



Donation from Tribe will feed students in need



Chairman Chief Allan hands a check for the Post Falls food bank to Sherri Walliz, along with (from left) Senator Jim Hammond, Representative Bob Nonini and Representative Frank Henderson.

Chief Allan, Chairman of the Coeur d'Alene Tribal Council, announced a donation in the amount of \$35,000 from the Coeur d'Alene Tribe to the Post Falls Food Bank Weekend Nutrition Backpack Program, which will benefit students in the Post Falls School District who do not have reliable access to food on weekends.

"Hearing about kids who go without food all weekend really tugs at your heart, so when we heard about this program, we just had to help. We want our donation to ensure that the food bank can continue to feed the kids who have already been identified for this year's program and that the program will be financially able to feed even more children if the schools uncover a greater need," said Allan. "This program provides such a vital service to the community and we want to make sure that it is on solid footing for years to come," he continued.

Through the Weekend Nutrition Backpack Program, supplemental food items are provided to students in the Post Falls School District to reduce weekend hunger and provide additional nutritional assistance. "We are absolutely overwhelmed by the Tribe's heartfelt generosity - it is truly a Holiday Miracle.

This incredibly generous gift will allow us to feed our current program participants for multiple years to come. It also allows the Backpack Program to build upon a sizeable financial foundation that will help hundreds of the neediest families in our community. Our deepest, most heartfelt thanks go out to the Coeur d'Alene Tribe and Tribal Council for this incredibly moving and unexpected gift to our community," said Sherry Wallis, Executive Director of the Post Falls Food Bank said of the program.

Wallis added that there is a significant need in our community for this program and that the program is likely just scratching the surface of kids in need of weekend hunger relief. This year's program is at capacity and those children who are most at risk are being identified by school counselors.

The program's participants do so confidentially; school staff members identify students who do not have dependable access to food when they are not at school and notify the food bank each week the number of backpacks needed.

Each Friday, approximately 75 elementary students and their siblings are sent home with a backpack filled with non-per-

ishable, child friendly, nutritious food for the weekend.

State Representative Bob Nonini, Chairman of the Education Committee in the state legislature, was key in identifying the Weekend Nutrition Backpack Program as a worthy recipient in need of funding. When asked about the donation to the program, Nonini commented, "I kept hearing stories about malnourished and even homeless school kids - reports about our students sleeping in the trunks of cars - and it really breaks your heart. Too many of them are eating lunch at school on Friday and don't get to eat again until they return to school on Monday. I applaud the food bank and the school district for recognizing the problem and finding a solution. Our unending gratitude goes out to the Coeur d'Alene Tribe for their incredible generosity in providing the funding to feed these students."

Mark Jones, a member of the Post Falls Food Bank board of directors and the coordinator for the Alternative to Suspension Program for the Post Falls School District, was instrumental in helping to create the program.

"This very generous show of

DONATION: cont. on page 2

Changes on the horizon with Matheson at the helm of Casino

By Lorraina B. Smith

It has been a little over four months since Dave Matheson has regained position of Chief Executive Officer of the Coeur d'Alene Casino & Resort Hotel. He began his journey with a small bingo hall in 1994, and expanded into the Casino & Resort along with creating the Circling Raven Golf Course; he held that title until 2006. After which David LaSarte-Meeks took on the challenging position of CEO where he completed the new expansion. August 9th of 2011 Matheson came back to the place he started more than 15 years ago.

His focus upon coming back has been the gaming floor. "It is the glue of our property" said Matheson. "It has to be the center court with everything else revolving around it."

His strategy is to get costumers in that will utilize the gaming floor. Making sure that the other amenities in the establishment all revolve around gaming as well.

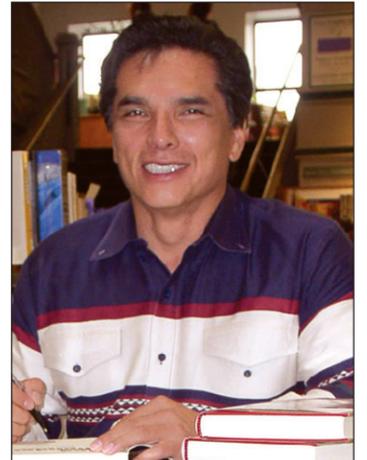
"That is where we are going to make our profit," explained Matheson. "I believe that has been the primary fundamental change in policy view, and then to get the employees on board. I think enthusiasm, and a more family approach more so then they received in the past.

There are changes Matheson wants to implement by next year. One is to convert the grass area in front of the Casino into a parking lot, and turn that into the new entry way. Add better furniture, water and rock features; make it like an atrium or green house, and possible new uniforms for the staff.

"Add new games," described Matheson. "Knock the ball out of the park come spring time."

Matheson explains that he believes in management by walking around.

"The employees can attest that I have probably walked a million miles looking at things and talking to people. Ideas are a funny thing, I think they are contagious. What I say change hands and come back and evolve



Dave Matheson

and modify over time. It is a combination of my thinking and what they've added and it turns into this kind of pretty picture."

The changes are not going to stop on the Casino floor; there are still plans to improve the golf course. Eventually he would like to make it a destination spot.

"When we built that, I felt that probably within 5 years we were going to need another one, 18 hole championship level, maybe not quiet at that level but something a little less expensive to play and still have really good quality," Matheson continued "And I still feel this way, when you can create the right ambiance and atmosphere background to an activity, plus the activity that creates great appeal in a market place, I think the golf course has passion appeal among golfers. And it is the premier golf course in the region, we can capitalize on that a little more then we have, combined that with passion appeal for the new things that we are going to be doing and then we will be this destination resort like none other."

Knowing that the Casino would not be where it is today without the support from the staff Matheson holds his employees in the highest regards.

"I believe in our employees, they have not disappointed me in one little bit but has even surprised me in what people will do if you just trust them, support them, encourage them. I have done that and they have responded a million times over what anyone could have expected."

Address service requested

Plummer, ID 83851

P.O. Box 408

Coeur d'Alene Tribe - Council Fires

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Benewah Medical Center makes changes to appointment system, hires new family doctor

By Gary Leva

Benewah Medical Center CEO

We've made many significant changes to our system over the past several months that have streamlined your ability to make medical and dental appointments and to better access some of our services. Here is a recap of those changes.

You do not need to call in the night before to make medical or dental appointments.

You may be seen in the urgent care clinic Monday-Friday, 8:30-4:30 without an appointment, for minor illnesses at times when you can't see your own provider.

An automated pharmacy prescription refill line is available 24/7 at 686-1007

Prescription Assistance for those on a limited income is available by referral from your provider

The next important service we will soon provide is full time assistance to help with completing Medicare and Medicaid applications as well as other insurance documents. We know these applications can be difficult to complete. We anticipate having a full time staff member beginning

soon to provide assistance in completing health insurance applications as well as help to identify other insurance resources that one may be eligible. It is essential to help qualify as many people as possible for insurance as this directly impacts our financial stability both in collecting third party revenue and stretching contract health dollars for those that are CHS eligible. Please call the main number and ask for the Health Insurance Specialist.

We are thrilled to announce that we have recruited another physician, Dr. Ray Paz, a Board Certified Family Physician who will be joining us full time in March, 2012. He has recently been a provider at Moscow Family Medicine so he is familiar with the tribe and our area. We will formally introduce him as soon as he begins employment with us.

We want to make you aware of a new policy that will soon be implemented. For health safety reasons and uninterrupted attention to our patients, food and drink in the exam rooms and clinic hallways as well as cell phone use in these areas will be prohibited. There have been multiple situations that have impacted our ability to provide proper care and treatment because of food, drink and cell phone use during clinic visits. We will be placing signage in our waiting area noting this policy.

In our ongoing effort to improve the patient and customer experience at BMC, we have initiated several steps internally toward this goal. One example of this is the implementation of our "WOW" Employees!!! What is a WOW Employee? WOW stands for 'Wonderful Outstanding Worker'. Our Customer Service Committee awards employees that have gone above and beyond job duties to make sure you have the best customer service experience when at the Benewah Medical/Wellness Center.

What does that mean to you as patrons of the Benewah Medical Center and Wellness Center? Watch for those employees that have received this recognition. They will be wearing a button or lanyard that indicates "I am A WOW employee". If you see this, you as a patron, can rest assured that this employee will go that extra mile to give exceptional customer service. Our obvious goal is for each employee to provide this level or customer service every time. We are working hard toward this effort.

Please note this reminder about keeping your appointments especially as we have significantly improved your access to care. In order for BMC to remain efficient and to best accommodate all

those who need to be seen for various services, showing up for your appointment is vital. The effectiveness of the changes we are now implementing is very dependent on patients keeping their scheduled appointments. When a patient is unable to attend a scheduled appointment and does not notify BMC within two hours before the appointment, it is considered a "No-Show" and impacts access to health care for other BMC patients. Our "No-Show/Cancellation" policy is described below. We understand that sometimes circumstances occur that prevent keeping an appointment. Please communicate your inability to attend a scheduled appointment with as much advance notice as possible which may allow BMC to schedule another patient for that appointment slot. The financial and operational success of your

Medical Center is dependent on services being utilized with a full schedule.

Please note a summary of our policy on No-Shows/Cancellations:

A patient must be present for a scheduled appointment within 10 minutes of check-in time to avoid being a No-Show. A patient must cancel an appointment within a 2 hour period or this will also be considered a No-Show.

