

Marysville School District's first unified sports program



By Kalvin Valdillez

The Marysville Getchell High School gymnasium was nearly filled to capacity for Friday night hoops on January 24. The pep band and full cheer squad added to the ambiance, as well as dozens of students who donned their MGHS green and white colors, showcasing school spirit while they cheered on their team.

The band played tunes such as The Final Countdown, We Will Rock You, and the Time Warp to help amp up the players on the floor while they hit a few warmup shots. And though some of the players were all business, with their game faces on, most couldn't help but hide the smiles from their faces as they

See Unified Sports, page 4

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Ulalip Tribes



Iconic McCoy quilt gifted to Tulalip Boys & Girls Club

Left: John's daughter Sheila, Tulalip Club office manager Diane Prouty, John's wife Jeannie, Tulalip Club director Shawn Sanchey, and B&GC Club of Snohomish County executive director Bill Tsoukalas. (photo courtesy Shawn Sanchey)

See Quilt, page 6

The Tulalip Tribes are successors in interest to the Snohomish, Snoqualmie and Skykomish Tribe and other tribes and bands signatory to the Treaty of Point Elliot, January 22, 1855

syəcəb, the weekly newspaper of the Tulalip Tribes

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Volume 46, No. 04 February 1, 2025 Published once-a week by Tulalip Media & Marketing 6406 Marine Drive, Tulalip, WA 98271 360-716-4200 Deadline for contribution is Monday, with publication on the following Saturday.

In memoriam: Frank F. Madison, 1923-2002 Sherrill Guydelkon, 1945-2008

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rtopaum@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov

Note: Updates and revisions done to the mailing list happen quarterly. The list is updated February, May, August and November of each year. You an contact Kalvin Valdillez at kvaldillez@tulaliptribes-nsn. gov for specific issues of the paper.

Correction

In the January 25 issue, in the article "MP wrestling quest to stay undefeated," the phone number listed for Cassidy M. was incorrect. The correct phone number is 425-212-7488. We apologize for any confusion or inconvenience this may have caused.



Tulalip Tribes 2025 Board of Directors Election Friday, April 11, 2025 From 9:00AM to 4:00PM Saturday, April 12, 2025 From 7:00AM to 1:00PM

At the Tulalip Resort Casino 10200 Quil Ceda Blvd, Tulalip, Washington 98271 Annual General Council will be held the same day beginning at **9:00 AM**

There will be a Board of Directors election on 4/11/2025 and 4/12/2025. The two (2) candidates receiving the highest number of votes will be elected to serve three (3) year terms.

THE FOLLOWING TWO CANDIDATES TERMS ARE EXPIRING: Misty Napeahi Debra Posey

Petitions will be available at the Tulalip Tribes Administration building, Election office (2nd floor) starting <u>Monday, January</u> <u>27, 2025 to Friday, February 7, 2025 4:00PM.</u>

<u>PETITION RULES:</u> * ONLY ELECTIONS STAFF CAN ACCPET A PETITION, DO NOT LEAVE WITH ANY OTHER STAFF.

* FILL OUT COMPLETELY AND SIGNED BY THE POTENTIAL CANDIDATE. * 25 SIGNATURES PER PETITION IS REQUIRED. * NO DUPLICATE SIGNATURES- VOTERS CAN ONLY SIGN ONE PETITION.

Eligibility: No person shall be a candidate for the Board of Directors unless he/she shall be an enrolled member of the Tulalip Tribes and shall have resided upon the Tulalip Reservation for a continuous period of one (1) year prior to the election, and shall be at least twenty-one (21) years of age. No person shall be a candidate if he/she has been found guilty of any felony, or a misdemeanor involving controlled substance or dishonesty in any Indian, State, or Federal court within three (3) years prior to the election.

The list of qualified candidates will be posted in a public place and otherwise be made known to the tribal membership no less than two (2) weeks prior to the election date. The Tribal rules and regulations governing elections shall apply.

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF PETITIONS Friday, February 7, 2025 at 4:00pm

Tulalip Administration Building (360) 716-4283 or electioncommittee@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov c/o Election Staff, 6406 Marine Drive, Tulalips://Aug/98271

Dated: January 9, 2025

tin Gobin
Teri Gobin, Chairwomen

 Election staff includes – Rosie Topaum, Leilani Davey, Angela Hatch, Annie Enick, Judy Gobin, Samantha Rose, Lorna Ancheta and Tracy Patrick.

