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NON-PROFIT  
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# MUCKLESHOOT MESSENGER

## February 2026 Edition



MUCKLESHOOT INDIAN RESERVATION — AUBURN, WA

## Winter Powwow Brings Community Together



**MUCKLESHOOT** — On Jan 10, our community gathered for the Winter Powwow after the event was postponed earlier in the season due to flooding. Coming together again

made the day especially meaningful as dancers, drummers, families, and visitors filled the space from morning to evening.  
*Continued on P4 >*



## Muckleshoot Athletic Club Opens, Expanding Training and Opportunity for Future Generations

On Saturday, Jan. 24, the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe opened the Muckleshoot Athletic Club, marking a major investment in training, skill development and long-term athletic opportunity for Muckleshoot people and future generations.

*Continued on P6 >*



## Anita Mitchell Recognized as 2026 Native American 40 Under 40 Class

*Read on P2 >*

## Elders Celebrate a New Year



**MUCKLESHOOT** — Elders from the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe and their loved ones gathered together on Jan 16 at the Elders complex to celebrate the New Year. The gathering was a joyful and welcoming community celebration.

*Continued on P7 >*



## 2026 Tribal Council Election Results

*Read on P2 >*



Continued from P1:

# Our Own Tribal Council Member, Anita Mitchell, Has Been Recognized as Part of the 2026 Native American 40 Under 40 Class

**MUCKLESHOOT** — The Native American 40 Under 40 award honors Indigenous leaders under the age of 40 from across the United States who are carrying forward the work of their people through leadership, service and commitment to community. Recipients are nominated by their peers and selected for the impact they are making today and the responsibility they carry for future generations.

Mitchell currently serves as Treasurer on the Muckleshoot Tribal Council. In this role, she participates in tribal governance, actively fighting for and protecting tribal sovereignty, managing resources and continuously paving the way for our future generations.

Elected to Tribal Council at the age of 26 and sworn in at 27, Mitchell has continued to serve her people in multiple leadership roles. Her service includes time as Vice Chair during the early development of the Tribe’s Economic Development Branch, known today as the Muckleshoot Development Corporation. She has also served on the Native American Rights Fund Board of Directors, sits on Washington State’s MMI-W/P Task Force and is a champion for the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA). Mitchell is also the first Muckleshoot tribal member to become a bar-certified attorney.

Mitchell said the recognition is both personal and humbling.

“It is such an honor to be recognized by my peers through the nomination and to be selected by other Native leaders I look up to,” Mitchell said. “Personally, I wish I could share this moment with loved ones who have gone on, because they have truly been my inspiration throughout the years. Professionally, it feels like I still have more work to do before being awarded but am blessed that others see the work I have put in.”

She also shared advice for those stepping into leadership roles.

“Always look at the whole forest when trying to help your people. Lead with a leadership mindset that uplifts others, instead of a political mindset that you know best. Stay humble and keep your loved ones close.”

— Tribal Council Member  
Anita Mitchell

Recipients of the 40 Under 40 award will




be honored this coming March during the Reservation Economic Summit, a national gathering focused on economic development and Indigenous leadership.

Mitchell’s recognition reflects the strength of Muckleshoot leadership and the responsibility carried by those who step forward to serve.


The Muckleshoot Indian Tribe and community congratulate Anita Mitchell on this well-earned achievement.

## 2026 Tribal Council Election Results


On Jan. 19, the 2026 Muckleshoot Indian Tribe held its annual elections with the winning results as follows:



Virginia Cross: 408



Jessica Garcia: 369



Eileen Richardson: 311

Thank you to all who participated in this year’s election.