Patients who have three (3) recurring No-Shows...will not be allowed to make a pre-appointment for the remainder of the [calendar] year. Patients will still be able to use urgent care and make same day appointments.

Each week the new facility makes progress. The foundations have now been completed for both the upper and lower levels. The steel beams are being placed on both levels as the building continues to

take shape. Very soon we should begin to see interior framing. All work will continue throughout the winter months. As a reminder we have site cameras in two different locations so anyone can view the progress from our website 24/7. Please go to the BMC website, www.bmcwc.com and click on the 'Future Home of BMC' link that will take you to the dedicated expansion site or go to: www.expansion.benewahmedicalcenter.com. Once you get to that site, click the 'Progress' button and that will take you to the camera links. We are on budget and a bit behind on schedule due to when our federal grant funds were received. Our opening is still projected to be late October, 2012.

All of us at Benewah Medical & Wellness Center hope you and your families had an enjoyable holiday season. Happy New Year!

Coeur d'Alene Tribe Council Fires



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Coeur d'Alene Tribal Council

Chairman - Chief J. Allan

term expires May 2012

Vice Chairman - Ernest L. Stensgar

term expires May 2014

Secretary/Treas. - N. Jeanie Louie

term expires May 2012

Paulette Jordan

term expires May 2012

Charlotte A. Nilson

term expires May 2013

Alfred M. Nomee

term expires May 2013

John Abraham

term expires May 2014

Lawrence Nicodemus and the Coeur d'Alene Tribe's Language Department provided the paper with the following translation of *sgwelp tgwe'l 'ya'(pqi'n'm* which describes a fire made for the purposes of gathering or meeting.

ATTENTION TRIBAL MEMBERS

**Please come to provide input and support
For a grant application being submitted
To the Administration for Native Americans
Environmental Regulatory Enhancement Program
By the Tribe's Natural Resource Department,
Environmental Programs Office**

DATE: Friday, January 6th, 2011

**LOCATION: Tribal Wellness Center
Conference Rooms B & C
in Plummer**

TIME: 12 noon to 1:00 p.m.

FORMAT: Drop-in anytime during the hour

**For more information,
Please contact Glenda Matt,
Environmental Programs Office, at 686-5136**

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED FOR ALL WHO ATTEND

Monthly deadlines for Council Fires

In order for our publication to be printed in a timely fashion we need to request outside material by certain times in the month so that we meet our print dates.

The priority deadline is the 10th of every month meeting this deadline will ensure your item is printed.

Our final deadline is the 17th of every month.

Items received after the priority deadline will be printed on a first come first serve basis depending on space.

DONATION: continued from page 1

support from the Coeur d'Alene Tribe will help us remove some physiological obstacles for our Post Falls students that are at 'nutritional risk' and give them a better chance to succeed in school and in life," said Jones.

He added that hunger leads to many problems for children including physiological, behavioral, and illness issues, but that the immediate benefits of regularly providing a child with food include improved health, increased attendance at school, and better academic and participation performance in the classroom.

"The reality is that this program can make a tremendous difference in the lives of these struggling kids and families," said Jones. "We encourage others to join us in contributing to this program to make sure that no student in Post Falls ever goes hungry at home."

~Chairman's Corner~

hinchanpa'ghmn

I hope that as this reaches the community, you have all had a nice holiday season filled with some good memories, family time and fun.

This is the time to reflect on the past year. The ups, the downs, the middle grounds—but mostly when I look at the progress of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe I feel a deep sense of gratitude and reason to celebrate.

We are so lucky to still have such a vibrant, engaged tribal community. We are so lucky to have a diverse membership; a group of people that still looks out for each other and still cares about the direction of their Tribe. We are so lucky to have resources that help us reach the initiatives we want to see accomplished.

Bottom line, we are blessed to be Coeur d'Alenes.

At the last General Membership meeting I really appreciated the lively debate, the kind and encouraging words, and the questions that folks brought forward. But mostly I appreciated those who took the time to be a

part of the meeting and who care enough to want to participate.

With that though, I want to reiterate that no one should have to wait for a meeting to have their voice or concerns heard. Speaking on behalf of the Tribal Council and myself, please remember our doors are always open for the Membership. We welcome hearing from you, and hope to hear from you often-- and especially if you have concerns. Keeping in touch with the community is one way that we can be more effective. So please drop in when you need to and visit.

Right now the areas that I am devoting of lot of time and energy are in preparation for the upcoming legislative season both on the state and federal levels.

As I mentioned last month, I have been spending considerable time in Boise lately focused on the groundwork that I hope will help us successfully navigate the challenges we expect to encounter when the Idaho legislature begins again in January.

A few of the areas we are closely

monitoring include Public Law 280 as well as tobacco tax and other taxation issues. As these areas develop and evolve, we will keep the Membership posted with details.

I also spent time traveling to Washington, D.C. The Coeur d'Alene delegation that I traveled with included Vice Chairman Ernie Stensgar, Council Member John Abraham and Legislative Director Helo Hancock. While in town we were able to meet directly with our Idaho U.S. Senators Crapo and Risch; and our Idaho Congressman Simpson.

In addition we also met with Montana U.S. Senator Jon Tester who sits on the Appropriations, Indian Affairs and Veterans Affairs committees; and the Chief of Staff for the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs and Chief of Staff for the House Natural Resources Committee.

The main issue that we discussed during these meetings is the need to develop and fund Tribal Veteran Representatives for American Indian veterans across the United

States. This is an issue that our Vice Chairman Ernie Stensgar has worked on for many years, and is something badly needed now more than ever as many Indian veterans return from their military service in need of accessing the benefits that the Veterans Administration (VA) offers.

Too many times, the system of the VA is difficult and complex to work through, and so Indian veterans become frustrated and discouraged with the process, then never getting the benefits they deserve. If Tribal Veterans Representatives were available to help our Tribal Vets with the process, while also advocating on their behalf, there would be a much better outcome for our Tribal Vets in accessing their benefits. Already there are veterans representatives at the federal, state and county levels, but we feel strongly that there should also be Tribal Veterans Representatives at the Tribal level to help our communities as Native American service men and women work through the challenges that come once they complete their

military service and receive the VA benefits and services they so greatly deserve.

For all the sacrifice that American Indian veterans have made, it is the least we can do. So as that issue develops, we will keep you informed.

In the meantime, by now all the Tribal members, over 18 years old, should have received their annual Tribal calendar in the mail. This year we used portraits of our community members that were taken by a professional photographer who visited last summer. It has been fun to look through the months of the new calendar and find friends, family and familiar faces looking back at me.

I hope you enjoy it as well. Take good care. And remember, stop by and visit when you have a chance!

Regards,

Chief Allan

JANUARY - 2012

SUNDAY <i>st(etj'wes</i>	MONDAY <i>chdi'k'w</i>	TUESDAY <i>asasq'it</i>	WEDNESDAY <i>cha'lasq'it</i>	THURSDAY <i>mosq'it</i>	FRIDAY <i>tselchsq'it</i>	SATURDAY <i>chli'i'</i>
1  <i>New Year's Day</i>	2 CDA HQ CLOSED All Schools CLOSED	3	4 ECLC: Scrapbooking activity 3:30-4:00 CDA Tribal Credit Applications Due	5	6 NR grant application open session 12-1 pm Wellness Center	7
8	9	10 2nd Harvest Day Tribal Credit Board meeting	11 CdA Tribal Elders Meet @ noon at Meal Site	12  <i>Council Fires Priority Deadline</i>	13  CDA TRIBAL SCHOOL CLOSED	14
15	16 CDA HQ CLOSED All Schools CLOSED <i>MLK Jr. Day</i>	17	18  CDA Tribal Credit Applications Due	19  CDA Tribal Awards Assembly @ 2:30	20 CDA TRIBAL SCHOOL CLOSED Grand Opening Lakeside Elementary @ 2:30 pm <i>Council Fires Final Deadline</i>	21
22	23	24 2nd Harvest Day Tribal Credit Board meeting	25  ECLC: Dinner & Movie Night @ 5pm	26	27	28
29	30	31				

~ Community Announcements ~

s n w i' m

4-H program looking for leaders

The Success Center afterschool program will be starting a new round of 4-H Projects beginning in January and are hoping to find some people who would like to work with our kids for a little over one hour each week on a specific project. If you are interested, or know anyone who is interested, in helping us out with this please let me know.

The obligations would be from 4-5:15 pm each Thursday, beginning January 5th and ending March 8th. If interested, you could determine what project you would like to lead and how many students you would be willing to take in your group. For example, if you were interested in leading Cake Decorating with 8 students. All supplies will be purchased by the Success Center and meetings and work time will take place at Lakeside Elementary. Attached is a list of ideas for projects, but the list is not all-inclusive; you may create your own project, as well.

