



A decorative banner for Halloween. In the center, a black silhouette of a witch with a pointed hat flies on a broom. To the left and right of the witch are two hanging jack-o'-lanterns, each with a carved face and glowing orange light. The pumpkins are suspended from dark, gnarled branches that extend from the top edge of the banner.

Spook Week (1, 11) • Council Corner (3) • WA State Supreme Court (4) • Community Health (5-8) • Middle School Adventure Club (9) • Stevens Middle School (10) • Library (12-13) • Housing (13) • Recreation Calendar (14) • Department of Corrections Hiring Event (15) • Positive Indian Parenting (16) • STRONG Program (17) • TYP (18) • Weaving Club (19) • LEKT Cultural Center (20) • Home Maintenance (21-22) • Natural Resources (23) • Planning Department (24-25) • TVR (26) • LEFA (27) • Indian Shaker Church (28) • Birthdays (29)

Lower Elwha Business Committee



Back Row:
Tia Skerbeck, Secretary/Treasurer
Steve Robideau, Vice-Chairman

Front Row:
Melissa Gilman, Chairwoman
Frances Charles, Council Member
Russell Hepfer, Council Member

Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe
2851 Lower Elwha Road
Port Angeles, WA 98363
Phone: (360) 452-8471
Fax: (360) 452-8479



ʔéłxʷaʔ nəxʷsłáyəm — The Strong People

The Vision of the Elwha Klallam Tribe is to ensure that the Lower Elwha Klallam people can pass on their way of life to their children.

The Mission is to build a strong and healthy sovereign nation where Tribal members live their values and culture.

This means enhancing the lives of our people both physically and spiritually through social well being and economic independence while preserving and enhancing our natural resources and cultural heritage.

Opening up the river brought back so many memories of when my Grandma and my Mom would fish the Elwha River. - Steve (Joaquin) Robideau



ʔáy'skʷáči Council Corner

Budgets & Getting Ready for the New Fiscal Year

Every August and September are busy times for Council as we work through budget planning, preparation, and approval for the new fiscal year. There are a lot of moving pieces behind the scenes, but this work is important to make sure our programs and services continue to align with our Tribal goals, strategic plan, community needs, and the resources we have available.

First Salmon Ceremony

Our First Salmon Ceremony took place in early September and was a wonderful opportunity to come together as a community to honor and bless the river and our fleet. It was very well attended, and it was great to see so many community members come together for this important tradition.

A big thank you to everyone who helped organize the ceremony and to everyone who came out to participate and support the event.



Updates to General Community Council Meetings

Starting in October, there will be an option to listen in virtually to our monthly General Community Council meetings held at the Tribal Center. At this time, internet access at the Gathering Place isn't strong enough to reliably host the meetings virtually from there, so the virtual option will be available for meetings held at the Tribal Center.

Each month, the General Community Council agenda is mailed to local households. Every other meeting, you will find a link at the top of the agenda to register to listen in virtually.

For now, virtual participation will be limited to listening in. We are still testing the process and software and want to make sure we get things working smoothly and with as few hiccups as possible.

Meeting with Our Partners

We have been busy meeting with a variety of state, federal, and local partners. Over the past month, we have met with DNR Commissioner Upthegrove, staff from Senator Murray's office, HUD, the City of Port Angeles, The Port Angeles and Crescent School Districts, and partner Tribes.

These meetings give us an opportunity to share what is happening here, talk about the needs and priorities of our community, and continue building relationships that can help move our work forward. We are also working to align our goals and shared vision for the Tribal consultation process, so that consultation is meaningful, consistent, and reflects the priorities of the Tribe and our community.

There is a lot happening behind the scenes, and we look forward to keeping the community updated.



Washington State Supreme Court Traveling Court Program – Spring 2026 Olympic Peninsula Visit (By Diane Cabrera, Tribal Prosecutor)



The Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe helped host the Washington State Supreme Court's (WSSC) Traveling Court Program during the WSSC's Spring 2026 visit to the Olympic Peninsula on May 27 – 28. The WSSC heard oral arguments at Peninsula College on May 28th and met with PC students and staff the day before. Supreme Court Justice Raquel Montoya-Lewis paid a special visit to the Lower Elwha Museum the morning of May 27th and spoke to community and tribal staff attendees about her work on the Supreme Court as well as her legal career in Tribal and State judicial systems. Justice Montoya-Lewis encouraged involvement by indigenous youth to think about careers in the legal field and to help shape justice as they would like it to be. The local Clallam County Bar Association in collaboration with the Jefferson County Bar and the Washington Women Lawyers-Olympic Peninsula Chapter held a reception for the WSSC justices, staff, area lawyers and judges, and elected leadership at the Elwha Heritage Center the evening of May 27th. Attendees were warmly greeted with traditional Elwha drums and a song in honor of the event. The reception also included a special tribute to

remember Associate Justice Susan Owens who retired from the WSSC in 2024 after 19 years of service and who passed shortly after her retirement. Justice Owens started her legal and judicial career on the Olympic Peninsula and previously served as a judge for the Lower Elwha Tribal Court.