TRIBAL COUNCIL	IN PERSON	ABSENTEE	HAND COUNT	TOTAL
Virginia Cross	336	72	0	408
Andrew Simmons	96	10	0	106
John (JC) Byars	243	27	0	270
Glorianna Ortiz-Cross	34	6	0	40
Amelia Starr	23	0	0	23
Eli Nelson	88	6	0	94
Valerie Bellack	56	6	0	62
Henry Miller	178	6	0	184
Paul Rodarte, Jr.	63	19	0	82
Eileen Richardson	277	34	0	311
Savannah Walker	125	13	0	138
Leeroy Courville, Jr.	150	23	0	173
Hailey Joe	18	4	0	22
Danielle (Dani) Bargala-Sanchez	231	35	0	266
Marena Cross	57	6	0	63
Jessica Garcia	314	55	0	369



# Muckleshoot Tribe Hosts Legislative Reception at T-Mobile Park

**SEATTLE** — In early January, the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe hosted its annual Legislative Reception at T-Mobile Park in the Muckleshoot Diamond Club, welcoming local and regional leaders from King and Pierce counties. Originally postponed due to recent flooding, the reception brought together elected officials, community partners, and guests for an evening centered on relationship building and collaboration.

Guests gathered and enjoyed a shared meal while connecting with one another in a relaxed and welcoming setting. The evening included special appearances by the Seattle Mariners Moose and the Running Salmon,

adding energy and celebration to the event.

Chairman Jaison Elkins welcomed guests and spoke to the significance of gathering together on the ancestral homelands. His remarks reflected the Tribe’s enduring presence and commitment to working alongside neighboring governments and regional partners.

The program was emceed by Madrienne White, who guided the evening’s program. Members of the Canoe Family led the gathering with songs, grounding the reception in culture and tradition. The event opened with prayer by Warren King George.

Members of Muckleshoot Tribal Council were also in attendance, including Councilmember Jessica Garcia-Jones and Vice Chair John Daniels Jr., along with local dignitaries and officials.

Throughout the evening, guests shared conversation and strengthened connections that support ongoing collaboration across the region. The Tribe is grateful to all who attended and looks forward to welcoming partners again at its next Legislative Reception later this year.





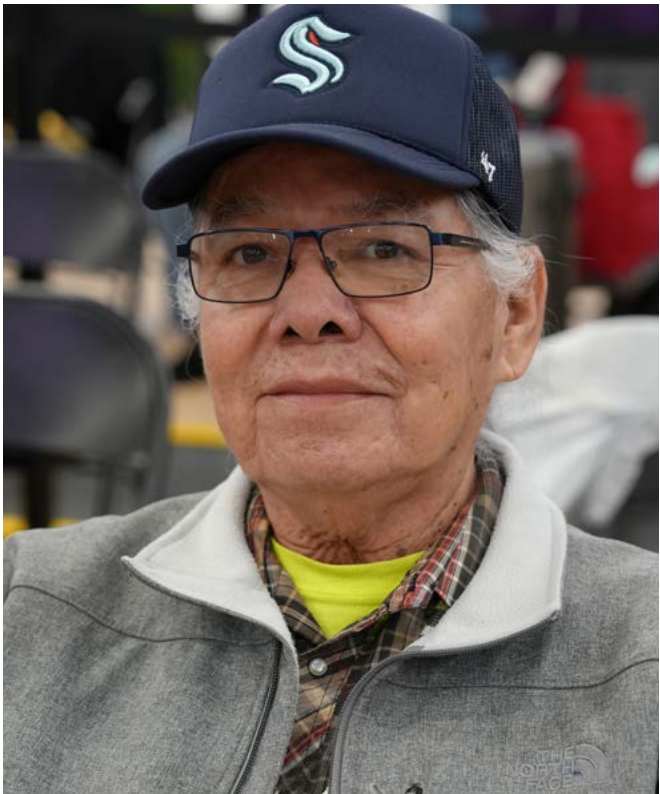
Continued from P1:

# Winter Powwow Brings Community Together

... The Powwow was full of life and movement, with participation from youth through Elders. Songs from the drum carried throughout the circle as dancers shared their gifts and stories through dance. Food and vendors added to the celebration, creating a welcoming space for connection, laughter, and time together.

We thank the Powwow Committee for their hard work and dedication in bringing this gathering to life, and we thank all who participated, danced, sang, volunteered, and joined us in celebration.