**2011-2012
Benewah County
4-H MEMBER
ENROLLMENT CODES
(revised 11-51-2011)**

Animal Science

ALPACA/LLAMA

76501 Llama/Alpaca

BEEF

71001 Breeding Beef
71002 Market Beef
71003 Stocker/Feeder

CAT

72001 Cat

CAVY

72501 Cavy

DAIRY

73501 Dairy Cattle
73502 Dairy Cattle, Non-Animal

DOG

74001 Guide Dog
74002 Dog, Obedience

GOAT

75001 Breeding Goat
75002 Dairy Goat
75003 Pack Goat
75004 Pet/Pygmy Goat
75005 Meat Goat

HORSE

75501 Horse
75502 Horse, Non Animal

POULTRY

71501 Family Flock (including Pets)
71502 Market Broilers/Fryers
71504 Pullets/Laying Hens
71536 Market Turkeys*

RABBITS

77001 Breeding Rabbit
77002 Market Rabbit
77004 Pet Rabbit

SHEEP

77501 Breeding Sheep
77502 Market Sheep

47003 Cast into the Future, Level 3

WILDLIFE

49534 Wildlife, Level A
49535 Wildlife, Level B
49536 Wildlife, Level C
49537 Wildlife, Level D

Science/Technology

AEROSPACE

80201 Lift Off, Level 2
80202 Reach New Heights, Level 3
80203 Pilot in Command, Level 4

COMPUTER

81805 Inside the Box
81806 Peer To Peer
81807 Teens Teaching Tech

ELECTRICITY

82501 Magic of Electricity, Book 1
82502 Investigating Electricity, Book 2
82503 Wired For Power, Book 3
82504 Entering Electronics, Book 4

GEOSPATIAL

82101 Geospatial, Exploring Spaces, Going Places

SMALL ENGINES

86101 Small Engines - Crank It Up, Book 1
86102 Small Engines - Warm It Up, Book 2
86103 Small Engines - Tune It Up, Book 3

WELDING

88001 Arc Welding*

WIND POWER

The Power of The Wind

WOOD SCIENCE

88501 Working With Wood & Tools, Level 1*
88502 Wonderful World of Wood, Level 2*
88533 Building Bigger Things, Level 3*

Visual Arts

SMALL ANIMAL/POCKET PETS

78001 Pocket Pets

SWINE

79002 Market Swine

VETERINARY SCIENCE

87404 Veterinary Science - From Airedales to Zebras, Level 1
87405 Veterinary Science - All Systems Go!, Level 2
87406 Veterinary Science - On the Cutting Edge, Level 3

Food and Nutrition

CAKE DECORATING

53503 Cake Decorating, Unit 1*
53504 Cake Decorating, Unit 2*
53505 Cake Decorating, Unit 3*
53506 Cake Decorating, Unit 4*
53507 Cake Decorating, Unit 5*
53585 Cake Decorating, Unit 6*
53586 Cake Decorating, Unit 7*
53587 Cake Decorating, Unit 8*
53588 Cake Decorating, Unit 9*

FOOD & NUTRITION

Food, Culture and Reading Pathways to Culinary Success

53501 Bread Baking Basics
53502 Creative Ideas Using Frozen Bread Dough
53507 Bag of Tricks
53508 Micro Magicians
53509 Amazing Rays
53511 Presto Meals
53514 Six Easy Bites, Book A
53515 Tasty Tidbits, Book B
53516 You're the Chef, Book C
53517 Foodworks, Book D
53518 S'Mores and More (outdoor cooking)

53526 Dutch Oven Cooking, Unit 1
53541 Candy Making 1*
53542 Candy Making 2*
53601 Baking 1 - Biscuits, Muffins etc.
53602 Baking 2 - Quick Breads & Cookies
53603 Baking 3 - Yeast Breads
53604 Baking 4 - Cakes, Pies, & Pastries
54001 Dehydration of Fruits & Vegetables
54002 Frozen Foods
54003 Boiling Water Bath Canning

ART

20502 Sketchbook Crossroads
20503 Portfolio Pathways
20505 Scrapbooking*

CERAMICS

21031 Ceramics, Unit 1*
21032 Ceramics, Unit 2*
21033 Ceramics, Unit 3*
21034 Ceramics, Unit 4*
21035 Ceramics, Unit 5*

CLOTHING & TEXTILES

32001 Ready, Set, Sew
32002 Ready, Set, Sew Some More
32003 Seams Sew Easy
32004 Sew What
32005 Sew Wow!
32016 Under Construction, Level 1
32017 Fashion Forward, Level 2
32018 Refine Design, Level 3

CROCHET

33501 Crochet, Phase 1
33502 Crochet, Phase 2

HANDWORK/HERITAGE

23501 Heritage, Embroidery/Crewel
23503 Heritage, Needlepoint
23505 Heritage, Quilting
23506 Heritage, Rug Making
23507 Heritage, Macramé
23508 Heritage, Tole Painting
23511 Heritage, Beadwork
23521 Heritage, Alternatives

KNITTING

35001 Knitting, Beg Level A
35002 Knitting, Beg Level B
35003 Knitting, Int Level A
35004 Knitting, Int Level B

LEATHERCRAFT

24001 Just Stamping, Unit 1*
24002 Basic Tools, Unit 2*
24003 Wallets, Purses & More, Unit 3*
24031 Geometric Stamping, Unit 4*
24032 Tooled Floral Corner, Unit 5*
24033 Advanced Skills, Unit 6*

PHOTOGRAPHY

26005 Focus On Photography
26006 Controlling the Image
26007 Mastering Photography

54004 Pressure Canning

Outdoor/Natural Resources

ADVENTURE CHALLENGE/LIFE SPORTS

41004 Cross Country Skiing
41039 Survival*
43537 Bowling*

BICYCLE

81004 Bicycling For Fun, Level 1
81005 Wheels in Motion, Level 2

ECOLOGY

41501 Eco-Wonders, Book 1
41502 Eco-Adventures, Book 2
41503 Eco-Actions, Book 3

ENTOMOLOGY

83201 Creepy Crawlies, Book 1
83202 What's Bugging You?, Book 2
83203 Dragons, Houses and Other Flies, Book 3
Project Butterfly Wings

FORESTRY

42001 Follow the Path, Unit 1
42002 Reach for the Canopy, Unit 2
42003 Deep Woods Thinking, Unit 3

GARDENING

73535 Gardening, Herbs*
74501 See Them Sprout, Book A
74502 Let's Get Growing, Book B
74503 Take Your Pick, Book C
74504 Growing Profits, Book D
74505 Junior Master Gardener Gardening Grades 4-6

GEOLOGY

42532 Geology, Level 1
42533 Geology, Level 2
42534 Geology, Level 3

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

41048 Hiking Trails, Book 1
41049 Camping Adventures, Book 2
41050 Backpacking Expeditions, Book 3

SHOOTING SPORTS

46007 Shotgun

SPORTSHING

47001 Take the Bait, Level 1
47002 Reel in the Fun, Level 2

Other

CITIZENSHIP

10501 KYG Planning Comm.
10502 KYG Exploring Citizenship, My Government
10503 Exploring Citizenship, National Focus
10505 Power of the Press (KYG Reporter)

CLOVER BUDS

60501 Cloverbuds (all units)

FINANCIAL

Reading Makes Cents

LEADERSHIP

63504 Leadership, Ambassadors
63506 Leadership, Event Planning
63509 Leadership, Teen Leader

SELF-DETERMINED

67001 Self-Determined, You Decide

Special Notes

(*) - Denotes "County Projects"

If you are interested in another area that you do not see listed please contact the Extension office to see if there is a project for that area.

 **University of Idaho Extension**
University of Idaho Extension,
Benewah County
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701 West College Avenue, Suite #LL2
St. Maries, Idaho 83861
208-245-2422
benewah@uidaho.edu
www.extension.uidaho.edu/benewah

CHRISTMAS TREE DISPOSAL AT THE TRIBAL ROCK PIT WILL BE AVAILABLE

CALL: (208) 582-2517 OR (208) 686-0708

Plummer-Worley set to open new school in 2012



The new Lakeside Elementary School to open January 20, 2012.

Photo by Lynn Lowley

The Plummer-Worley School District Board of Trustees has approved a two-day school closure on January 12 and 13 to provide staff adequate time to move into the new elementary school. All staff will be working these days. Students will return to school on January 17 as regularly scheduled. Elementary students will begin that day in their new school.

A grand opening ceremony is scheduled for Friday, January 20, 2011, at 2:30 p.m. at the new Lakeside Elementary School, 1345 E. Street, Plummer, Idaho. Please join us as we celebrate the opening of this facility for our children.

Fitness Challenge 2012

Coming Soon!

January 16th – March 11th

Watch for details after the 1st of the year!

BENEWAH MEDICAL CENTER COMMUNITY HEALTH

SAVE THE DATE!

DIABETES DAY CAMP

Date: March 20, 2012

Time: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

MAKING CHANGE... ONE STEP AT A TIME

Location:
Coeur d'Alene Casino Conference Center



Federal Support Aids the Revitalization of Our Language

The vital Administration for Native Americans was established by federal legislation in 1974. It's the only federal agency serving all 562 federally recognized Tribes, American Indian and Alaska Native organizations, Native Hawaiian organizations and Native populations throughout the Pacific (including American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands).¹ In addition to its work in funding social and economic development and environmental projects in Indian Country, for nearly two decades the ANA has been seeding invaluable native language projects.

That is, in 1990 Congress recognized the plight of the continent's heritage languages, and began authorizing funding for community-based language programs the following year. In other words, in the final decade of the twentieth century the nation arrived at the conclusion that the indigenous languages of America are worth saving. (Insert your own punch line here.)

