at our facility—for four years, waiting until there was a paying market. This spring, just as we were running out of room, the market was finally up enough. We were able to send 20 bales to market at a price of \$160 per ton! That money went to pay the freight, but the materials went to market and will be made into new plastic products.

Sometimes you just have to believe in something before it happens. Thank you community members and Tribal employees for continuing to recycle, and thank you NPTEC for supporting the recycling program and working with us to make our reservation better for future generations!

<https://resource-recycling.com/plastics/2022/04/06/study-national-sword-increased-u-s-landfilled-plastic/>

"Talkin' Trash"



Be clean, be green, be a recycling machine!



Qe'ciyéw'yew'



May is American Wetlands Month!

Check out the Lapwai Nature Trail in Sweetwater off Garden Gulch Rd. Lapwai High School students just planted more trees at the nature trail; signs are up showing the various trails; there are picnic tables and a playground. Take your lunch and go for a walk, or take the kids for a picnic!



Lapwai Recycling Schedule

Community Recycling

May 5 & 19

Páyniwaas Parking Lot , 11 am—1 pm

Office Collections

May 12 & 26

"We do not inherit the Earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children."

- Native American Proverb

Ask Dr. Per Cap: Wait a Minute



Dear Dr. Per Cap,

I have been shopping a lot lately and have run up all of my credit cards. I love to shop but I can't afford all these bills. What should I do?

Shopaholic

Dear Shopaholic,

Ask yourself this question: Do you control your money or does it control you? There are a lot of reasons why people shop. Feeling down? How about some retail therapy, as they call it – shop 'till ya drop. You might feel better for a while, but the party's over when you get that credit card bill. And then all of a sudden your money is controlling you – you are working overtime just to pay your bills.

But there is a solution – think about other ways to get that shopping fix without dropping a lot of money at a store. Me, I never met a yard sale or flea market I didn't like. But there are other things you can do too.

Ever go shopping without money? I do it all the time and it's one of the best ways I know to avoid those impulse purchases that cause people to dip into savings and add to those pesky credit card balances.

Here's how: next time you go to the mall, leave the billfold at home. That's right – no cash, no debit cards, and definitely no credit cards. Now shop till you drop! Try on clothes, test out the latest electronics, take a stroll through the food court, do anything you like, just don't spend any money. You'll probably come across a few items you think you really want and be disappointed that you don't have the money to buy them, but that's the whole point. Just promise yourself that you'll wait at least two days before you come back and buy anything. This will give you time to think about just how important those purchases really are to you. If after two days you find that you still want them, go ahead and make the purchases. But on the other hand, if you discover after two days that you don't feel that strongly, hold off for another two days before asking yourself again how important they are. Who knows? You might wind up forgetting about the stuff all together and be really glad you saved your money. Either way, even if you do go back to the mall, you'll still avoid a few impulse purchases for those items that you realize you never truly wanted in the first place.

And that means a larger balance in your bank account, fewer charges on your credit card, and more dollars in your pocket. What's not to love about shopping without money?

So next time you are heading out to the mall, stop and think – is there another way to pursue your love of shopping without letting your money control you?



TRIBAL PESTICIDE ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

PESTICIDE DRIFT OR MISUSE?

Report concerns immediately. The sooner the investigation, the better!

Eric Gjevre
Tribal Pesticide Inspector
208.686.5507
egjevre@cdatribe-nsn.gov



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Fitness Challenge Winners

Congratulations to the winners of the Nimiipuu Health Diabetes Program Fitness Challenge

Carl Oatman Jr.

Total Fat Lost & Most Inches Lost around the waist

Esteven Lopez

Most Muscle Gained

Melissa Martinez

Total Fat Lost

Sidryn Sam

Most Muscle Gained

Melissa Wilson

Most Inches Lost around the waist

Each category winner received \$300 cash
Thank you to everyone who participated!

Community Open House

Nez Perce Tribe Tourism Feasibility Study

MAY 25, 2022

Boards & Commissions Bldg.
4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Please join us to participate in our early planning for the Tourism Feasibility Study for the Nez Perce Tribe. Our consultant team from 106 Group will share some early thoughts and hear your feedback at www.106group.com

106 Group has 30 years of experience guiding the planning, management, and interpretation of natural, historical, and cultural resources. As a nationally recognized firm that connects people + place + time, they have extensive experience developing cultural tourism plans and feasibility studies for many Native communities. In addition, their team has over 15 years of experience in supporting Tribes building their tourism programs.