*Subject to change - Voting times or day(s) and General Council Meeting.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS General Council and Election

VOTING SCHEDULE

Friday, April 11 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Saturday, April 12 7:00 AM - 1:00 PM Tulalip Resort Casino

GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

Saturday, April 12 Starting at 9:00 AM Tulalip Resort Casino

NOTE: The Board has rescheduled the General Council meeting from March to April to ensure it is six months apart from the previous meeting.

Gifts:

Available as a first come first serve on Saturday

Absentee Ballots:

- · Available from the Elections office.
- Email election@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov to request one.
- Note: You cannot vote in person if you opt for an absentee ballot

Childcare:

- Provided by BJTELA and the Tulalip Boys and Girls Club
- Contact them to sign up your child(ren)

Make your voice heard and participate in the election!

Unified Sports from front page



took in the moment.

This is the first year that Getchell implemented a new extracurricular activities program known as Unified Sports. This program promotes inclusion by bringing students with and without special needs together on the same floor as teammates, helping build friendships and providing students with intellectual disabilities the chance to experience the excitement of high school sports. Something that they are often excluded from.

As the opening buzzer sounded, the players hit the court to take on their opponents hailing from Burlington-Edison High. Just a few possessions into the game, Tulalip tribal member Xavier Jones got the ball on a fast break. As he hit the jets and drove the ball down the court, zigzagging between the opposing team members, he spotted fellow Tribal member, Sean "Optimus" Mace ahead of the pack near the low block and immediately passed him the rock.

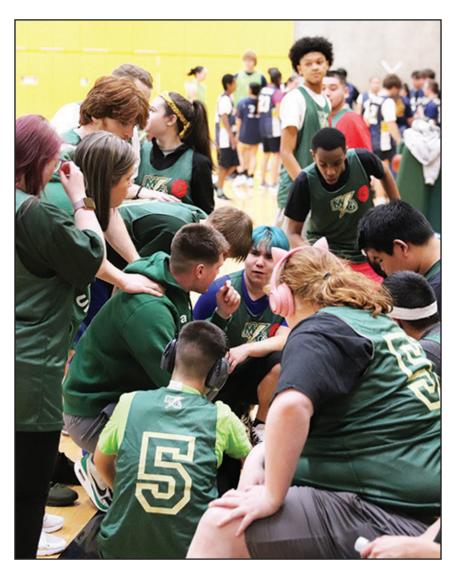
Optimus let one player zoom by and shook off another with a pump fake before going up strong and putting two points on the board for the home team. When his shot went through the net, the entire place erupted. And on his way back on defense he hit Xavier with the famous basketball nod and point of acknowledgment for the assist before blowing multiple kisses to the fans in attendance.

Unified Sports was devel-

oped by the Special Olympics and is consistently growing across the nation with nearly 9,000 schools participating in the program today. MGHS is the first Unified Sports Champion School in the Marysville School District. And though she is quick to give credit to school faculty and leadership who supported her effort, the program was ultimately brought to the school by MGHS Special Education Native Liaison and Tulalip tribal member, Amy Sheldon.

Amy shared, "A few years ago, I actually got invited to watch a Unified Champion Sports Game at Arlington High School and I was moved to tears to see how amazing it was and to see everyone playing together. I knew this was something I wanted to create for our school. We're the only Unified Champion School in the district. We're trying to make it grow and bring it to other schools like MP, but it's a lot of buy in and a lot of work. It wasn't easy. Without my friends, coworkers, our Native American Friends Club that shows up and helps us out, I wouldn't have been able to do it by myself."

Members of the MGHS Native American Friends Club were both in the stands supporting the team and also on the court, helping facilitate the game by distributing the ball to their teammates, ensuring that each person got the chance to score some points and show off their skills. What makes this story even more heartwarming is the fact that both the MGHS boys and girls varsity teams









had games the very same night in Stanwood, which means everybody in attendance chose to show up for the Unified Sports team and root them on during their second game of the season.

The unified team has numerous players on the roster, so much so that there were enough participants for three different rotations, all of whom wore the biggest grins as they made their way up and down the floor throughout the evening. The game was split into two 14-minutes halves and helped raise funds for the program by taking in donations for admission.