The Coeur d'Alene tribe has been

fortunate to have received five generous ANA language maintenance grants since then, including a three-year grant that began in FY2012.² With that funding the tribe's language program (*hnqwa'qwe'eln*) has recently been able to hire three tribal members, all experienced students of the language, to undergo training and certification to become *Coeur d'Alene* teachers in the community; Cree Whelshula, Michelle Clark, and Donna Matheson became full-time employees of the program this Fall. In addition, tribal member Audra Vincent returned from graduate school at the University of British Columbia to assume full-time duties creating teaching materials, aiding in the training program, and sharpening her own skills while working with the program's elder consultants, Felix Aripa and Marie Irene Lowley.

Over the next three years the staff will devote most of its time to intensive training and practice in the language, as well as instruction in classroom methods and child development. The first product of their efforts will be a formal process of certification for *Coeur d'Alene* instructors, which will become the

standard recognized by the State of Idaho. As well, the program will continue to offer language samples and teaching materials to the community in many forms. Students will again see *hnqwa'qwe'eln* staff at Water Potato Day and Water Awareness Week activities, at the Tribal School's cultural enrichment classes, at Rockin' the Rez, and at invited events in the public schools. Adults in the community and employees of the Tribe will access language resources by contact with the language program, on the Web, and, in the near future, via radio on KWIS. Formal and informal classes will continue.

Since the creation of a tribal language program in 1996 the goal has always been to give community members greater access to *Coeur d'Alene*. The last of the native speakers of the language have contributed their lifelong knowledge. Students of all ages have donated untold hours toward practice, which has benefitted all those who will be students in the future. New technologies and new venues (the Internet, Facebook, on-line classes) increase the audience and

GRANT: continued on page 13

Forestry: Timber sales, website update

A reminder that Tribal firewood permits are only valid for cutting on Tribal land and expire at the end of December so get out and get your wood. If you are unsure of property, please stop by Forestry to ask before cutting. We have confiscated and/or charged several firewood trespassers in the last couple of months. So make sure you know whose land you are cutting on.

Timber Sales: Timber sales around Plummer move forward thanks to the cold weather allowing logs trucks and equipment to operate on frozen soil. The Chadalamalqwn sale is planned to be completed by the end of January. The Sachri sale northeast of the Tribal rock pit will continue into next summer. A field trip with the interdisciplinary team members who were part of the planning process is scheduled for mid-December. They will visit the Tamiyel timber sale to determine if objectives were met and discuss what went well and what could be improved upon for future sales. Work continues to improve the forestry website, which is a part of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe website. It was helpful last year for contractors to obtain project information available from the website, and staff suggestions for improvement will be incorporated soon. Forest stand prescriptions for the Kopaqhn sale around Worley are nearly ready. Once

they are approved, work to prepare the timber sale will proceed including marking trees for harvest and cruising to estimate how much volume is going to be harvested.

The Chsp'a'qhalqwtsn (Eagle Peak area) Forest Officer's Report (FOR) is continued to be worked. The Silvicultural Prescription has been signed off by all necessary parties. The Draft Contract is currently being worked on. Other components of the FOR packet include a Narrative, Prospectus, and Advertisements all of which will be worked on in the coming months. A copy of the EA is typically included as well.

Fuels Program: The Fuels Program does not have any active hazardous fuels reductions (HFR) contracts going on at this time. Empire L & C has accomplished 158 HFR acres on the Timber Agricultural Interface Fuel Break Project 7 Contract in the Little Butte Area and 17 HFR acres on the Windfall/Peedee Contract. Native Timber Services has hand piles needing to be treated on the Cherry Creek Shaded Fuels Break Project Contract before next summer. The Fuels Crew has completed A307 HFR treatment area with a thin, prune, and combination of hand pile and mastication. They have moved to the east to A316 and are treating the area with a thin, prune and combination of machine pile

FORESTRY: cont. on page 16

USDA expands Coeur d'Alene Tribe Food Distribution service area to include more families

The Food Distribution Program hours of operation are Monday through Friday 7am-5:30pm. Appointments available from 7:30-12 and 12:30-5. There has been a recent change in our coverage area for a household which has at least 1 person being a member of a federally recognized tribe residing with the applicant. The previous coverage area was restricted to 5 miles from the exterior boundaries of the reservation with the Idaho-Washington State border being the western limits. We are now able to

include those qualified households in Washington within a 10 mile radius of the reservation.

For our tribal neighbors on or near the Kootenai reservation, we currently deliver every other month for 2 months of groceries. If we had more qualified households in your area we could schedule monthly deliveries.

If you wish to inquire about the qualification requirements please contact our office at either 686-0997 or 686-4041. If you are currently on Food Stamps, you

cannot qualify for Commodities during the same month. If you wish to receive commodities you must cancel your food stamps in order to be eligible for our program the following month. Dual participation in both programs (USDA Commods and State Food Stamps) is not allowed and is punishable by Federal and Tribal Law.

Maximum monthly income guidelines are as follows, not including the 20% earned income deduction, assistance received

through Federal Grants are not allowed the deduction:

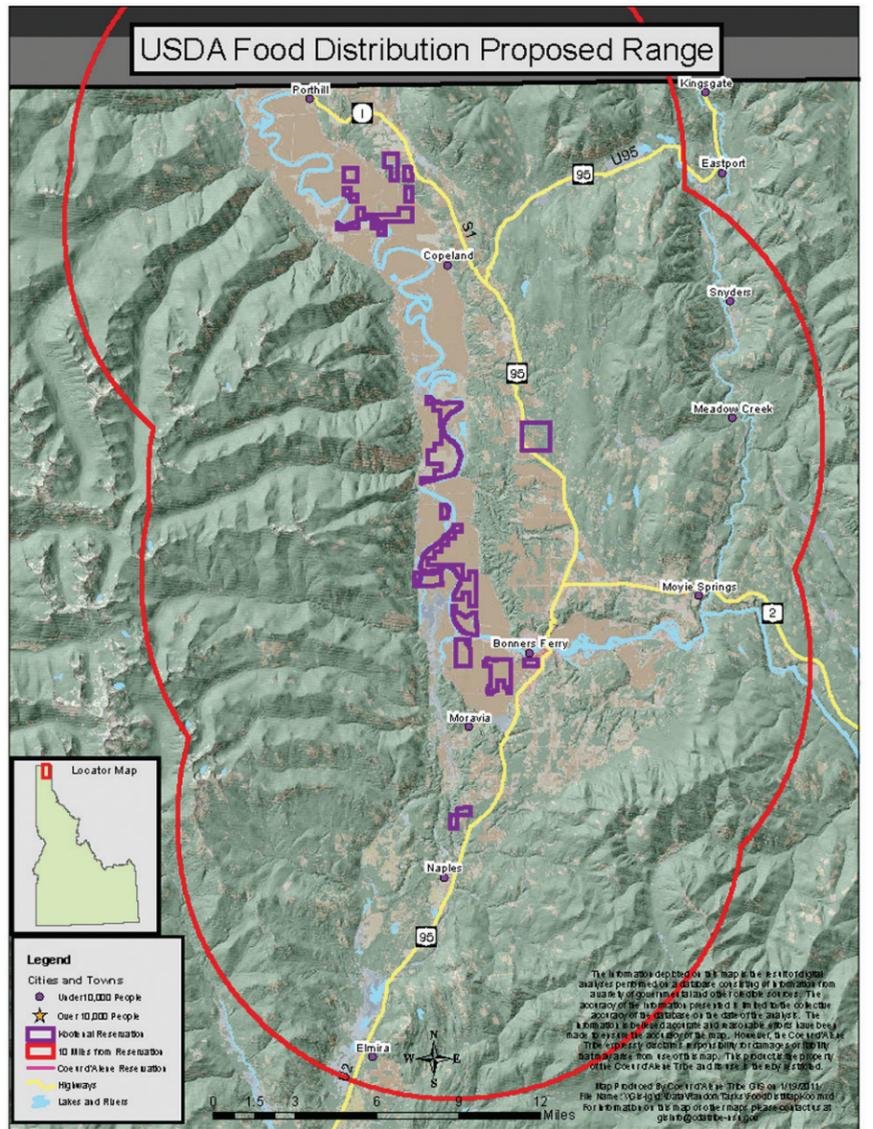
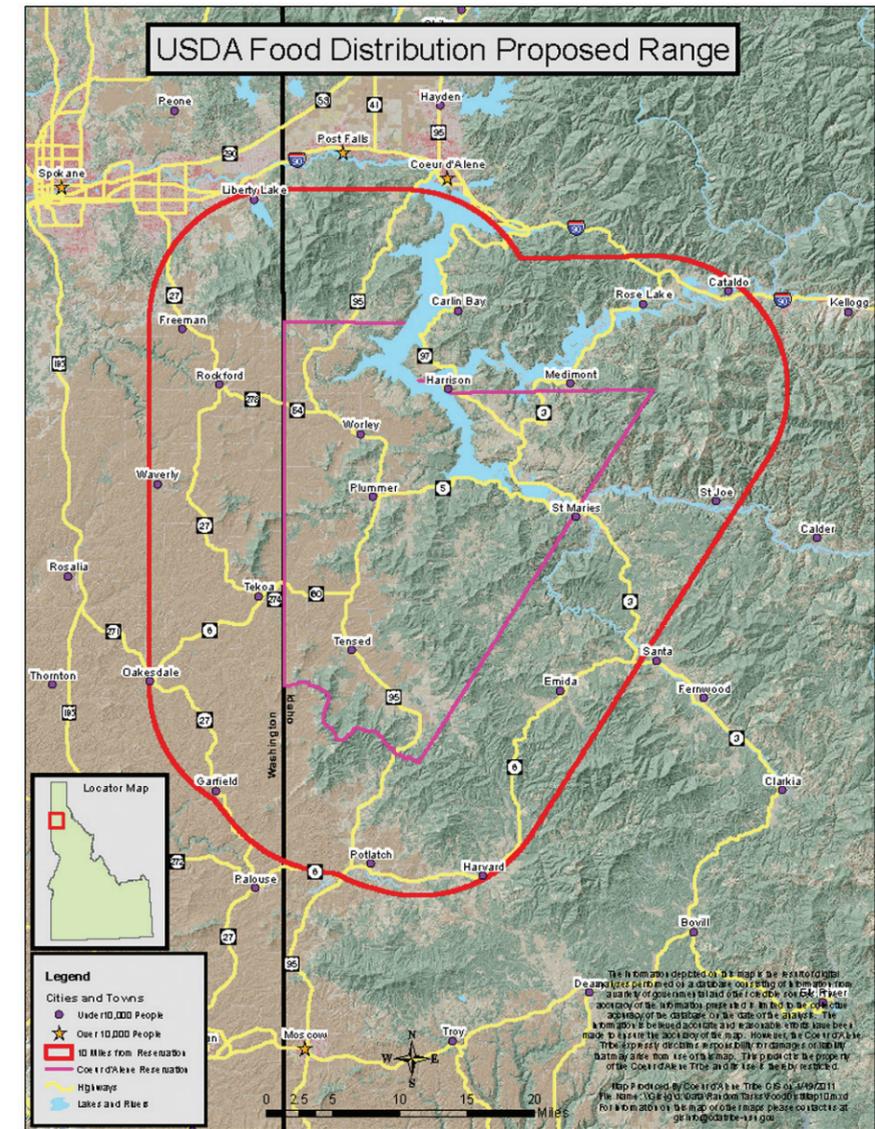
1 person household	\$1055
2 person	1373
3 person	1692
4 person	2018
5 person	2362
6 person	2708
7 person	3026
8 person	3344
\$319/person for households over 8	