Effective tourism planning enhances and sustains a community's culture and well-being, while creating opportunities for economic growth. Our team nurtures the elements of a community that make it distinct and encourages new perspectives. Through effective, place-based planning and the power of story, they help their clients realize an authentic visitor experience that leads to a sustainable future for your community. 106 Group offers the right blend of skills and experience.

Items for discussion include:

- * What do you want visitors to learn about the Nez Perce?
- * What are you most excited to see for the community if tourism is developed?
- * What are you most concerned about if more tourists come to the community and region?

Please help us think about these questions. Refreshments will be available. Contact: Ethel Greene; ethelg@nezperce.org

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Nez Perce Tribe

Youth of the Month for the Different Program Areas are:


LAPWAI

Service	Sistina Lozon
Leadership	Mathias Fox
Gamesroom	Nisha Williams
Athlete	Karissa McFarland
Education/Computers	Claudia Rickman
Arts & Crafts	Amara Lawrence
Teen Center	Darwin Littlefish
Staff	Kaitlynn Connerly

STAFF SHOUT OUT



Some of the Club members that I have had some struggles with have been actually following and using certain tactics that I told them to use when faced with troubling situations. I saw a drastic and positive change in behaviors in some of our club kids, especially when they become frustrated from competitive games in the gym. They remember what I taught them and use it to calm themselves and resolve issues with each other. It is very rewarding to see the club kids progress and the difference in conflicts being resolved has changed drastically in the last month.

-Staff Jenz



Traditional
**PLACE NAME AND CAMAS IN BLOOM
COMMEMORATION**

SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 2022
1-5 PM PACIFIC TIME
PACKER MEADOWS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Lilly James, has been appointed Personal Representative for the Estate of Sanford Shelton James, Jr., by the Nez Perce Tribal Court of the Nez Perce Tribal Indian Reservation, Lapwai, Idaho.

All creditors having claims against the deceased, Sanford Shelton James, Jr., are to serve such claims upon the Personal Representative and to file them with the Clerk of the Tribal Court within two (2) months from the date of the first publication of this notice which is _____ (date.)

The Personal Representative may be served by mailing copies of the claims to him/her at:

Lilly James
PO Box 644
Lapwai, ID 83540

Copies of the claims may be filed with the court by mailing copies to:

Nez Perce Tribal Court
PO Box 305
Lapwai, ID 83540

Date of Posting/ Publication _____

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Janet M. Blackeagle, has been appointed Personal Representative for the Estate of Veda R. Blackeagle by the Nez Perce Tribal Court of the Nez Perce Tribal Indian Reservation, Lapwai, Idaho.

All creditors having claims against the deceased, Veda R. Blackeagle, are to serve such claims upon the Personal Representative and to file them with the Clerk of the Tribal Court within two (2) months from the date of the first publication of this notice which is 4-6-22 (date.)

The Personal Representative may be served by mailing copies of the claims to him/her at:

Janet M. Blackeagle
PO Box 62
Kooskia, ID 83539

Copies of the claims may be filed with the court by mailing copies to:

Nez Perce Tribal Court
PO Box 305
Lapwai, ID 83540

Date of Posting/ Publication 4-6-22 _____

Upcoming Meetings

Nez Perce Language Zoom Class

Through June 15, 2022
Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays
12:00 p.m.

<https://wsu.zoom.us/j/6637523174?pwd=V0xCR281KzVUMzIRM0F5R3ZIZG5Vdz09>

Weaver Wednesday

Through September 14, 2022
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
4-H Club House, 315 W Locust Ave, Lapwai, ID

Budget & Finance Subcommittee

1st & 3rd Wednesday
8:30 a.m.
NPTEC Chambers

Energy / Climate Change Subcommittee

1st & 3rd Wednesday
2:00 p.m.
NPTEC Chambers

TERO Commission Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, June 1, 2022
6:00 p.m.
Boards & Commissions Building, 210 A Street, Lapwai, ID

Human Resources Sub Committee

1st & 3rd Monday
8:30 a.m.
NPTEC Chambers

Law & Order Sub Committee

1st & 3rd Monday
2:00 p.m.
NPTEC Chambers

Regular NPTEC Meeting

2nd Tuesday
8:00 a.m.
NPTEC Chambers

Special NPTEC Meeting

4th Tuesday
9:00 a.m.
NPTEC Chambers

Fish & Wildlife Commission Meeting

Monday, June 13, 2022
5:00 p.m.