Sincere gratitude to the Tribal Business Committee who encouraged the Tribe's involvement in helping host the WSSC Traveling Court Program and their individual attendance at the various events. Special recognition to Suz Bennett for her excellent work in welcoming Justice Montoya-Lewis for the community talk at the Museum, Tonya Clark ED, Chrissi Ducotey at the Heritage Center, Tribal Court staff, and the LEPD for providing additional security during the Museum visit. The following links have additional pictures of the WSSC visit:

[2026 Traveling Court to Peninsula College | Flickr](#)

[Traveling Court to Port Angeles 2026 | Flickr](#)
 A link to the WSSC Traveling Program for additional information including future visits:
[Washington State Courts - Supreme Court](#)

Community Health

September Highlights

Congratulations to Community Health Representative (CHR), Audrey Gales, for being selected as a member of the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board Tribal Youth Delegate! In this role, Audrey will have the opportunity to engage in policy advocacy, leadership, development, and community-led initiatives.



Audrey is a driven leader for LEKT Community Health as a CHR. This past year she has been working to complete her WIC training and certification to offer additional support to ongoing services for women, infants, and children in the community. She has worked to establish and grow Adventure Club for middle school and high school students and organized an “Into Adulthood” Education Fair that is now kicking off as a year-long series to empower young people for the next phase of life. Audrey has also identified gaps in resources that she and the Community Health Team are committed to addressing. She is passionate about the wellbeing of all and works hard to bring resources and opportunities to her community.

Flu Vaccines Now Available!

Call the LEKT Clinic at 360-452-6252

Starting Oct. 1st, flu vaccines will be available at the LEKT Clinic. The flu vaccine is recommended annually for everyone six months and older. It can help keep you from getting sick with flu. Should you get the flu, it can reduce the severity of your symptoms.

Getting vaccinated helps protect you, your family, your community, and those most vulnerable to the spread of disease. Talk to your medical provider if you have questions.

Learn more at <https://doh.wa.gov/you-and-your-family/immunizations-and-vaccines/diseases-and-vaccines/flu#vaccine>

LEKT Health Clinic

PSA:

WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT KRATOM PRODUCTS

Kratom: What You Should Know

Kratom is a plant native to Southeast Asia that has gained popularity in the United States. Its leaves contain naturally occurring compounds that can affect the brain and nervous system. Kratom products may be sold as powders, capsules, teas, extracts, or liquids and are sometimes marketed for energy, relaxation, pain relief, or mood enhancement.

How Does Kratom Affect the Body?

Kratom can have different effects depending on the product and amount used. Some people report increased energy, alertness, and sociability at lower amounts. Higher amounts can cause relaxation, euphoria, pain relief, and drowsiness.

Kratom's active compounds interact with opioid receptors in the brain. **With regular use, a person can develop tolerance and physical dependence, meaning withdrawal symptoms may occur when use is reduced or stopped.**

Possible Side Effects

Kratom use can cause unwanted effects, including:

- Nausea, vomiting, or constipation
- Dizziness or sweating
- Drowsiness or sedation
- Rapid heartbeat or palpitations
- Anxiety, agitation, or mood changes
- Confusion or hallucinations
- Seizures
- Liver injury
- Difficulty breathing, especially when combined with other substances
- Dependence, cravings, and withdrawal symptoms

LEKT Health Clinic

PSA: WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT KRATOM PRODUCTS

Additional Risks

Kratom can be particularly dangerous when combined with alcohol, opioids, sedatives, or other drugs that affect the central nervous system. Concentrated extracts and products containing high levels of 7-hydroxymitragynine (7-OH) may also carry increased risks.

Know When to Get Help

Seek immediate medical attention or call 911 if you or someone else who has used kratom experience:

- Difficulty breathing
- Severe sleepiness or inability to wake up
- A seizure
- Loss of consciousness
- Severe confusion
- Chest pain
- A serious or rapidly worsening reaction

If you are concerned about your kratom use, dependence, withdrawal symptoms, or possible side effects, make an appointment to speak with your healthcare provider at the Lower Elwha Health Department.

Your healthcare team can provide confidential, nonjudgmental support, answer your questions, discuss potential risks, and help you determine the safest next steps.

If you or someone you know needs help with kratom or another recreational drug, reaching out to your healthcare provider is an important first step.

Call 360-452-6252 to schedule an appointment with a LEKT provider today. Transportation available through LEKT Community Health.

PÚ?QW&C

Devil's Club

Parts Used

Inner bark of stem and root,
sometimes the leaf and berry.

Medicine Preparations

- Infused oil
- Tea & decoction
- Skin & scalp wash
- Tincture
- Poultice
- Ceremonial face paint

Caution

- Large amounts, especially when taken internally, can cause diarrhea and/or vomiting.
- Avoid combining with diabetes medications without clinical guidance.
- Avoid if you are pregnant, want to become pregnant or are breastfeeding.
- People with bleeding disorders or upcoming surgery unless clinician approves.

Medicinal Use

- Decreases Inflammation in the body
- Stops the growth and/or kills certain harmful germs, bacteria and viruses, reducing the risk of infections
- Supports immune system response to colds, flus and infections
- Improves the flow of blood and circulation
- Helps to clear congestion and infections within the lungs
- Relieves pain and inflammation from arthritis
- Optimizes detoxification in the body and helps to purify the blood
- Helps to stimulate bowel movements when constipated
- Supportive to metabolic health and can help to regulate blood sugar and insulin absorption.
- Helps to expel afterbirth from the uterus after childbirth

The information provided is for educational purposes only and is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease. Herbal remedies can interact with medications or underlying health conditions. Always consult a qualified healthcare professional or licensed physician before starting, changing, or stopping any herbal or natural supplement, especially if you are pregnant, nursing, have a medical condition, or are taking prescription medications.

ADVENTURE CLUB

Thursdays after school for middle school
and high school students.

Join us for a short walk, snack, and activity



Please contact the following representatives from
Community Health, Education, and Recreation with program
questions. For TRANSPORTATION, contact Audrey or Jada.