Example of the 20% earned income deduction: \$2000/month x 20% =

\$400, subtract this amount from the Gross income (before taxes and deductions) of \$2000= \$1400

2nd Harvest dates are set for the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. This program is open to the public for those who feel the need for food assistance to help offset their daily/monthly living expenses.

**Thank you
Food Distribution Program
Employees
686-0997 or 686-4041**





Holiday celebrations on the



Coeur d'Alene reservation



2011: A review of t



The year in photos



~Casino Corner~ hnghesiple'net

Frost flocks the grounds of the Circling Raven course



Mother Nature does her best year round at Circling Raven Golf Club, one way or another making it beautiful. For much of December, frost covered the entire region and the view at Circling Raven was spectacular. Through the cottonwood and birch trees, this view takes us across a portion of the first hole, "Gallops on the Logs." Photo by Bob Bostwick

STA bus gets wrapped up in the Cd'A Casino/Resort



The STA rolls with our jackpot. A "wrap" was completed recently on a Spokane Transit Authority bus, bannering jackpot news from the Coeur d'Alene Casino Resort. The bus is one of the latest marketing efforts for the Spokane area. Photo provided by Quisenberry

Resort, Tribe bring culture to kids

Coeur d'Alene Casino Resort staff and staff from tribal departments worked together in mid December, bringing a cultural experience to some 126 4th grade students at Ramsey Science Charter School in Coeur d'Alene.

The students were presented information and demonstrations about natural foods from the region, including those that have sustained the Coeur d'Alene Tribe for untold centuries. Tribal members dressed in traditional regalia, explaining its components and the cultural and traditional elements of it.

Marketing Director Laura Stensgar, whose daughter attends the school, began the effort, connecting here with

Cultural Affairs Director Cliff SiJohn and assistant Shaina Nomee.

For his part, SiJohn spent about two hours with the classes on Wednesday, telling Coyote stories and representing various aspects of customs and why they are important.

Raymond Brinkman from the tribe's Language Department and Jill Wagner from the Preservation Department took part. Brinkman brought stories that included tribal language. Wagner showed artifacts to the children, also explaining their uses.

"It was great," said Stensgar. "We had a great response from the children and the teachers. My daughter, Jade, was a very proud tribal member."

Hosts, players eye "Battle in Seattle"

By Diana Henry

The casino Hosts made their 4th annual trek to the Seattle area Saturday, December 17th to attend "The Battle in Seattle," Gonzaga vs. Arizona NCAA basketball game. The hosts had 35 guests attending, many of whom were staying at the Hotel. They had breakfast Saturday morning and then hopped on a casino bus, headed for the Spokane International Airport.

The Hosts attending to these guests and going to the game were, Diana Henry, Spirit Mendoza, Tia Sines, Alene Plumage and Yvette Matt. Each Host will be in charge of eight guests, ensuring a great time is had by all.

We really have a lot of fun attending this event. A win by the Zags over the Wildcats added to the experience.

For the past two years we have



had the same bus driver from Greylines. "Ben" has become a friend among our guests. We look forward to having him drive us around the Seattle area again. The schedule of events included the game and then dinner at The Sports Restaurant, after the game.

Special Thanks to Marketing/Graphics for making some really cool signs for us. While watching the game, we also enjoyed seeing the "Coeur d'Alene Casino/GO ZAGS" signs.

Project Clean aimed at hallways

By Annie Nomee

Project clean up is under way. We are asking that all departments at the Coeur d'Alene Casino Resort take time out of their busy schedules to clean up around their areas.

For quite some time now, as we walk down our back hallways, back stairwells or through office work stations, we see a lot of broken, unused equipment or useless material that simply needs to be thrown out. With everyone's help in each department we can have a decent looking work environment.

I will be walking through the property with managers and leads, observing hallways, work stations or blocked doorways.

CLEAN: continued on page 13

Hundreds add to party atmosphere

The verdict was swift and direct: Wow.

Hundreds of Coeur d'Alene Casino Resort employees and their guests mixed, mingled, munched and marveled, satisfied with an exceptional result at the 2011 employees Christmas party.

Those attending the event held at the Coeur d'Alene Resort in December heard inspiring words from Chief Executive Officer Dave Matheson, then indulged themselves on a wide variety of hors d'oeuvres as awards were presented, followed by all kinds of table and other games, followed again by musical entertainment.

"I thought it was terrific," said Beverage lead Sue Middleton. "And you can print that."

Diana Henry, Casino Host, liked the way the entire format brought people together.

PARTY: continued on page 13

Low fuel prices bring in high traffic to casino c-store



Cars and trucks have been keeping the Conoco at the Coeur d'Alene Casino Resort very busy in recent weeks. A run on gas is a daily event with prices there and elsewhere on the Reservation being the lowest in the region. Photo by Lisa Williams

\$120,000

Game Show Blitz

Play the Casino's very own Spin the Wheel every Tuesday in January 2 - 8 pm!

TWO WINNERS EVERY HOUR WIN UP TO \$500 CASH AND EPC

Don't miss next month's **Love Punch**

Must be a Rewards member playing with Rewards card to be randomly chosen as a winner. One win per day per person.

Coeur d'Alene Casino Resort

concertseries 2012

Jan 15 Elvis (Nathan Belt)
General \$15 • Reserved \$20

Feb 19 Michael Jackson (Michael Firestone)
General \$15 • Reserved \$20

Mar 15 Diamond Rio
General \$40 • Reserved \$50

Mar 29 Keith Sweat
General \$40 • Reserved \$50



Purchase tickets at the casino or any TicketsWest outlet.



GO ZAGS!

CAN'T MAKE THE GAME? WATCH THEM WITH US!
PRIZES • DRINK AND FOOD SPECIALS

\$4,000 GIVEAWAY

At select televised away games we will give away **two men's Gonzaga tickets**, one night hotel stay, Ts'elūsm Steakhouse dinner and limo ride.*

FOOD SPECIALS

22 oz Big Game Drafts, Burgers, Wings, Barbeque Pulled Pork Sliders, and more.

Come check out the rest of the specials on game day. Food specials only available during men's basketball games.

*Package valued at \$500.

Visit our Facebook page for details. [f / CDACASINORESORT](https://www.facebook.com/cdacasinoresort)

SENIOR 55+
JANUARY MONDAYS
Every Monday in January

2nd - Redeem 2012 points for \$20 EPC
9th - 1,000 points • 16th - Hourly drawings
23rd - 1,000 points • 30th - Hourly drawings

\$2 off any buffet on Senior Mondays

Elvis
Hot Seats
January 4th - 6th
3 - 9 pm

Four winners an hour receive two tickets to see Elvis January 15th and an Elvis CD or DVD.

~ Editorials ~

sne'kunmn

Editor: phone photos not ideal

In this day and age of the tech savvy person, there are an increasing number of people forgoing their "regular" camera in lieu of their built in camera phone. While these phones have taken leaps and bounds in the way they can manage and produce an image, many leave a lot to be desired.

The quality of an image taken by a camera phone, depending on make and model, remains fairly low in terms of resolution and color composition. If your phone has a camera with a less than 5MP capability, the image will be difficult to correct in order to produce a good image.