We look forward to gathering again and cannot wait to see everyone at the next Powwow.





# Laura Rudert joins Muckleshoot as Chief Operating Officer

**MUCKLESHOOT** — When Laura Rudert talks about leadership, she does not start with titles or credentials. She starts with people. With community. With responsibility to those who come next.

“I don’t see this work as just about the people today,” Rudert said. “I see it as about future generations.”

That perspective has shaped her 24-year career in public service and is what ultimately brought her to the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, where she recently began her role as Chief Operating Officer.

Rudert brings experience across federal government, philanthropy, global development, and climate resilience work. She previously served as a senior executive with the Millennium Challenge Corporation, a federal agency focused on poverty reduction and economic growth through large scale infrastructure investments. Through that work, she helped support projects ranging from schools and roads to public financial management systems, often in places where strong governance and community trust were essential.

She later joined the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, where she supported global advocacy strategy and managed operations for teams working across the world. More recently, she founded her own consulting firm, Partners for Reimagined Economies, focused on climate resilience and equity. Her work included partnerships with the World Bank, Clean Air Fund, Seattle Public Utilities, and supporting the Muscogee Creek Nation in Oklahoma.

Across all of that experience, one thing consistently stood out to her.

“One of the most important ingredients for success is community,” Rudert said. “I’ve seen that everywhere I’ve worked.”

That understanding is what made coming to a Tribal nation feel like the right next step, not just professionally but personally.

“I was very purposeful in my intent to come to the Tribe,” she said. “I am incredibly impressed by what is being built here and honored to support it.”

Her academic background reflects a long-standing interest in governance and Indigenous communities. Rudert earned her bachelor’s degree in political science from New College of Florida, the honors college of Florida, a nontraditional university that emphasizes written evaluations and original research rather than grades. Her undergraduate thesis focused on democratization in Guatemala, examining how Indigenous Mayan communities blended

customary governance, laws and traditions with Western democratic systems at the local, municipal level. Through that work, she built close relationships with Indigenous leaders and learned directly from communities working to preserve culture, autonomy, and peace after conflict.

When the opportunity to serve as Chief Operating Officer at Muckleshoot came up, that early work felt especially meaningful.

“For my parents, this felt like a full circle moment,” she said. “I get to do this work at home, in my own country, after doing so much of it internationally.”

She later earned a master’s degree from Harvard Kennedy School in political and economic development.

“I did not think I was smart enough to get in,” Rudert said. “When I received the acceptance email, I thought it was a mistake.”

Despite her credentials, Rudert is thoughtful about how titles and institutions can create distance. As she gets to know the Muckleshoot community, she has been clear that she wants to be approachable and grounded.

*“I don’t want credentials or titles to get in the way of people getting to know me. Some of the best people I’ve known have never had fancy titles, and they have done some of the most important work in the world.”*

— Laura Rudert, Muckleshoot Chief Operating Officer

That mindset shapes how she views the COO role itself. For Rudert, operations are not about control. They are about support.

“When systems do not work, it is communities that feel it first,” she said. “Operations matter because they affect real lives. My role is to help systems work better so staff can focus on serving the community,” she said.

Outside of work, Rudert describes herself as very family oriented. She and her husband have a five-year-old daughter, and motherhood has influenced many of her professional decisions, including her decision to step away from federal service in search of better balance.



“Being a mom matters deeply to me,” she said.

She is also an avid traveler and lifelong learner, driven by curiosity about culture, language, and how different communities approach problem solving. She speaks three languages and often draws inspiration from places she has lived and worked. Rudert, who is half American and half Dominican, was born in the Dominican Republic and grew up bilingual, an experience that informs her deep respect for culture, family, and community.

“I see that same creativity here,” she said of Muckleshoot. “A willingness to find solutions that fit the community.”

Although she has only been with the Tribe a short time, Rudert said she has already been struck by the scope of services and the care shown for the people.

“Every department I visit, I learn about something incredible that is happening here,” she said. “I feel very privileged to be part of it.”