Community Health:

Audrey Gales 564-215-3049 and Jada Cargo-Acosta 564-215-9983

Education: Maddie McLean 564-215-0351

Recreation: Jason Wheeler 360-912-4989

SMS NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2026

Middle School Update

The school year began with our last first day in the old middle school! Our incoming 7th graders have adjusted to their new schedules, the sound of construction, and eating lunch in flex class. Meanwhile 8th graders have settled back in and are preparing for their Elwha River Field Trips at the end of the month for science class!

First Day Pictures



Upcoming Events

October 27th-30th: Student Half Days and Teacher Conferences

Come visit us in the Wolf Den!



After School Programs

Monday & Wednesdays 3:15-4:15
Homework Club at SMS (Rides Provided)

Tuesdays 3:15-4:30
Carving with STRONG Program (Rides Provided)

Thursdays 3:15-4:45
Adventure Club (Rides Provided)

Contact Maddie McLean at madeline.mclean@elwha.org for information!

Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe
Presents

SPOOK Week

October 27 – October 30

Dates and times are subject to change

Tuesday October 27



2pm-4pm Spooky Treats in Dining Hall



4pm-6pm Hayrides *Permission slips required*



6pm Family Movie Night in Gym

Snacks Provided

Wednesday October 28



1pm-6pm Boosketball Camp in Gym

Sign-up by 10/9 for FREE T-shirt



6pm -8pm Spooky Trail *Public works to LE Housing*

12 and under must be accompanied by an adult

Help Support Our Community- Bring a Non-Perishable Food Donation

Thursday October 29



1pm Spooky Fun Run

Sign-up by 10/9 for FREE T-shirt



1pm-6pm S'mores & Storytelling

at Cooking Shed

Friday October 30



12pm Pumpkin Smash Kickball

at Billy White Shoes Field



1pm-5pm Hayrides *Permission slips required*



5pm-8pm Halloween Party in Gym

Food | Games | Costume Contest | Thriller Dance Contest | Photo Booth

**Permission Slips
available at LEKT
Gym**

Volunteers Needed
Contact Melaine Wheeler
to sign-up!
564-215-1724

**Port Angeles
Events**

Saturday October 31
2pm-5pm Downtown PA
Trick-or-Treating
Time TBD Shane Park
Trunk-or-Treat

A special Thank you to Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe and Spook Week Planning Team

Lower Elwha Library

October is Banned Books Month in the Library

Here at the LEKT Library, we stand against censorship and for the rights of all people to read and access information as they please under the First Amendment. That's why each year we recognize Banned Books Month to bring attention to the increasing problem of book challenges and censorship throughout the US. The American Library Association (ALA) keeps track of book bans annually, and for 2025, ALA tracked 4,235 unique titles which were challenged, 40% of which included the lived experience of LGBTQIA+ people and people of color. By reading banned books, we push back against those who wish to silence opposing viewpoints and continue the fight to ensure that everyone has free access to the information they want and need. Here are a few of the top 11 banned books from 2025 which you can find in the LEKT Library:

- Sold by Patricia McCormick
- The Perks of Being a Wallflower by Stephen Chbosky
- Gender Queer by Maia Kobabe
- Last Night at the Telegraph Club by Malinda Lo
- Looking for Alaska by John Green

**For more information,
come into the Library or go to
ala.org/bbooks**



Weekly Classes Are Back, Now at 1pm

Weekly technology and digital literacy classes are back and are now scheduled from 1-2pm on remotely on Microsoft Teams or in the Library. If you are unable to attend at the scheduled time, please reach out to Jason M at Jason.morris@elwha.org to schedule a session at a time which works for you. Here is this month's schedule:

- Oct. 7: Basic Computer Skills (NSDL9)
- Oct. 14: Internet Basics (NSDL)
- Oct. 21: Internet Safety for Parents
- Oct. 28: Information Literacy in the Post-Truth Era:
How to Tell Fact from Fake
- Nov. 4: AI Literacy: How to Use Artificial Intelligence
Responsibly and Avoid Being Fooled by It





Jarison Moses and Jaxon Williams identify fossils from the Burke Box Fossils Box from the Burke Museum which was in the Library in August. They are looking at a cast of fossilized lizard tracks, while a fossil mastodon tooth and fossil megalodon tooth appear in the foreground.

Lower Elwha Housing Department Please join us in welcoming

Michele Deo

2851 Lower Elwha Rd.
Port Angeles, WA 98363
Michele.Deo@elwha.org
PH: (360)452-8471 Ext. 7483



"Hello, my name is Michele Deo. I was raised in the Seattle area, but over the years, I've lived a bit of everywhere. Today, I am proud to call this beautiful area home as your new Housing Finance Accountant.

I bring four decades of finance, IT, and project management experience to this role. I look forward to using my background to serve the community while learning more about the rich history, traditions, and culture of the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe.

Beyond my professional life, I have a deep passion for the creative arts and community service. I am an avid photographer, and I am captivated by the natural landscapes of the Olympic Peninsula. I cannot wait for the opportunity photograph whales here.

When I am not working or behind the camera, you will likely find me with my beloved dogs. I have loved Basset Hounds since I got my very first one at eight years old, and I have shared my life with 17 of them over the years. Their gentle demeanor and compassionate breed traits have completely stolen my heart. Today, my two companions are Gryphy and George, who are five and eight years old.

Giving back is also a core part of who I am. As a Soldiers' Angel, I dedicatedly support both active and inactive duty military members by writing letters and sending care packages to thank them for their service."