We at the Council Fires receive numerous photo submissions each month taken by such tools. Although we gladly accept these photos for printing I wanted to take a moment to encourage you to also bring your traditional digital camera to important events that you want to photograph and submit for the paper.

You may notice your image in the paper is not as crisp, clean and vivid as you would hope. This is due to the low quality of the image submitted and not due to low printing quality. There is very little we can do to correct the quality of the image in terms of fuzziness and color.

Again, we will continue to accept and print images taken by phone cameras, but we also strive to give the membership a paper that is of high quality in terms of images and information. So, please accept the following suggestions for taking the best image possible with your

phone to ensure a quality print in the paper.

Use a flash if you have one built into your phone. This will increase the shutter speed (snap the picture quicker) and reduce the blur of the image greatly. If you have no flash, please use an area with the highest level of natural light you can find – indoor lighting does not translate well through many of these cameras.

Steady your hands by leaning against a wall or railing for support, this will help to reduce blur.

Adjust your settings if you have the option to. If there is no natural light available, change your picture settings from automatic to florescent lighting to help compensate for the color variance.

Our biggest recommendation will remain to bring your regular digital camera to events with you as these are equipped to handle the various lighting situations you may find yourself in. But the above suggestions should assist in helping you produce a higher quality image from your phone that you can be proud of once you see it in the paper.

Please continue to take pictures of your friends and loved ones to be featured in the Council Fires monthly – but be mindful of quality as we want to make sure your photos translate beautifully on the pages of our Tribal Newspaper.

Lim Lemtsh and happy shooting!

*Jennifer L. Fletcher
Council Fires Editor*

Bell: your generosity is appreciated

Once again the residents of the Coeur d'Alene Reservation and area businesses have responded in a huge way to provide Christmas for needy children in our community. This year the Christmas Families Coalition brought Christmas gifts and food to 107 children in thirty-eight families.

Christine Hodgson, the Lakeside PTO, and Cecila Curtis conducted food drives at the Tribal School and the Plummer-Worley Schools. Their efforts were a huge success and will help to stock the pantries of the families whose children were adopted. Bread was donated by Franz Bakeries. Non-food items were donated by Costco, WalMart, Safeway, Fred Meyer, and Super One Foods.

Among those who adopted children or made donations were many individuals and families who wish to remain anonymous. Others were The Warpath, BMC Community Health Department, Coeur d'Alene Tribal Council, Sisters of Providence, BMC physicians, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church, Worley Community Church,

St. Michael's Catholic Church, BMC Pharmacy Department, Rockford Lions Club, Lakeside High School Young Professionals Club, North Idaho College Native American Students Union, Worley Senior Citizens, Plummer Senior Citizens, Worley Grange, and Worley Town and Country Club. Special thanks go to Hilma Bloomsburg, Joe Renaldo, and Wayne Foxworth for the beautiful knit hats and scarves and wooden toys they crafted for the children. And, thanks to everyone who added to the donations cans we had at locations around the community. We also owe a special thank you to the Tim Wolf Memorial Basketball Tournament which collected toys for our children and to the Success Center After School Program for wrapping them.

One hundred and seven children are going to have a wonderful Christmas. Our heartfelt thanks go out to all of you who made that possible.

*Thank you
Amily Bell*

Abraham: as promised, my Council travel report

Before I was elected on our Council, I too wondered why our Council always seemed to be on travel status. Why weren't they here taking care of business? And when I traveled in the past as staff, I wondered where our Council was because they weren't attending the meeting I was attending. I have since apologized to Council because I better understand now.

It seemed as if I just completed my oath of office and I was standing in line at airport security disrobing. I was going to NCAI's mid-year conference. This is a prelude to the biggest Native American legislative gathering each year. I was appointed as a voting delegate for the Tribe because there were only two council members attending. I was also tracking a ATNI resolution sponsored by our veterans office that would have benefitted not only our veterans' but all Native American veterans.

I was soon disappointed because the resolution was tabled in committee and not allowed to be presented to NCAI's General Assembly for adoption. We, the Northwest Tribes, didn't have enough delegates to support the resolution in committee and the

resolution was rejected by the California delegates who imagined a threat to their sovereignty by this resolution. I was angry because we failed by a couple of votes, I wondered where were the Colvilles, Spokanes, Kalispels, or Kootenais? Were they being pressured by their membership for traveling to much and decided to stay home?

I became aware that the rest of the world we're in doesn't look at us as being Schitsu'umsh, a proud people of 2000, but as a member of the smallest of minorities of 2 million people belonging to one of 500 tribes. We are seen as trouble makers who create the biggest problems and shouldn't even be here today. And most legislators believe that 500 tribes must agree on every issue for it to be a viable concern. The basic concept of right or wrong doesn't apply here. We are the cannon fodder of one of the worst terrorist attacks levied on any country.

The battles of our ancestors continues today and you are the "freedom fighters". Your battle fields are public opinion, US Congress, US Supreme Court, state Congresses, and your adversaries are legislatures, county and city

officials, special interest groups, and bigots. Your arsenals are your voice and vote, your council, special consortiums, Affiliated Tribes, National Congress of American Indians, lobbyists, federal and state legislators, and public opinion. Unlike other citizens of this country, our basic right to exist as a people within the boundaries established by our ancestors is constantly being attacked, just recently, property tax on your homes, internet gaming tax, and child custody to name a few.

So, here is my first and last Council Travel Report for Council Fires which I promised I would submit at the General Membership meeting. I am submitting this report on the urging of a former Council member who has never submitted such a report ever. I will continue to travel on your behalf and I invite anyone of you to review my travel expense claims or visit me to discuss with you any trip that I took as your council member. Respectfully submitted for your review.

*John Abraham
Coeur d'Alene Tribal
Council member*

Sharrett: options for the fate of old school building

As most of you know, the Plummer Worley School District is building a new elementary school. What you may not know is the building is nearing completion. In fact, the Grand Opening Ceremony is scheduled to take place on January 20, and we are excited!

Moving students into a new school has created many thought-provoking questions for our patrons. For example, what should the mascot and colors of the new school be? Having downsized from three to two schools in a short period of time surfaced this as a subject of interest for many. So as to make a wise decision, we received 435 responses through surveys and community meetings. The clear majority wanted the "Knights" to be the mascot for the entire district with a single color scheme

of red, black and white. Because of all the community interest and involvement, I feel confident this was the right call.

Another looming issue is what to do with the building to be vacated by the elementary. Since merging schools to Plummer in 2009, the district has been faced with continuing annual budget cuts from the State. It now seems we will be receiving less money from the federal government for the upcoming school year as well. Major budget constraints will weigh heavily on our School Board as we create a plan of action.

Serious discussion began at the November and December board meetings. A staff meeting on the topic was held and a discussion facilitated at the last PTO meeting. So far, the following four options have emerged as possibilities.

Pre-K -8th Grade: One of the ongoing discussions back in 2009 was to make the new school a PreK-8, so this is not a new theme. The 7th and 8th grade portion of the school could run in the "old elementary". Many rural districts use this configuration.

7th-8th Grade: Another idea is to run the middle school in the "old elementary" while continuing as a branch of the secondary. An advantage to this idea is the ability to cater to the developmental level of adolescents.

7th-12th Campus Concept: This creative idea would see both the "old elementary" and the high school running classes thematically. For example, there would be separate clusters of science, language arts and math classes spread across

SHARRETT: cont. on page 13

Bybee: didn't see it coming, megaloads cause accident

I had a real bad accident and am lucky to be alive. There was no warning of a flagger ahead sign or stop ahead sign or anything. It is a 65mph speed limit there. Then just all the sudden stop in the middle of the night. Those wide loads had big flashing lights on them and I didn't even see the flagger. The guy I ran into said the flagger had walked off the road towards the wide loads he was coasting forward his break lights went on when I hit him I had no warning, I didn't even see that van because of all the flashing lights on the wide loads.

Wild Idaho Rising Tide to Frank Bybee:

Frank, Linwood Laughy, the main plaintiff in the Highway 12 court cases against ExxonMobil, Mammoet, and the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD), asked me to share the following information with you. Many other people have had bad experiences around the megaloads, but yours was probably the worst. Folks are concerned about your situation; I will talk with lawyers soon about how we can find some justice. From Lin: "If anyone has contact with those involved in the accident on 95, it would be good to advise them that a load of testimony has been made to ITD in the form of written comments, affidavits,

and sworn testimony to the effect that the megaload convoys are very confusing to drivers who encounter them at night, including those horrible flashing lights November 25 Frank Bybee to Wild Idaho Rising Tide:

I was knocked out and got a concussion. My seat belt and air bag saved my life. It is a terrifying thought that I almost brought my daughter on this trip. I will do all I can to prevent this accident from happening to somebody else

November 28 Wild Idaho Rising Tide to Frank Bybee

We are looking forward to seeing

BYBEE: continued on page 16

~ People in the News ~

gul snik'w'lmkhwet

Laumatia an official Tribal employee



Laura Laumatia was hired in December 2011 as the new Environmental Specialist for the Coeur d'Alene Tribe. She works under the Lake Management Department in the Hazardous Waste Management Program.