As she continues to settle into her role, Rudert says listening, learning, and supporting the people who already do this work every day. “I know trust is built over time,” she said. “My goal is to show up, do the work, and earn that trust.”

“I know first impressions matter,” she said. “I want people to know that I care.”

As we welcome Laura Rudert to Muckleshoot, we are honored to have a Chief Operating Officer whose leadership is grounded in service, humility, and respect for community. We are confident her experience and values will support the Tribe’s continued work for the people today and for generations to come.



Continued from P1:

# Muckleshoot Athletic Club Opens, Expanding Training and Opportunity for Future Generations

... Developed to serve as more than a recreational space, the club provides structured environments for baseball and softball training, speed and agility work, and coaching support. The facility fills a long-standing gap by giving Muckleshoot athletes a safe, dedicated place to train, build skills and stay active close to home.

The opening celebration brought families and community members together for a day of activity and connection. Children rotated through batting cages and fields while food trucks, a live DJ, community giveaways and bounce houses added more fun as the facility came alive with great energy.

The opening also included appearances by members of the Seattle Mariners, including the Mariners Moose, who greeted families throughout the day, and Mariners infielder Ryan Bliss provided autographs and worked with community members and shared his experience and love of the game.

Former University of Washington collegiate softball player Silent Rain Espinoza was also in attendance, offering a visible example of how access to training, mentor-

ship and opportunity can lead to collegiate and professional athletic pathways.

The project was developed in partnership with the Seattle Mariners, who emphasized the importance of access, training and long-term development.

Kevin Martinez, the Mariners President of Business Operations said the partnership reflects a shared belief in the power of sport to strengthen communities and create opportunity.

“From day one, this partnership has focused on expanding access and supporting meaningful growth through baseball and softball,” Martinez said. “This facility creates a place where skills can be developed over time and where opportunity can grow for future generations.”

Muckleshoot Tribal Chairman Jaison Elkins said the vision for the athletic club came directly from community need and lived experience.

“This is all for the kids and for the future,” Elkins said. “We now have trainers, speed

and agility work, baseball and softball coaches, and a safe place where our people can stay active and build skills. This is an investment where an idea turned into something real that will serve generations.”

Elkins also thanked tribal staff and leadership for completing much of the work in-house, transforming the space from storage into a fully functional athletic club through collaboration and vision.

The Mariners committed to year-round involvement at the club, including youth camps, baseball and softball programming and special appearances by coaches and players.

Muckleshoot Athletic Club represents a long-term investment in health, confidence and opportunity, creating pathways for athletic growth that extend beyond youth programs and into future generations.





Continued from P1:

# Elders Celebrate a New Year

... The celebration centered our Elders and the importance of community, beginning with prayer and continuing through moments of shared laughter and connection. Guests enjoyed a photo booth, prizes, and time spent visiting and creating memories.

A shared meal brought everyone together, featuring a generous dinner that included crab, clams, salmon, and additional dishes

prepared for all to enjoy. The lunch was filled with joy, conversation, and appreciation for our elders, whose presence and guidance continue to ground and strengthen our community.

The New Year gathering served as a meaningful welcome back after the holidays and a reminder of the importance of honoring our Elders and coming together.









# Green River Fish Passage Project Update

**KING COUNTY** — A long-delayed project to restore fish passage on the Green River may begin construction as early as this summer. According to The Seattle Times, Congress recently approved about 190 million dollars to restart work on the fish passage and water storage project at Howard A Hanson Dam.

The dam has provided flood protection and drinking water for decades, but it has also blocked salmon and steelhead from reaching more than 100 miles of habitat upstream. The project is intended to allow fish to safely pass the dam and return to ar-

eas they have not accessed in generations.

Muckleshoot Tribal Chair Jaison Elkins has emphasized the importance of this work, saying, “We have to have salmon to continue our way of life. It’s a keystone species.”

The project has faced repeated delays over the years, largely due to funding challenges. With new funding now approved, federal officials say construction could move forward soon. Once complete, the project is expected to support healthier salmon runs and improve the overall balance of the Green River watershed.