Recreation Calendar

October 2026

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Gym Hours – Monday – Friday 8am-8:30pm Bathrooms/Saunas close at 8:15pm Hours are subject to change Gym Floor reserved for After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm					
5 Elder's Fitness Class 11am-12pm After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm Adult Basketball Open Gym 6:30pm-8:30pm	6 After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm	7 Elder's Fitness Class 11am-12pm MS/HS Open Gym Basketball 6:30pm-8:30pm	8 After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm	9 Elder's Fitness Class 11am-12pm After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm Nef Night 6pm-8:30pm	10 Gym Hours 10am-6:30pm
12 Elder's Fitness Class 11am-12pm After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm Adult Basketball Open Gym 6:30pm-8:30pm	13 After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm	14 Elder's Fitness Class 11am-12pm Black Light Night 5pm-8:30pm	15 After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm	16 Elder's Fitness Class 11am-12pm After School Program 2:30pm-4:30pm Nef Night 6:30-8:30pm	17 Gym Hours 10am-6:30pm
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26 Elder's Fitness Class 11am-12pm Adult Basketball Open Gym 6:30pm-8:30pm	27 Keep Eye out for Spook Week Activities Flier Spook Week Day 1	28 Elder's Fitness Class 11am-12pm Spook Week Day 2	29 Spook Week Day 3	30 Spook Week Day 4	31 Gym Hours 10am-6:30pm



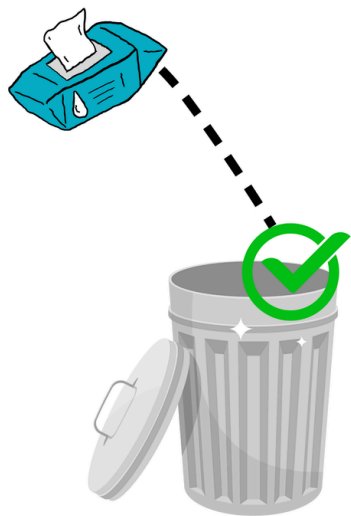
WORKING TOGETHER FOR SAFER COMMUNITIES

HIRING EVENT

Tuesday October 13th
Wednesdays, October 21st & 28th
10am - 3pm

ELWHA KLALLAM HERITAGE CENTER
401 E FIRST ST
PORT ANGELES WA 98362

Entry level corrections officers start at
\$38.95/hr! Comprehensive benefits and
transportation assistance available.
Start the hiring process in one day!



**ALWAYS dispose of wipes in the
TRASH, even if they are labeled
“FLUSHABLE”**

Flushing wipes can result in

- Clogged pipes
- Slow drains
- Costly Repairs
- Sewage backup into homes



Protect your pipes from wipes!

POSITIVE INDIAN PARENTING

8-WEEK LONG PARENTING CLASS

October 6, through November 24, 2026

Occurs every Tuesday

5:30-7:30pm

Lower Elwha Social Services
3080 Lower Elwha Road



ROOTED IN TRADITION. STRONGER FAMILIES. BRIGHTER FUTURES.

Positive Indian Parenting brings traditional Native parenting values into today's families. Through storytelling, oral traditions, cultural teachings, spirituality, and the strength of extended family, parents and caregivers will explore meaningful ways to nurture and guide their children.

- Connect with cultural traditions.
- Build positive parenting skills.
- Strengthen family relationships.
- Support happy, healthy Native children.

Together, we honor the wisdom of the past while building strong families for future generations.

TO SIGN UP:

Email Denise

Denise.Huff@Elwha.org

**Youth Activities
& Meal Provided**





xpa?čáwtx^w • House of Cedar **STRONG PROGRAM**

Substance, Treatment, Recovery, Outreach for the Next Generation

2851 Lower Elwha Road, Port Angeles, WA 98363

Darrell Charles (564) 215-120 & Harmony Arakawa - (564) 215-1445

OCTOBER CLASS PROJECT

Mask Making

10 am to 5 PM

Every Tuesday

10/6

10/13

10/20

10/27



Join us for a Coast Salish mask carving class through the month of October. Under the guidance of an experienced carver, you will explore carving techniques, tools, form, and the cultural significance of Coast Salish carving traditions while creating your own original spooky piece.

**Prize for best mask will be judged at the
LEKT Halloweed Party on 10/30/2026**

CULTURE CONNECTION OPPORTUNITIES

House of Cedar - Tuesday

Veterans Center - Wednesday 1 PM- 4 PM

Social Services - Wednesday 1 PM - 4 PM

November Class Project - Paddle Rattle Carving



- Cultural Connection
- Recovery Support
- Hands on Learning
- Youth, Family and Elders Activities
- Harm Reduction & Naloxone Access

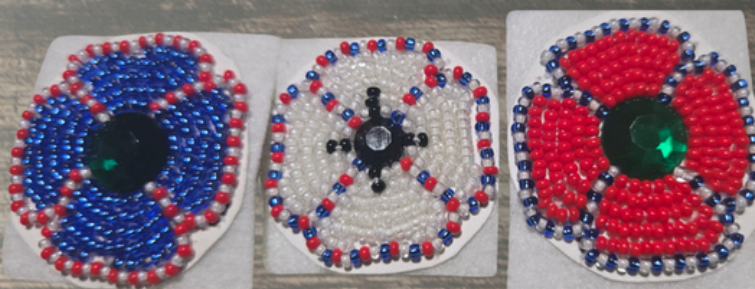
BEADING CLASSES

Mondays in October

10/5 | 10/19 | 10/26

Mondays in November

11/2 | 11/9



Beaded Poppy Flowers for Veteran's

Time: 3:00pm-7:00pm

Where: Social Services Kitchen Area

Open to the LEKT Community,
Supplies & Snacks Provided,
Transportation Available

**THANK YOU
VETERANS**

Contact:

Melaine Wheeler

Tribal Youth Program (TYP) Manager

564-215-1724



The Aunties Weaving Club

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS
10AM - 2PM

Join us every week as we weave holiday decorations and ornaments out of cedar. Open to everyone - bring snacks to share!