Laura has been working with the Tribal community for seven years as the UI Extension Educator for the Reservation. She has a B.S. in Animal Science from Cornell University, and a M.S. from University of Idaho in Bioregional Planning. She has been working on science and natural resources education and outreach in the Reservation community, primarily with the Success Center and Rock'n the Rez programs, and previously has worked with landowners and farmers in American Samoa on managing lands to improve water quality.

She has also taught the Tribal Sovereignty and Federal

Indian Policy course for the community to help build a better understanding of the complexities of land management on and around the Reservation. Laura has also worked with the community organization, One Sky North Idaho, on issues such as the school bond, food systems, and community wellness. She and her family are residents of Plummer.

In addition to her new role in facilitating implementation of the Lake Management Plan, Laura will be assisting in the development of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe's water rights claim and participate with ongoing restoration efforts as they pertain to the Tribe's Natural Damage Assessment case. She is very excited to be an official Tribal employee and looks forward to helping the Tribe in protecting their treasured water resources. Welcome to the Lake Management Department Laura!

Heather Keen hired as Tribe's new PR Director

The Coeur d'Alene Tribe announces that Heather Keen has recently joined the Chairman's office as the Public Relations Director.

"We are excited to have Heather join our team," said Chairman Chief Allan. "Her diverse experience in strategic communications, media relations, politics and business will make her a unique and valuable asset to the Coeur d'Alene Tribe," he continued.

Born and raised in Colorado Springs, she enjoys spending time outdoors with her husband whom she moved with to Spokane 3 years ago.

Beforehand she has jetted all over the country seeking jobs that fulfill her from assisting Congressmen to working for non-profit organizations. She has also spent time pursuing her educational goals

Keen has most recently served as the Director of Programs and Community Outreach for the Human Rights Education Institute in Coeur d'Alene. She previously worked for the Spokane office of Gallatin Public Affairs and spent several years in Washington, D.C. as a Legislative Assistant to former U.S. Congressman Joel Hefley (CO).

Keen has a B.A. in political science from Colorado State University and a Master in Business Administration degree from the University of Idaho.



Heather Keen, PR Director for the Coeur d'Alene Tribe

She is excited to work for the Tribe, and looks forward to the opportunities it will afford her.

"There seems to be so

many great stories to tell here," she said. "I'm looking forward to being a part of the organization."

CLEAN: continued from pg. 10

Throughout this process I will be making contact and working with managers to get the areas cleaned up. Please also keep in mind that this project keeps everyone out of harm's way and prevents incidents.

PARTY: continued from pg. 10

"With the food choices, people got up and mixed," she said. "That added greatly to the party atmosphere and we all got to see and talk to a lot of people."

Employees working and not able to attend were treated to a prime rib dinner in the employees' cafeteria.

Local athletes named All-League for Idaho North Star



Students at Lakeside High School in Plummer were recently honored by being named as the Idaho North Star League All-League players. Three Coeur d'Alene Tribal members received this honor including Lamont Higgins who has been named All-League for the third year in a row. Pictured from left to right is: Jordan Brown, Lamont Higgins, Maria Garcia, Ruth Haynes and Jeremy Stivers.

SHARRETT: cont. from page 12

the two buildings. The advantage would be to consolidate the resources between buildings so students could focus on subject matter in greater depth.

Moving the district office to the "old elementary" would allow the 7th and 8th grade to use the district office for two classrooms. The "old elementary" could then become (for example) a center for dual enrollment, online and streamed classes, a 7-12 student center,

and a warming kitchen to serve secondary students.

If I have created more questions in you than answers, I would love to hear from you at the district office (686-1621). After the holiday break, there will be more meetings open for anybody with a great idea or strong opinion. We are very interested in what you have to say so stay tuned for the dates.

Happy Holidays!
Judi Sharrett,
PWSO Superintendent

GRANT: continued from page 5

the chances to learn Coeur d'Alene in different formats and according to one's needs---or schedule. Multiple tribal departments and offices, including the Casino, have taken advantage of some or many of the resources and found ways to extend the reach of the small language program staff.

The goal of the current grant is to turn out more Coeur d'Alene language teachers to meet the increasing demand and new opportunities. With that, projects will require creative input from tribal and non-member cultural experts, those with musical talents, song-

singers, radio voices, those that can assist in website design, artists, and crafts people, among others. The grant has a budget for contracts with those contributors, and specific time lines for projects to be undertaken in the next three years. Kim Matheson, the program manager, will announce those opportunities in phases over the grant life.

1 <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ana/about/about.html>

2 The Spokane and Kalispel tribes have current grants, as does the Nek'usm immersion school on the Flathead Reservation.

St. Maries Creosote river sampling for clean-up

Sandra Raskell, Project Engineer
Lake Management

On November 14th, crews began arriving in St. Maries, ID to begin conducting upland soil sampling for the St. Maries Creosote site clean-up.

The St. Maries Creosote site is immediately adjacent to, and south of, the St. Joe River in the city of St. Maries, Idaho. From 1939 through 1964, the site was used for peeling and treating logs to be used for poles. Historically, as the treated poles were loaded onto rail cars by the stiff arm, creosote dripped onto the soil around the butt vats and rail cars. If several cars were loaded at the same time, poles would drip creosote onto the soil beneath the rail line. In late 1998 and early 1999, the site was noted to have soil staining, creosote odor, and product sheen, thus began the process of identifying clean-up actions.

For the next decade, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), the Coeur d'Alene Tribe (Tribe), and the potential responsible parties (PRP) worked through reports, meetings, consent decrees, court documents, etc. Arcadis, the Voluntary Remediation Party (VRP) and its associated subcontractors began the process of sampling of upland soils to determine the geotechnical properties in order to design an appropriate clean-up design as well as pumping well installation which will aide in monitoring water quality and ground water. Additional upland soil and sediment sampling is scheduled to be continued



A Sonic drill rig is used on-site for sampling purposes.

in January 2012 and continuing through February 2012.

Sampling activities consisted of using a drill rig mounted with a sonic vibratory sampler. This process involves the collection of core samples through a vibrating mechanism. Once the sample is obtained, the core is removed and the sample is logged for analysis. Of the cores sampled, some will be used to determine the geotechnical properties of the soil which will help with the placement of the sheet pile walls during construction. The samples will also help determine the slope stability during excavation remediation activities. Furthermore, some sample volumes will be used in treatability testing to determine the best remediation techniques.

During these sampling events the on-site workers took extra care to protect the river, wildlife and groundwater by utilizing protective equipment, decontamination of equipment, having spill-response kits on hand, and all workers wore

appropriate personal protection. Each sample was logged for soil type, presence of sheen, odor detection, and visual detection of creosote. Once Arcadis staff was finished logging in the sample, John Hartman, Coeur d'Alene Tribe Archaeologist, looked through each sample investigating to see if there may be anything culturally significant. John will also be on-site during the next sampling effort to continue conducting the same field investigations. In the upcoming sampling event, similar logging of samples will occur. The samples collected in January and February 2012 will be used to determine the extent of contamination both horizontally and vertically. All of these above mentioned efforts will assist in the remediation and restoration at the site.

If you have any questions, please contact Sandra Raskell, P.E., Lake Management Project Engineer by phone at (208) 667-5772 or by email at sraskell@cdatribe-nsn.gov.

Donation adorns Lakeside hallway



A large metal knight was donated to the Lakeside school district by Carla and Jess Marratt and now stands at the entrance of the gym.

Driving down Ruby in north Spokane Jess and Carla Marratt were having a typical afternoon out when Carla declared, while passing by a merchant who specializes in metal yard sculptures, that she wanted to buy the gigantic knight in the court and give it the Lakeside School District.

She was determined, even though the difficulties of transporting such a large object were cumbersome. Jess obliged and they pulled in to purchase the statue which originally stood at nearly 20 feet, later reduced in order to fit in the building.

"Here she is, fighting her own illness and yet she still thinks of everyone besides herself," said Jess with admiration in his eyes.

The couple brought it to the school where senior David Romero used it to complete his Senior Project.

During half-time of a boys basketball game on December 9th, Jess and Carla were thanked and honored by the school and crowd for their unwavering generosity and support of the school district.



Our Rez boys made a difference at Lake City High School!! Great Job!! From Left to Right are: Tucker Louie-McGee, Matthew Stensgar, and Charlie Zahir.

Hard work pays off!! Leading the Timberwolf JV pack was Tucker Louie-McGee at QB earning the "Offensive Player of the Year," Matthew Stensgar at Inside Linebacker earning "Defensive Player of the Year and Special Teams Player of the year," and Charlie Zahir completed the year at inside linebacker! Jerry Louie-McGee on freshman team, running back received the nickname "ghost" from coach JP stating, one second he's there and the next second he's not! Great job boys for representing the Coeur d'Alene Tribe with pride, dignity and honor.



Lakeside Principal John Brumley, along with district Superintendent Judi Sharrett present Carla and Jess Marratt with a plaque, honoring them for their donation to the school.

ZUMBA

Fundraiser for

2012 ZUMBA Convention @ Orlando, Florida August 9th-12th, 2012

Tiffany Korver, ZUMBA Instructor

\$10.00 per person includes: 2 HOUR CLASS, lunch, & entered into a drawing. (Children are FREE)

WHEN: January 14, 2012
TIME: 10:00am -12:00pm
WHERE: Coeur d'Alene Tribal Wellness Center

Donations Accepted

All proceeds go towards 2012 ZUMBA Convention.