Altogether, there were four representatives of Tulalip on the court, including Xavier, Optimus, and Leah Stacy, along with Sammy Reyes who is a partner of a tribal member. As the final seconds of the game ticked down, MGHS was down just a few points. The team collectively made sure the final possession went to the namesake of the local non-profit Leah's Dream. And just before the closing buzzer sounded, Leah scored a layup to bring the game to an end. Leah jumped up and down in triumph after getting her bucket and was quickly joined by her entire team in her excitement.

No one was more excited for her than her grandpa, Ray Sheldon Jr., who was watching from the bleachers and threw his arms in the air when she hit her shot. Said Ray, "That was really fun! I enjoyed that a lot. She's getting better and we can see the progression. Every week she's gaining more confidence. I think that's what we're trying to do here, build confidence in these kids so that they can do many, many good things in life. My grandson Sammy was able to play a little bit too. And this is a great way for them all to get some physical activity out of it. It's exciting to see all these kids – to be able to play where they usually wouldn't have the opportunity to play. It's good that they all get this experience and learn how to work together."

Following the game, Tulalip News caught up with Xavier Jones. Xavier expressed, "I had a lot of fun. We just learned how to play basketball and even though this is new, we all try our best. My favorite part is just playing more basketball with everyone and being the best player I can be."

Amy shared that the team is currently in the process of getting in contact with other schools with a Unified Sports program and scheduling more games this season. They are also gearing up for soccer this Spring, something that all the kids are looking forward to.

"They're amazing kids," Amy stated. "This is important because it promotes inclusion and acceptance. We're just starting off small and doing the best we can. I've always wanted this inclusion, and to see this happen is like the biggest blessing. For all the funding, I'm working on grants through the Special Olympics and Tulalip Special Olympics to help build unity. This is our first season and it's so great to see how happy this makes people - the students, administrators, families. And I'm so proud that there are so many Tulalip students on the team, it's amazing!"



Quilt from front page



By Micheal Rios

As the legend goes, in 2003 John McCoy and his wife Jeannie attended a Boys & Girls Club Auction where they enthusiastically bid on, and ultimately won, a one-of-a-kind quilt. That quilt was so precious to John that he took it with him to Olympia where it remained a fixture for 17 years while he served in the Washington State Legislature.

While he served more than 10 years in the Washington House of Representatives, the quilt hung on his office wall. When he transitioned to the State Senate and proudly represented the 38th Legislative District for another 7 years, the quilt remained with him, still affixed to his office wall.

John retired from public service in 2020 and passed away in 2023, just a few months shy of his 80th birthday. Following his passing, Chairwoman Teri Gobin said, "John had a national recognition for being an innovative and visionary leader. He brought legislation forward not only for the Tribes but for the State of Washington and so many communities throughout Indian Country. He promoted bills on environment protection, health care, Native voting rights and education. Today, our children are benefiting from what John worked tireless to implement on the State, County, and Tribal levels."

Recently, Jeannie McCoy was doing some reorganizing at her home and came across a particular quilt that had been folded and boxed up with this office things. As quickly as she recognized which quilt it was, she also recognized the need for it to be gifted to a new home.

"The entire time he was in Olympia, he had this practice of hanging up quilts and Pendleton blankets in his office. That Boys & Girls Club quilt was the very first one he ever hung up. It was a constant reminder that he was always working to make things better for the kids," explained Jeannie, John's wife of an astounding 58 years. "I wasn't sure if the Boys & Girls Club would even want it, but I thought it was important to reach out and ask them. The Club staff were happy to have it and I was thrilled for it to have a new home."

When Jeannie and her daughter Sheila arrived at the Club with the quilt, they were met by staff who were eager to accept the heartwarming gift. One of those staff members was Diane Prouty, who the kids affectionately call 'grandma Diane'.

"It was a literal blast from the past. When I saw the quilt, it brought me to goosebumps and tears because I remembered making it with two other wonderful ladies, Mona Vallo and Marie Davis, who are both deceased," shared Diane. The quilt not only found a home, it had found one of its original makers.

"Within the quilt are hundreds of little hearts. Those hearts represent the hundreds of kids our Club serves every day," she added. "And the hands that form the border, those represent the staff, mentors and coaches Senator McCoy (deceased) served in the Washington State Legislature for 17 years, where he was one of the state's longest-serving Native American lawmakers.

who protect the kids and want to help create the brightest, happiest memories for every kid who walks through our doors."