*Elwha Klallam Heritage Center
401 E First St Port Angeles, WA 98362
(360) 417-8545*



Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe Cultural Center

Port Angeles Water Front Project



200 Block of Front Street
Port Angeles, WA
Field Arts & Events Hall

About the Project

We are partnering with Field Hall & Events Center and Feiro Marine Center to create a unique cultural destination in our community.

Located between the new Feiro Marine Center and Field Hall, our Cultural Center will provide an opportunity to share and celebrate Klallam culture, traditions, history, and the diverse cultures of Native peoples.

This space will help connect our community and visitors to the rich cultural heritage of the Olympic Peninsula.

We Want Your Voice!

- **What Would You Like to See:** Share your ideas for programming, including art displays, dancing, drumming, singing, storytelling, and cultural demonstrations.
- **Share Our Knowledge & Stories:** Help us explore ways to preserve and share the voices of our Elders, culture, traditions, and history, including recorded stories and teachings.
- **Help Shape Our Cultural Center:** Tell us what you want the Cultural Center to be and how we can share Klallam culture with our community, the region, and visitors from around the world.



Meeting Information (Both Meetings)



LEKT Dining Hall



5pm Dinner, Meeting to follow



October 8

LEKT Elders 55 & Older ONLY



October 15

LEKT Tribal Members

**Help Shape our Cultural Center –
Share Your Voice, Culture & Vision**

Our Contact

Arlene Wheeler
LEKT Planning & Development
📞 360-460-5842
Melissa Voltz
LEKT Economic Development
📞 360-461-6969

Home Maintenance Tasks for October

October is the ideal month to prepare your home for cold weather and winter safety; this includes fire safety. Check out this checklist for tasks that will help you keep your home in a safe, clean condition.

Exterior Maintenance

- **Clean gutters and downspouts:** Remove fallen leaves and debris to prevent ice dams and water damage. Make sure the gutters are in good shape and connected securely to the fascia boards, so rain flows directly into the gutter. (See Below for More Info)
- **Inspect home's exterior and roof:** Check for peeling paint, staining or wood rot on the siding. Examine the roof for loose or missing shingles. Repair the roof before it begins to leak during a storm.
- **Winterize outdoor faucets:** Turn off the outdoor water supply, drain garden hoses, and store them away.
- **Store outdoor furniture:** Clean and cover patio furniture or move it into a shed or garage.
- **Inspect the roof and trees:** Check for loose or missing shingles and trim weak branches that could break under ice, snow or windstorm.

Interior and Safety Tasks

- **Service your heating system:** Replace the furnace filter, clean the vents and air ducts, and schedule an annual HVAC inspection. An HVAC company will do routine maintenance which will improve energy efficiency and cut down on dust that contributes to allergies.
- **If you have a fireplace or woodstove:** Have your fireplace/woodstove and chimney inspected and cleaned before you start using it. A professional can inspect for cracks, damage, soot buildup and compromised flash seal.

- **Test safety devices:** Test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, replace their batteries, and check your fire extinguishers.
- **Clean the dryer vent:** Vacuum out built-up lint from the dryer duct to reduce fire hazards.
- **Seal air leaks:** Add weatherstripping or door sweeps to doors, and caulk drafty windows between the frame and siding.
- **Countertops:** Seal darker surfaces once a year and lighter surfaces every six months.
- **Refrigerator Deep Clean:** Clean inside and out. If you have an ice maker, dump the ice and clean the tray. Check the water filter and change it if necessary. Pull the refrigerator out and clean the cooling coils and back of the refrigerator.

It's also a good time to winterize your garden, clean out annuals, apply mulch, and give the lawn one last mow. Be sure to leave some plants and leaves for the birds, bees, butterflies and beneficial bugs; they lay eggs in the flower stems and under leaves, and seeds feed the birds. Clean and store lawn equipment.

Turn your attention indoors to declutter and deep clean. If you have a ceiling fan, reverse the motor so they operate in the clockwise direction, they force warm air that collects near the ceiling down into the living space. Vacuum baseboard heaters and heating grates. Deep clean the dishwasher (check the filter), stove, oven/range, microwave, washer and dryer. Pull out the stove and clean the floor and wall. Check the range hood filter and clean or change as needed. Wash your draperies, dust your blinds, wash windows inside and out. Flip and/or rotate your mattress. Check your plumbing for any leaks or slow drains. Check your water heater and flush any buildup at the bottom following the manufacturer's instructions

(and after turning off electricity or gas).

How to Clean Your Gutters

It is essential to check your gutters and downspouts to clean out debris and complete maintenance tasks. Skip the chore, and you’re asking for problems that include failing gutters, roof leaks, wood rot and mildew, staining of exterior siding, flooding and a cracked foundation. You’ll want to make sure that water isn’t flowing down behind the gutters or pooling anywhere near the foundation or driveway.