"Sponsored by ZUMBA Fundraiser Committee"

Become a foster or adoptive parent.

The goal of foster care is to help youth continue to grow in a safe and stable environment while working with their families toward reunification, which happens about 78% of the time. When reunification is not possible, the foster family may be considered for adoption.

GIVE MY LIFE A

For more information, please call the Idaho CareLine by dialing 2-1-1 or visit www.fostercare.dhw.idaho.gov

2-1-1 Call Center: Call anytime, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. (800) 955-2288

Idaho Department of Health & Welfare

Proud Mom!

Great Job Tucker, who was named LCHS JV "Offensive Player of the Year!"

COEUR D'ALENE'S next royalty



THINK YOU'VE GOT WHAT IT TAKES TO BE
MISS COEUR D'ALENE
OR LIL MISS COEUR D'ALENE?

July 20th - 22nd

QUALIFICATIONS

Must be a Coeur d'Alene Tribal member/descendant
Miss Coeur d'Alene: 13-19 years old
Lil Miss Coeur d'Alene: 5-12 years old

Contact Stacy Pluff with questions.
208.964.9011
s_pluff_77@yahoo.com

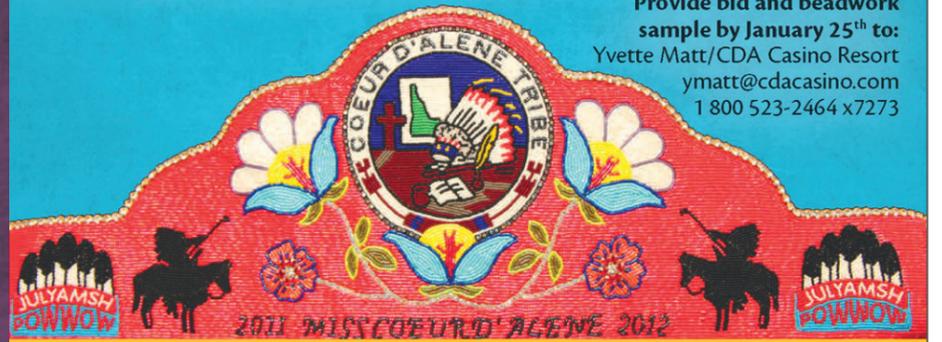
ATTENTION BEADERS!

Bids now being accepted for Miss CDA and Lil Miss CDA royalty crowns.

Bids based on fully beaded crowns with design including tribal and casino logo.

CROWNS MUST BE COMPLETED BY JULY 8TH

Provide bid and beadwork sample by January 25th to:
Yvette Matt/CDA Casino Resort
ymatt@cdacasino.com
1 800 523-2464 x7273



FRYBREAD BID!

BIDS NOW BEING ACCEPTED
for 1,000 pieces of frybread for Anniversary Powwow.

Provide bid by January 25th to:

Yvette Matt/Coeur d'Alene Casino Resort
ymatt@cdacasino.com • 1 800 523-2454 x7273

JULYAMSH 2012

Coeur d'Alene Tribal Encampment & Powwow • Greyhound Park, Post Falls, Idaho



July 20th - 22nd

\$500

ARTWORK CONTEST JULYAMSH T-SHIRT & POSTER!

SUBMIT 12"x12" DESIGN

by January 25th to:

e-mail: bwhite@cdatribe-nsn.gov

mail: CDA Casino Resort/Marketing Dept.
PO Box 236
Worley, ID 83876

Contact Bobbie White for information.

208.686.2050 • bwhite@cdatribe-nsn.gov



CDACASINO.COM | /CDACASINO

25 miles south of Coeur d'Alene at the junction of US-95 and Hwy-58

~Cradleboard News~

khwa gugwaqht'lt



Jayse Jordan Borba-Haines was born on October 7, 2011 at Deaconess Medical Center in Spokane, WA. At birth he weighed 6 lb 4 oz and was 18.5 inches long. His mother is Jaime Rochelle Borba, CDA descendent and father is Eric Haines CDA tribal member.



Trinity Jade Johnson was born at Deaconess Hospital in Spokane, Washington on October 13, 2011. She weighed 7lbs. 5 oz. at birth. Her parents are "Itsy" Lovinia Johnson of Plummer, Idaho and Antonio Tessitore of Spokane, Washington. Maternal grandparents are Lovinia "Beanie" Alexander of Plummer, Idaho and Ronald J. Johnson of Spokane, Washington.



Happy 1st Birthday
Aralynn Grace Abrahamson
Lots of Love,
Daddy, Mommy, Amya & Alexa



Happy 15th Birthday David on January 18th, we are so proud of you. Love: Mom, Grandma and uncles Zach and DJ who love you very much.

FORESTRY: cont. from page 5

and mastication. In addition, the crew will be flagging property boundaries and posting property signs for next year's fuels projects, areas will be located in the south half of the reservation. We are working on approvals for next year fuels projects on 13 Tribal and Allotted parcels for a total of 1135 acres for HFR treatments and prescribed burning located on Old Sanders, Mail Route, and Mowry Roads. We are also working on a prescribed fire burn plan that restores fire back into the ecosystem to reduce: treated and accumulated fuels, wildfire potential, and fire intensity and severity on this year's and last year's HFR projects, which is estimated at over 1000 acres. Please be cautious near the above mentioned areas and signs are posted during active operations. If you have any questions, contact Chuck Simpson – Fuels Specialist - at (208) 686-5030.

Forest Development : Seedlings were ordered for areas that need planting after recent timber harvesting and for restoring trees on former cropland in the Conservation Reserve Program. The next major TSI project will be on Tribal land in the John Point area in 2012. We will request Environmental Quality Incentive Program assistance from the Natural Resource Conservation Service to help fund the project.

Forest Management Inventory & Planning: The data analysis of Continuous Forest Inventory plots and preparation of the Inventory Analysis Report will be the major winter project this year. We expect to complete the report by March.

Douglas-fir Tussock Moth (DFTM) Update: The dramatic defoliation (loss of needles) of Douglas-fir and grand fir in the Plummer area last summer was the first year of major DFTM defoliation, but the second year that the tussock moth population had been building up to outbreak

levels. The larger defoliated trees are not dead; they will break bud and grow new needles next spring. It is hoped that the moth population will crash next year due to natural predators and a virus that kills the larvae (caterpillars). However, if not, the larvae will quickly eat the new needles and make it hard for the trees to recover and more susceptible to bark beetles.

Tom Eckberg, Forest Entomologist for the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) has led a systematic egg mass sampling effort to try to predict areas where the population of DFTM will be high next year. Tribal Forestry has used Geographic Information Systems to compare the results near stands with more Douglas-fir and grand fir than pines to identify almost 6500 acres of Tribal land and allotments that are susceptible to defoliation next

year. Further work is being done to see whether sample egg masses are infected by the virus that could kill most larvae after the eggs hatch. If not, there will be an effort to organize a cooperative aerial spray program to kill the larvae before they eat too much of the new foliage. Landowners would cooperate to reduce costs (probably coordinated by the IDL) and increase effectiveness.

If authorized by Tribal Council, some or all of the susceptible acres could be included in the spray project, which could include a selective insecticide called Dimilin or a general insecticide call Sevin or Foray (Bacteria thuringiensis) depending on timing and availability. The Natural Resources Committee will be consulted further before the Forestry program proposes action to Tribal Council.

BYBEE: continued from page 12

you on Tuesday night, Frank, and are behind you all the way on a civil court case against this industrial circus. KRFP Radio Free Moscow broadcast your accident description between 19:16 and 16:57 on the Monday, November 28, Evening Report called Exxon Shipment Lights & Crash at <http://radiofreemoscw.org/2011/11/20111128/>. If people on the Coeur d'Alene reservation want to protest the tar sands megaloads when they roll through this and other weeks, we would join all of you in a second! ember 29 Sharon Cousins to Frank Bybee (on November 28 protest event wall):

Frank, I am sorry you were hurt but glad you weren't hurt worse. The lack of professionalism in their handling of traffic is a disgrace. I have observed many unsafe conditions and practices while traveling 12 and 95 on nights when megaloads are moving.

December 4 Wild Idaho Rising Tide to Frank Bybee:

From Vickie Gar: I can fully sympathize with the experience Frank B. had. The lights are extremely confusing.

December 6 posted on Wild Idaho Rising Tide facebook page:

On November 8, a tribal member blinded by megaload lights on dark Highway 95 rear-ended a van that had slowed to ask a flagger how to proceed. Both drivers were hospitalized, but police on the scene issued no citations despite several violations. Are the megaload convoy facilitators, our public servants, avoiding yet another civil case? Imagine the scene described between 19:16 and 16:57.

Monday, November 28, 2011, KRFP Radio Free Moscow Evening Report, Exxon Shipment Lights & Crash, at <http://radiofreemoscw.org/2011/11/20111128/>

Thank you
Frank Bybee



I would like to wish Auntie's Lady Bug a very Happy 1st Birthday on 12/7/2011. Auntie Cynthia, Sergio, Jasper, Dre'don, and Grandma love you very much and wish we could be there with you on your special day baby girl. Have an awesome day love your family here in Idaho.

Career Renewal
would
like to send a
happy birthday
to one of our
counselors
Tammy Wynne
on December 10th

and

GAHF program
staff
Jannette Taylor
on December 20th

Happy Birthday!!!