John and Jeannie McCoy's grandchildren and great-children are among the countless number of Tulalip youth who've found sanctuary at the reservation's Club. A safe place where kids can just be kids and rely on the consistency of warm meals and warmhearted staff members. Plans are in the works to have the quilt hung on one of the walls in the gym. Where it can serve as a reminder to make things better for the kids, like it meant to John for all those years.

"The development of the Tulalip Boys & Girls Club and all the partnerships it's been able to establish that have really made not just the kids' lives better, but the Tribe better, too, is something John was always proud of," said Jeannie. "I can't think of a better place for the quilt to be."

A call to stewardship: Uniting for Earth Day 2025

By Wade Sheldon

Our lands are sacred. Protecting our community and the environment surrounding is essential for restoring the land and creating a healthier future-not just for the people who call this place home but also for the plants and animals that depend on these lands. They don't have a voice in how their environment is shaped, making our role as caretakers even more vital.

Natural Resources Environmental and Education Outreach Coordinator Melissa Gobin, reminds us that every day should be treated as Earth Dav. She emphasizes the importance of being stewards of the land and inspiring others to embrace this responsibility. With this spirit in mind, the Natural Resource department is reaching out to gather ideas and support for this year's Earth Day initiatives, which will take place on April 22 and the days leading up to it.

Last year's events brought the community together for meaningful activities, including a plant walk that educated participants about native species and invasive plants, clean-up efforts at local rain gardens and public spaces, and salmon habitat restoration at Quil Ceda Creek. Multiple organizations collaborated to plant trees, create shade, and support the creek's ecosystem.



These events showcased the power of teamwork and community action, leaving a lasting impact.

Building on last year's successes, the aim is to create an even more significant impact this year, focusing on trash removal, invasive species management, and maintaining public gardens. Community clean-up efforts will target areas such as 27th Avenue on the Rez, Tulalip beaches, and other local spaces. This year's initiatives include creating a seed bank and food-sharing program, encouraging community members to donate seeds, grow their gardens, and share homegrown produce to promote food security. Volunteers will clean and repair gardens across multiple Tulalip buildings and plant native vegetation to enhance green spaces.

Natural Resources will also be collaborating with local and national organizations, including the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Sound Solutions, the Marysville School District, and various tribal entities such as beda?chelh. This is а community-driven initiative, and it needs your input to succeed. Share ideas for new activities or locations that need attention, volunteer at clean-up events, plant or educational walks. booths, or donate seeds, gardening tools, or financial contributions to support restoration projects. These initiatives are focused on Tulalip but are open everyone-not to just tribal members, to create a better future for all living beings who depend these sacred lands. on Melissa Gobin "Raising emphasizes, awareness about our community's health. environment, the and sustainability efforts is crucial.Let'sinspireeveryone to love Mother Earth."

Please get in touch with Melissa Gobin at mgobin@ tulaliptribes-nsn.gov to share your ideas, volunteer, or donate. Let's make this year's Earth Day a celebration of our shared commitment to protecting the environment and ensuring a thriving future for all.

Notices

SAVE THE DATE

Problem Gambling Awareness Dinner Event

Community Dinner Extravaganza

TURE IS BRIGH

Saturday March 15, 2025 6:00pm



JR Redwater

at Tulalip Resort

Featuring:

Comedian – JR Redwater MC – Vaughn Eaglebear Recovery speakers 206 Singers Giveaways Buffet dinner and desserts Special recovery countdown



Vaughn Eaglebear



Please RSVP to 360-716-4400. SPACE IS LIMITED.

For more info contact Sarah Sense-Wilson at 360-716-4304

FEBRUARY EVENTS

SUN - THURS: 11AM - 2AM FRI & SAT: 11AM - 4AM

MONDAY

1PM: REG. \$200 - \$6/6-ON 6:45PM: EORG PAYS \$300/\$600 REG - \$6/6-ON | DBL - \$12/6-ON 2X Guest Appreciation Drawings

Five lucky winners receive a loaded machine, plus another loaded machine the following Monday. Non-transferable, playable on session won.

TUESDAY

1PM: REG. \$200 - \$6/6-ON 6:45PM: REG. \$6/6-ON | DBL. \$12/6-ON DOUBLE Pyramid Bingo: B/O - \$200/\$400 I/G - \$300/\$600 | N - \$500/\$1,000 2X Guest Appreciation Drawings Five lucky winners receive a loaded machine, plus another loaded machine the following Tuesday. Non-transferable, playable on session won.