- Check the weather forecast. It’s easier to clean the gutters if the debris is dry and it’s safer to clean when it’s not windy or raining. Have a partner to spot you while you are on the ladder.
- Tools for the task: Gather the tools you will need before you begin – sturdy ladder, tarp, bucket with S-hooks, handled plastic bags, safety glasses, waterproof work gloves, trowel or handled scoop, garden hose with spray nozzle, screwdriver to remove and reattach downspout if necessary, plumber’s snake for downspout clogs.
- If you are unsure about anything, hire a professional. Use the tarp to protect plants below. Make sure you have a sturdy ladder planted firmly on level ground; don’t climb above the second-to-last step. Put tools in the

bucket to carry them up the ladder (not in your pockets, you don’t want to end up on the wrong side of a screwdriver). Wear sturdy shoes. Use safety glasses to protect your eyes from loose debris. Avoid any power lines that may be nearby.

- Start near a downspout and work your way around the house. Clear large debris with your gloved hands and use the trowel to remove any remaining dirt and small debris. Dump it into the bucket or handled plastic bag. As you are cleaning the gutters, check for any loose connections and tighten the gutters securely to the fascia. When you’ve cleared the debris, use a hose to do the final cleaning of the gutters with a strong spray.
- Check the downspout strainer, located at the top of the spout, for clogs and rinse off. If a clogged downspout is the problem, you’ll have to work from the bottom of the spout at ground level. You can use the plumber’s snake tool to dislodge the blockage or use the hose with a strong spray. Reattach after the spout is cleared of any clogs. The next time it rains, go out and check to make sure the downspouts are flowing, and water is not running between the gutters and fascia or over the top of the gutters. Gutters are like anything else; you’ve got to maintain them and keep them clean.



Private Martinez, Oliver
2nd RTBN HOTEL CO
PLT 2169
37003 MIDWAY AVE
San Diego, CA 92140-5540

The family of Oliver Martinez would like to invite you to write to him in Marine boot camp! Graduation is November 22nd, so please send all correspondence by mid November.

We are all so proud of you, Oliver!



Happy 10th Birthday Violet!
Your family loves you so much.
Have a magical day ❤️





Join us for planting in former Aldwell reservoir November 7th 10AM-1PM



Please use the QR code to register through the Clallam Conservation District



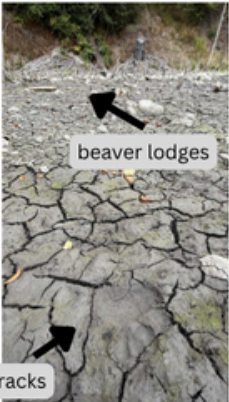
If someone is interested in planting and can't make this event, pleeease reach out to allyce.miller@elwha.org or 457-4012 ext:7489 to schedule an opportunity to help plant!

Ranney Reach receives additional restoration support



Since engineered logjams were installed below the Elwha River Rd bridge in 2024, they've interacted with seasonal flows and sediment transport to restore critical salmon habitat. This September, old growth Spruce trees salvaged from a private land development project were added to reinforce some of the structures and increase their ability to absorb the river's energy and reactivate historic floodplain areas.

Meanwhile, beavers have been busy engineering habitat upstream ...



In 2022, we began monitoring new beaver activity in the former Mills reservoir. Beavers have since enhanced habitat complexity there, creating a network of pond, wetland and stream channel habitat utilized by many other animals who are reestablishing in the area, including black bears. Images show their latest work!

Thank you to all who participated in the Hunting Ammunition Workshop!

Hosted by the Wildlife program, in collaboration with North American Non-Lead Partnership, leadership and community members learned about effects of lead in the environment and ballistics of lead-free alternatives.



Copper ammunition is available at Natural Resources — bring in any amount of lead ammunition to exchange for copper. Contact Kim Sager-Fradkin or Cameron Macias for more information!



Planning Department – What does a Grant Writer do?

The Planning Department has three employees: a Planning Director, and two Grant Writers.

The Planning Director

Arlene Wheeler leads the Planning department and directs strategies for grant search, application, and pre-grant management. She manages the staff, assigns projects, and prepares departmental budgets. She also participates in numerous aspects of the grant cycle. Arlene communicates with Tribal leadership to receive directives related to the Tribe's Strategic Plan, and she advises them regarding the funding environment, application requirements and project statuses. The position requires deep knowledge of the Tribe's history, culture and community goals, as well as a knack for strategic thinking.

The Grant Writers

Delsen Lauderback and Cathy Cooke research funding sources, write persuasive project proposals, and submit applications to secure financial support from governments, foundations, or corporations for Tribal government departments. They scan databases and foundation websites to find grants that match the Tribe's specific mission and goals. They also work directly with departments to ensure staff understand application requirements, help write grant narratives and project plans, and create budgets that connect costs to expected results. If a department writes their own grant application, the grant writing team often provides a review and suggests edits to their documents. Collaboration is a core part of the role. The grant writers coordinate with Department Directors, Finance, Legal, Administration and Council to gather application approvals, data, financial reports, and

required documents. They work on several projects and grant applications at the same time, tracking deadlines and multiple submissions. Once a grant is secured, they work alongside the awarded departments and the Finance team to officially receive and set up the funding.

What are grants?

A grant is a financial award to support a person, organization, project or program. Unlike a loan, it does not need to be paid back. It is intended to achieve a specific department goal or community milestone. The Tribe uses grants to complete projects, run programs, and provide services.

Do you want to be a grant writer?

The skills required are generally obtained through higher education and practical experience in similar fields. To excel, Grant writers must have strong written communications, excellent reading comprehension and exceptional research skills. They must also be highly organized, with acute attention to details and strict compliance with instructions.