Natural Resources Subcommittee

1st & 3rd Tuesday
8:30 a.m.
NPTEC Chambers

Land Enterprise Commission

1st & 3rd Tuesday
2:00 p.m.
NPTEC Chambers

Please Note: All meetings are subject to change depending on holidays & unforeseen circumstances.

Certified Indian Businesses

Boss Heating & Air Conditioning, LLC

Phone: 208-743-9484

Email: oscar@bossheatingandac.com

Chantelle Souther, Realtor

Phone: 208-935-0043

Email: ChantelleSells@kw.com

D-Flagging & Traffic Control LLC

Phone: 208-451-4915

Email: dianalwarden@msn.com

D-3 Native Wood Works, LLC

Phone: 208-507-0348

Email: braddr@hotmail.com

Falcon Construction

Phone: 208-791-3882 / 208-843-2341

Email: montie.phillips@yahoo.com

Hipeexnu kii U Nuun Wisix, Inc.

Phone: 208-816-6552

Email: www.hipeexnu.org

Intertribal Terrestrial Services, LLC

Phone: 208-791-6552

Email: its.teressa@nezpercesystems.com

Jason Hendren

Phone: 208-413-1831

Email: jasonh@gmail.com

Kamiakin Systems Integration

Phone: 509-494-4474

L & R General Contracting

Phone: 208-848-6828 / 208-790-8948

Email: levijholt@gmail.com

MB Plumbing

Phone: 509-751-6018

McFarland Enterprises

Phone: 208-843-2353 / 208-816-2657

Email: michaelmcfarland566@gmail.com

Nez Perce Tourism, LLC

Phone: 208-790-8873, nezpercetourism.com

Tiny Tots Learning Center

Phone: 208-935-8587

Tribal Headway Construction LLC

Phone: 208-935-8959

Tribal Risk and Insurance Solutions

Phone: 800-274-1379

Web Site: www.trisllc.com

Verge

Phone: 208-790-0022

Email: onthevergesince1855.com

White Shield, Inc.

Phone: 509-547-0100

Email: sfricke@whiteshield.com

Womer and Associates, Inc.

509-534-4884

www.wwomer.com

WW Transport LLC.

Phone: 208-962-5926

Nez Perce Tribal Directory, Updated October 2021

Appaloosa Express Transit 208-621-4691
 Bio-Control 208-843-9374, Fax 843-9373
 Career Center Lapwai 208-843-7316, Fax 843-7387
 Child Protection Services 208-843-7302, Fax 843-9401
 Child Support Enforcement 208-843-7362, Fax 843-7388
 Clearwater River Casino 208-746-0723, Fax 746-5715
 Commodity Foods Kamiah 208-935-4115, Fax 935-4125
 Commodity Foods Lapwai 208-843-7305, Fax 843-7401
 Communications 208-621-4808
 Conservation Enforcement 208-843-7143, Fax 208-843-7148
 Construction Office 208-621-4871
 Court Kamiah 208-935-2525
 Cultural Language Lapwai 208-843-7402, Fax 843-7308
 Cultural Language Kamiah/Orofino 208-935-2525
 Cultural Resources 208-843-7313, Fax 843-7419
 Day Labor Program 208-621-3673
 Distance Learning Center Kamiah 208-935-4106, Fax 935-4126
 Distance Learning Center Lapwai 208-843-7336
 Dworshak Fish Hatchery 208-476-4591, Fax 476-3252
 Economic Development 208-621-3710
 Education Department 208-621-4610
 Enrollment Clerk 208-621-3678
 Enterprise Executive Office 208-843-7407, Fax 743-3291
 ERWM 208-843-7375, Fax 843-7378
 Executive Direction 208-843-7324, Fax 843-7343
 Finance 208-843-7317, Fax 208-843-7319
 Financial Assistance 208-621-4665
 Fire Management 208-843-2827, Fax 843-2834
 Fish & Wildlife Commission 208-843-9376, Fax 843-7381
 Fisheries Administration 208-843-7320
 Fisheries Enforcement 208-843-7143, Fax 843-7148
 Forestry 208-843-7328, Fax 843-7329
 Gaming Commission 208-621-2254, Fax 743-3291
 Harvest Division 208-621-4634, Fax 208-843-7322
 Housekeeping Lapwai 208-843-7415, Fax 843-7379
 Housekeeping Kamiah 208-621-3628
 Human Resources 208-843-7332, Fax 208-843-7414
 Information Systems 208-843-7307, Fax 843-7309
 It'se Ye-Ye Casino 208-935-7955
 Joseph Fisheries Field Office 541-432-2500
 Judicial Services 208-843-7338, Fax 843-7337
 Kooskia Fish Hatchery 208-926-4272, Fax 926-4574
 KIYE 88.7 & 105.5 FM Office: 208-935-9142, Toll Free: 877-304-4320
 Land Services 208-843-7392, Fax 843-7391
 Lapwai Boys & Girls Club 208-843-9371, Fax 843-9370
 Law and Justice Department 208-843-7338, Fax 843-7337
 Maintenance Lapwai 208-843-7405, Fax 843-7379
 Maintenance Kamiah 208-621-3639
 Mamáy'asnim Hitéemenwees Kamiah 208-935-2888, Fax 935-2882
 Mamáy'asnim Hitéemenwees Lapwai 208-843-7330, Fax 843-7383
 McCall Fisheries Field Office 208-634-5290