WEDNESDAY

1PM: REG. \$200 - \$6/6-ON 6:45PM: REG. \$250 - \$6/6-ON DBL. \$500 - \$12/6-ON | TRP. \$750 - \$12/3-ON 2X Guest Appreciation Drawings Five lucky winners receive a loaded machine, plus another loaded machine the following Wednesday. Non-transferable, playable on session won.

THURSDAY

1PM: REG. \$200 - \$6/6-ON 6:45PM: EORG PAYS \$300/\$600 REG - \$6/6-ON | DBL - \$12/6-ON 2X Guest Appreciation Drawings Five lucky winners receive a loaded machine, plus another loaded machine the following Thursday. Non-transferable, playable on session won.

FRIDAY

1PM: REG. \$400 - \$8/6-ON 6:45PM: \$1,000 Games - \$11/6-ON Speed BO: 1-ON/\$1 | Payout 80%

SATURDAY

1PM: REG. \$400 - \$8/6-ON 6:45PM: \$1,000 Games - \$11/6-ON Speed BO: 1-ON/\$1 | Payout 80%

SUNDAY

1PM: REG. \$400 - \$8/6-ON 6:45PM: REG. \$300 - \$6/6-ON DBL. \$600 - \$12/6-ON | TRP. \$900 - \$12/3-ON Speed BO: 1-ON/\$1 | Payout 80%

CLUB 50+ MONDAYS

ALL GUESTS 50+ RECEIVE \$5 FREE PLAY - OR -FREE BINGO 6-ON PLUS \$2 OFF A FOOD ITEM

BIRTHDAY PARTY BINGO

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23 | ALL SESSIONS DOOR PRIZES, CAKE, PARTY HATS & MORE!











\$1,400 SWEET CASH!

BINGO & SLOTS

EACH BINGO SESSION Ten winners take home cash and a giant Valentine's bear. Buy in to bingo for any session on Valentine's Day to be automatically entered.

BIG SPIN, BIG WIN! TUESDAYS IN FEBRUARY 11AM - 8PM

Everyone who spins the wheel is a winner! Earn 100 promo slot points and spin at your favorite machine. Win BIG with up to \$1,000 Free Play.

\$10,000 EASY MONEY

THURSDAYS IN FEBRUARY 11AM - 8PM

Play at the kiosk each week to win Free Play, bingo and more. Five winners February 27 share \$5,000 cash!

LUCKY IN LOVE HOTSEATS

FRIDAYS IN FEBRUARY NOON | 6PM | 9PM

Two winners each drawing time pocket up to \$500 cash plus a Tulalip Resort Casino Stay and Dine package!

PAJAMA PARTY! SATURDAY FEBRUARY 8 | 6:45PM

Wear your pajamas to play bingo and get \$5 in Free Play, plus \$3 pizza slices, door prizes, drawings and more. Stay late and enjoy music and dancing after the session.

Management reserves the right to alter or change schedules or games and adjust payouts due to low guest count.

TULALIPBINGO.COM | 800.631.3313 | I-5, EXIT 200 WEST 100% SMOKE FREE GAMING MUST BE 18 TO PLAY BINGO, SLOTS AND PULL TABS.



JOIN US for a fun and engaging event where Tulalip Police officers can interact with children and families in a friendly environment.

Enjoy free soda, popcorn, coloring books, and badge stickers!

(OME AND MEET YOUR TULALIP POLICE OFFICERS, HAVE FUN, AND BUILD POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY! DETAILS:

January 29 February 12 February 26

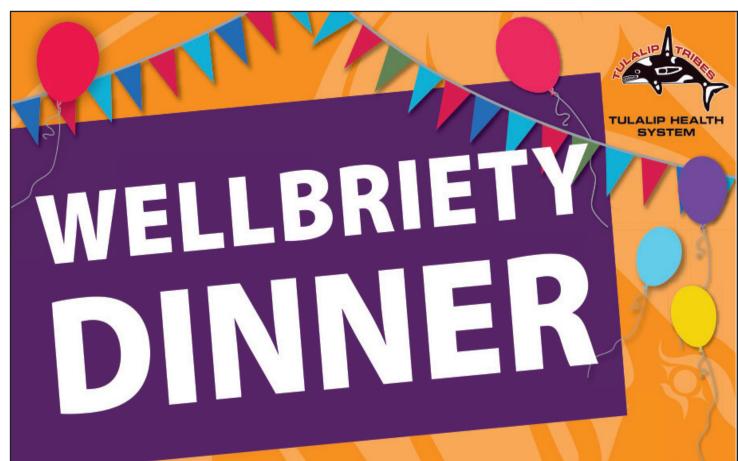
4:30-5:30рм

Teen Center 6700 Totem Beach Rd Tulalip, WA

Court notices

TUL-CV-EL-2024-0792, SUM-MONS BY PUBLICATION Tulalip Tribal Court, Tulalip, WA. TO: CASSANDRA JONES (D.O.B. 07/26/1982). You are hereby notified that a petition for a Elder Protection Order was filed in the above entitled court pursuant to TTC 4.30. You are hereby summoned to appear regarding the above-entitled action at a hearing on Tuesday, February 11th, 2025 at 9AM, in Tulalip Tribal Court, 6332 31st Ave NE, Suite B, Tulalip, WA 98271. NOTICE: You have important legal rights and must take steps to protect you interests. **RESPONDENT SHALL** APPEAR AND ANSWER THE COMPLAINT WITHIN SIXTY (60) DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THE SUMMONS, IF YOU FAIL TO REPOND OR SERVE YOUR WRITTEN RESPONSE WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE FIRST DAY OF PUBLICATION, THE COURT MAY ENTER AN ORDER OF DEFAULT AGAINST YOU, AND THE COURT MAY. WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE TO YOU, ENTER A DECREE AND APPROVE OR PROVIDE FOR THE OTHER RELIEF RE-QUESTED IN THE SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT. Date first published: December 14, 2024.

TUL-CV-YI-2024-0987. SUM-MONS BY PUBLICATION Tulalip Tribal Court, Tulalip WA. In Re the Welfare of: A. G. III TO: ANDRES GOMEZ, JR., AND SA-MANTHA BIRD GOSHORN, YOU ARE BOTH HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Youth in Need of Care action was filed in the above-entitled Court pursuant to TTC 4.05. You are both hereby summoned to appear and defend regarding the above-entitled action at an IN PERSON Adjudicatory Hearing on TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2025, at 09:00 A.M. - IN PER-SON; This will be an IN PERSON hearing in Tulalip Tribal Court; go to 6332 31st Ave NE, Suite B, Tulalip, WA 98271. NOTICE: You have important legal rights, and you must take steps to protect your interests. IF YOU FAIL TO ANSWER JUDGMENT WILL BE RENDERED AGAINST YOU. Date first published: December 21, 2024.



Thursday, February 6th, 2025 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm @ the Dining Hall, 4032 76th PI NW

COMMUNITY-WIDE CELEBRATION OF RECOVERY

DINNER FEAST

GUEST SPEAKERS

COUNTDOWN

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sponsored by Tulalip Tribes Problem Gambling Program. 360-716-4302



All family, friends and community welcome to join us in celebration of Tulalip's healing and growing together through the power of recovery.



We are excited to invite all tribal and nontribal residents of the Tulalip Reservation to an informative and engaging event. Tulalip staff and Snohomish County have joined forces to bring you various resources and information to support our community.

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Vision/Concern Table: Share your vision for your community and discuss any concerns.
- Raffle Table: Participate and win exciting prizes!
- Planning/Permitting: Get insights from Tulalip and PDS experts.
- Wastewater: Learn from Tulalip Septic and Sewer and Snohomish County Savvy Septics.
- Water: Information from Tulalip Utilities and Snohomish County Public Works.
- Code Enforcement: Meet representatives from Tulalip and Snohomish County.
- Surface Water: Discover more from Natural Resources and Snohomish County SWM.
- Natural Resources: Explore wetlands and restoration efforts by Tribe/County.
- Law Enforcement: Interact with Tulalip police and Snohomish County Crime Prevention Unit.

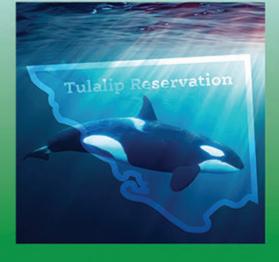
AND MORE LUNCH AND DINNER PROVIDED

For more information, contact

Val Streeter

Ginny Ramos

(360) 716-4629 vstreeter@ tulaliptribes-nsn.gov 360-716-4217 gramos@ tulaliptribes-nsn.gov



DETAILS

Wednesday March 19, 2025

2:00 – 7:00 PM

Tulalip Resort Casino Orca Ballroom

Event is for adults ages 18+