A grant writer's job is both creative and operational. They must be able to tell a compelling story while remaining grounded in facts, budgets, and documentation.

Key Responsibilities & Skills:

- **Researching Opportunities:** A grant writer focuses heavily on finding the right funding sources to match a project, as not every grant is a fit. They evaluate requirements, eligibility, deadlines, and mission alignment before investing time into an application.
- **Data Gathering & Proposal Writing:** Writers gather program data to support each proposal. Many applications require detailed

reporting on staffing, program needs, costs, and outcomes. The final proposals must be clear, persuasive, and tailored to each funder's specific guidelines.

- **Managing Submissions:** Applications have strict formatting rules, word counts, and submission requirements—and minor errors can disqualify a proposal. Because of this, drafts go through several rounds of reviews and edits. The final package typically includes a project narrative, a detailed budget, supporting materials, and letters of support.
- **Time Management:** Grant writing demands strong time management. Writers must handle multiple applications and deadlines simultaneously, each requiring different forms, supporting documents, and approval processes.
- **Basic Financial Literacy:** You don't need to be an accountant, but you must understand how staffing costs, program materials, and operating expenses connect to project outcomes.
- **Technical Adaptability:** Grant writers need to comfortably navigate different online application portals and software systems required by various funders.
- **Interpersonal Skills:** Strong relationship skills are essential for collaborating with internal program staff to gather accurate information, as well as communicating with funders to maintain positive relationships.



How to Become a Grant Writer

If you are a Tribal member or current employee interested in a career in grant writing, the Planning Department encourages you to start building your foundation. First, consider earning a relevant degree or certification. Helpful fields of study include writing, English, communications, project management, business or marketing. Or you can learn the grant writing process and build budgeting and planning knowledge through professional training programs. For example, Peninsula College offers grant writing instruction, and the NAFOA Institute (Native American Finance Officers Association) offers an excellent grant management course focused on Tribal organizations. Additionally, the University of Washington offers an online 11-week grant writing course alongside a broader *Certificate in Grant Writing, Management & Nonprofit Finance* that covers research, storytelling, and budgeting. For interactive learning, the Washington State Department of Commerce runs the Federal Funds Grant Writing Assistance Program (FFGWAP), which provides in-person and virtual workshops, <https://www.commerce.wa.gov/federal-energy-funding/ffgwap>. You can also find free educational resources on www.grants.gov under the “Learn Grants” menu option. Finally, gain hands-on experience through internships, volunteer roles, or entry-level positions. Developing your storytelling abilities, sharpening your budget skills, and volunteering to review departmental proposals are excellent ways to gain practical experience. While grant writing jobs vary widely in pay and scope, the field offers long-term stability because organizations will always need to secure project funding.

LEKT's Vocational Rehabilitation (TVR) Presents...

Celebrating Strengths, Skills, & Culture

Accessibility and Resource Fair

Friday, October 23rd | 1pm - 5pm
Lower Elwha Gymnasium

Must be present to win door prizes.

Featuring disability resources from State and local agencies, demonstrations on assistive technology, and vendors who have graduated from TVR's entrepreneurship programs.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME! This is a free community event – come celebrate the things that make us different, learn skills for continued success, and make connections to help along the way.



For more information, contact Keeoma Messenger
360-461-4916 | Keeoma.Messenger@elwha.org

LOWER ELWHA FAMILY ADVOCACY PROGRAM

Mission: Survivor's Safety and Autonomy through Advocacy and Awareness

- Advocacy - Domestic, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, and Sex Trafficking.
- Protection Orders
- Resources & Referrals
- Case Management Assistance
- Support for court related appointments.
- Prevention & Awareness
- Crisis Intervention Support
- Address Confidentiality Program

Contact Information

Beatriz Arakawa, Program Manager, Office: 360-565-7257, Ext. 7453

 Lower Elwha Social Services  Cell: 360-460-1745  360-775-9346 - Emergency Phone Number



YOU ARE NOT ALONE!

Dear Readers,

With heartfelt appreciation to Honorable Business Committee: Melissa Gilman, Chairwoman and Frances Charles, Council, attorney Diane Cabrera, and myself for a great representation at the 21st DOJOVW- Tribal Affairs Division Government-Government Tribal Consultation in Tulalip, WA September 9-11, 2026. Both our Business Committee members provided oral testimony. This consultation was significant because the federal government solicited recommendations from Tribes about *“Administering Tribal funds and programs; enhancing the safety of Indian women from domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, homicide, stalking, and sex trafficking; strengthening the federal response to such crimes; and improving access to local, regional state, and federal crime information databases and criminal justice information systems.”* National Indigenous Women’s Resource Center.

This year National Domestic Violence Awareness theme is “With Survivors, Always”
SAVE the DATE: October 22nd, 2026, “With Survivors, Always” Domestic Violence Awareness Walk from Elwha Heritage Center to Elwha Museum.

Activities: 2:45 PM Poster making; 3:15 PM Blessings and Shawl Ceremony; 3:30 PM Walk to Elwha Museum; 4:00 PM short film in the Museum; 4:30 PM Walk back to Heritage Center; 5:00 PM Dinner, Debriefing, and Questions/Answers; 6:00 PM Closing
We are grateful to our Elwha Heritage Center and Elwha Museum staff, collaborators and partners, and our grant funder.