## 2025 Salmon Jam recap

**MUCKLESHOOT** — The 7th annual Salmon Jam is a one-day Tournament at Wellness and the Community Center. Breakfast was provided and food throughout the day for the players. They all received a swag bag with a Hydro Flask, candy, hat, and a shirt. First – third receive a \$50 Nike gift card. The entry fee was unwrapped toys that are donated to Mary Bridge Children's Hospital.

Two core components are:

- Teaching kids the dangers of smoking cigarettes and vaping.
- Teaching kids empathy for others.

It would not be possible to do this without the help of the other departments. We worked closely with Jaron Artis, Recreation, on planning and scheduling. The rest of the teams are there on the day to help us manage courts, time-keep, book-keep, and cleanup. This included Recreation, YDP, Events, the Community Center, their facility and support staff, BHP Sieglinde Parker, the clinic, Amy Carey, and Dr. Ram, who provided the education component, and last but not least, the Wellness Team. The Wellness team works an additional day annually to ensure this is a fun, positive event. The Trainers and aquatics assist with the time clocks, brackets, crowd control setup, and teardown. The Wellness Coordinators start preparing food at 6 am and continue until the last game. 2025 had 23 teams with a total of 202 players, 400 spectators and 275 toys were donated to Mary Bridge.

Thank you all for your support.

— Caryn Avila, Muckleshoot Wellness Center Manager



# Blue Friday

The last few Fridays of the season brought Muckleshoot employees out dressed in their best Seahawks gear for a group photo to show that the 12's spirit runs deep.





# 2026 Muckleshoot Messenger Editorial Calendar

(February–December)

We love hearing from our community. To help us share stories in a timely and organized way, all content for the Muckleshoot Messenger is due by 5pm on the first Friday of each month. This timeline helps us make sure each story is given the care and attention it deserves.

Tribal departments and Tribal Members are welcome to submit stories, announcements, photos, and event recaps. Please send submissions to [katie.manzanares@muckleshoot.nsn.us](mailto:katie.manzanares@muckleshoot.nsn.us) and/or [shayna.brown@muckleshoot.nsn.us](mailto:shayna.brown@muckleshoot.nsn.us).

Submissions received after the deadline may be included in a future issue.

Thank you for continuing to share your stories.



We want to hear from you!  
Scan the QR Code to share your announcements, birth news, birthday shoutouts, community highlights, and more.

*\*Deadline is a Day Earlier  
Due to Holiday Closures*

Issue Month	Content Due (Friday, 5pm)	Sent to Designer (Monday)	Issue Release (online)
February	Feb 6	Feb 9	Feb 13
March	Mar 6	Mar 9	Mar 13
April	Apr 2*	Apr 6	Apr 10
May	May 1	May 4	May 8
June	Jun 5	Jun 8	Jun 12
July	Jul 2*	Jul 6	Jul 10
August	Aug 7	Aug 10	Aug 14
September	Sep 3*	Sep 8	Sep 11
October	Oct 2	Oct 5	Oct 9
November	Nov 6	Nov 9	Nov 13
December	Dec 4	Dec 7	Dec 11

PLEASE JOIN US!

MUCKLESHOOT TRIBAL SCHOOL  
PARENT/GUARDIAN  
FOCUS GROUP

In Partnership with the Muckleshoot Tribe, Education Northwest is conducting a culturally responsive evaluation of the school's academic, cultural, and student support programs. This focus group is a chance for families and community members to share your perspectives, experiences, and hopes for the school.

TUESDAY  
FEBRUARY 24TH, 2026

DINNER 5:30PM  
MEETING 6:00 PM

LOCATION: MTS CAFETERIA


PLEASE JOIN US!

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TUESDAY MARCH 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2026

6:00 PM  
ZOOM



USE QR CODE TO SIGN UP, ONCE SIGNED UP A ZOOM LINK WILL BE SENT TO YOU.