Natural Resources 208-843-7400, Fax 843-7418
 Nez Perce Camas Express 208-924-6992
 Nez Perce County Dispatch 208-799-3131
 Nez Perce Express 208-746-6225
 Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery 208-621-3508
 Nez Perce Tribe National Historical Park 208-843-7001, Fax 843-7003
 Nimiipuu Community Development Fund 208-621-3729, Fax 621-3748
 Nimiipuu Health Kamiah 208-935-0733, Fax 935-1005
 Nimiipuu Health Lapwai 208-843-2253
 NMPH Community Health 208-843-9375
 NMPH Behavioral Health 208-843-7244
 NMPH Human Resources 208-621-4950
 NMPH Optometry 208-621-4965
 NMPH Patient Advocate 208-621-5009
 NMPH Pharmacy 208-621-4963
 NPT Housing Kamiah 208-935-2144, Fax 935-5167
 NPT Housing Lapwai 208-843-2229, Fax 843-2973
 NPT Transportation Program 208-621-3682
 NPTEC 208-843-7342 Fax 843-7354
 NPTEC Support Staff 843-2253 Fax 843-7354
 Office of Legal Council 208-843-7355, Fax 843-7377
 Orofino Fisheries Field Office 208-476-7417
 Páyniwaas Café 208-790-6358
 Páyniwaas Center 208-843-7360, Fax 843-7354
 Probation 208-621-3518
 Production Division 208-621-4634, Fax 208-843-2351
 Prosecutor 208-843-7361, Fax 843-5083
 Qemes Cafe (Kamiah) 208-935-7873
 Red Wolf Golf Club 509-758-2547
 Research Division 208-621-3556
 Senior Citizens 208-843-7311, Fax 843-7410
 Social Services 208-843-2463, Fax 843-7364
 Students For Success Kamiah 208-935-4109, Fax 935-4120
 Students For Success Lapwai 208-843-7303, Fax 843-7387
 TANF 208-843-2464, Fax 843-7137
 TERO Kamiah 208-935-4703, Fax 935-4120
 TERO Lapwai 208-843-7363, Fax 843-7365
 Tewéepuu Center 208-476-7407, Fax 476-5578
 Tribal Police Law Enforcement Kamiah 208-935-4107, Fax 935-7897
 Tribal Police Law Enforcement Lapwai 208-843-7141, Fax 843-5337
 U of I Extension 208-791-4087
 Úuyit Kimti (New Beginnings) 208-621-4778
 Veterans Program 208-621-4738
 Vocational Rehabilitation Kamiah 208-621-4817, Fax 935-0540
 Vocational Rehabilitation Lapwai 208-843-9395, Fax 843-9396
 Water Resources 208-843-7368, Fax 843-7371
 Watershed Division 208-621-3525, Fax 843-9192
 Wéeyes Center 208-935-2525, Fax 935-4100
 Wildlife-Lapwai 208-843-2162, Fax 843-2427
 Wireless Department 208-621-3590
 Zims Hot Springs 208-347-2686

Clearwater River CASINO & LODGE

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OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK 7AM - 3AM

Memorial

• DAY • GIVEAWAY

REMEMBER AND HONOR



MONDAY, MAY 30TH

Join in on the Memorial Day riches when you earn 100 points for every entry! On the day of the drawing just be actively playing your favorite video gaming machine with your Player's Club Card to be eligible to win!



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\$2,000

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