Respectfully, LEFA

“This project was supported by Grant No. 15JOVW-25-GG-00253-TRIB awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this publication/program/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Department of Justice.” OVW



OCTOBER IS
DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE
AWARENESS MONTH



Shaker Church News

Courtesy news for the Lower Elwha Tribal Community

October 2026

Dear Tribal and Community Members,
I hope this letter finds you well. Our Shaker Church continues to remain active in service to the Lord—blessing gatherings, homes, and tribal buildings. Our hearts and prayers are with all of the families who have lost loved ones. We pray that God brings you comfort, strength, and peace during this time.

The Lower Elwha 1910 Indian Shaker Church will continue to provide prayers and spiritual support to each and every one of you.

Our church officers, who are licensed and authorized to conduct Shaker work and blessings within the Lower Elwha Tribal Community, are listed below for your reference:

Our church officers, who are licensed and authorized to conduct Shaker work and blessings within the Lower Elwha Tribal Community, are listed below for your reference:

Minister: Jonathan Arakawa

Cell: (360) 565-6957

Email: jonathan_arakawa@outlook.com

1st Elder & Secretary/Treasurer: Johanna Bowechop

Cell: (360) 460-9283

Our Shaker Church is here to serve our community.

We offer support and assistance with the following services:

- Funerals
- Baptisms
- Weddings
- Hospital and home visits for prayer
- Home shakes and blessings
- Blessings of buildings, grounds, and more
- Opening prayers for gatherings and meetings

Please feel free to contact our church officers for any spiritual support you may need. It is both a blessing and an honor to serve God and our people.

May God bless you and your families. Masi.
Love & Prayers,

Jonathan J. Arakawa

Minister, Lower Elwha 1910 Indian Shaker Church



Lower Elwha Shaker Church

October 16-18, 2026

**Friday & Saturday: 6:00 pm
table, shake to follow**

Sunday Service at 10:00 am

Open for Baptisms

ADDRESS

**Lower Elwha Dining Hall
2851 Lower Elwha Road
Port Angeles, WA 98363**

October Birthdays

October 1st

Lonnie Charles
Nicholas Kasakan

October 2nd

Serena Barkley

October 3rd

Anthony Francis
Daniel Bennett Sr

October 4th

Molly Williams
Joleen Svec
Robert Charles
Samantha Dawson
Janet Francis

October 5th

Nellie Gloria-Salinas
Caige Lovell-Komatsu
Robin Konopaski

October 7th

Isabelle Hutchison
Mario Laungayan
Crystal Dowling

October 8th

Kaleenah Holden
Jordynn Rauch-Spencer
Teagen Bolstrom
Dominik Johnson
William Bennett

October 9th

Jason Kardonsky
David Bolstrom Jr

October 11th

Lucien Bolstrom
Cody Bankson

October 12th

Charles Mike Jr

October 13th

Kenneth Chace III
Christina Sampson
Dale Charles

October 14th

Darrell Charles Jr
Terry Stevens
Robert Reynolds

October 15th

Emily Deason
Preston Poirier
Dorene Charles
Joshua Charles

October 17th

Teyah Cross
Cathy Cooke
Carla Elofson
Melissa Gilman
Steve Lauderback
Mickey Black

October 18th

Jameson Cabras-Boyd
Eli Tipler
Valerie Ramirez
Jesse Vail
Ryan Clark
Keeoma Messenger

October 19th

Kody Muck
Chelsea Sanders
Jhene' Laungayan

October 20th

Daniel Romero

October 21st

Oliver Martinez

October 22nd

Joey Gloria
Janelle Clifford

October 23rd

Ariel Springer
Maurice Pitchford
Kiara Springer

October 24th

Dennis Sullivan
Kelsie Gish

October 25th

Nicholas Runningwolf
Maximus Sero
Jayden Tejano

October 26th

Brittany Johnson
Rachel Schaeffer-Karrer
Paisley Charles

October 27th

Wesley Wilson
Levi Charles

October 28th

Christina Charles-Bennett
Kirsten Marrs
Jallicynn Clark

October 29th

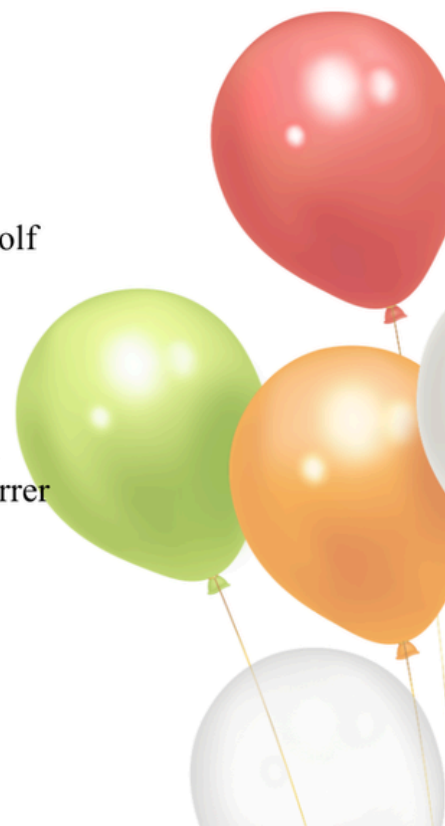
Frank Charles
Thomas Carter
Benjamin Charles Jr

October 30th

Margie Sampson
Alvin Francis
Aria Hellriegel
Cydney Moore
Mary Contreras

October 31st

Joseph Turrey
Luana Arakawa
Robert Francis IV



Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe
2851 Lower Elwha Rd
Port Angeles, WA 98363

Tribal Holiday Closure

October 12th - Indigenous People's Day