FALL 2025

SCHOLARSHIP  
HONOR ROLL

GPA 3.5 OR BETTER

IRENE ANDERSON  
*Northwest Indian College*

ROSE ARZATE  
*Northwest Indian College*

DENAUULI ASBELL  
*Seattle Central College*

LATANA BAKER  
*Northwest Indian College*

VENECIA BARRERA  
*Northwest Indian College*

SOVEREIGN BILL  
*Cornish College of the Arts*

DYLAN BRASSARD  
*University of Puget Sound*

ETHAN BRASSARD  
*New York University*

DAVID CABANAS  
*Northwest Indian College*

NEVEAH CARRILLO  
*Green River College*

TYRON CORBRAY  
*Northwest Indian College*

BRADLEY COURVILLE  
*Centralia College*

BRENDA DANIELS  
*Highline College*

DANAE DANIELS  
*Northwest Indian College*

JUANITA DANIELS  
*Northwest Indian College*

JAMES ELKINS  
*Green River College*

TIFFANY ESCALON  
*Northwest Indian College*

ISABELL FLORES  
*Green River College*

VICTORYA FOULKES  
*Northwest Indian College*

AUTUMN GAUDET  
*Palm Beach Atlantic University*

HUNTER GAUDET  
*Palm Beach Atlantic University*

CHANEA HENDERSON  
*University of Washington-Tacoma*

TAMARA HUBERTY  
*The University of New Mexico*

IRENE ISADORE  
*Northwest Indian College*

ALEXANDRA JAMES  
*City University of Seattle*

DARCILENA JANSEN  
*Green River College*

LAURA JOHN  
*Northwest Indian College*

TAESHAWN JOHNSON-BETHELY  
*Tacoma Community College*

ANNIE KITSAP-MOSES  
*Washington State University*

OLIVIA KORNDORFER  
*Washington State University*

TANIA KORNDORFER  
*Washington State University*

MAKENZI LACLAIR  
*Green River College*

CHELLYNA LESTER  
*Northwest Indian College*

TREY LOCKWOOD  
*Utah Valley University*

DARION LOZIER  
*University of California-San Diego*

SAMANTHA MILNE  
*Northwest Indian College*

MARY JANE MONAHAN  
*Northwest Indian College*

KEILANI MOSES  
*Northwest Indian College*

LUANA NELSON-DAVIS  
*Northwest Indian College*

CHANDRA NICHOLS  
*Tacoma Community College*

AMIAH PEDRO  
*University of Washington-Tacoma*

PAMELA PENN  
*Northwest Indian College*

NOVA PULSIFER  
*Northwest Indian College*

ROSEANN REEVES  
*Northwest Indian College*

LYNA SEMON  
*Clover Park Technical College*

LORETTA SOHAPPY  
*University of North Dakota*

HAILEY STARR  
*Northwest Indian College*

HUDA SWELAM  
*University of Washington-Tacoma*

HUNTER VAIESE  
*Otis College of Art and Design*

MADRIENNE WHITE  
*University of Washington-Tacoma*

WAHLEAH WIGHT  
*Green River College*

ANGEL WILLIAMS  
*University of Washington-Tacoma*

RYAN WILSON  
*University of Washington-Tacoma*

MIT SCHOLARSHIP\*  
APPLICATION DEADLINES  
Spring Quarter 2026

NEW  
STUDENTS

applying for MIT Scholarship for the first time, or starting at a new school

Applications  
due by  
March 6, 2026

CONTINUING  
STUDENTS

applying for the next term in their current program

Applications  
due by  
March 13, 2026

Apply for Muckleshoot Scholarship in the Muckleshoot Scholarship Portal:  
MEMBERPORTAL.MUCKLESHOOT.NSN.US

THE APPLICATION PORTAL CLOSSES AT 12 PM (NOON) PST.  
LATE APPLICATIONS FOR SCHOLARSHIP WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

MIT Scholarship for Muckleshoot Tribal Members only

Questions?  
ScholarshipsDept@muckleshoot.nsn.us

Muckleshoot  
Scholarship  
Orientation  
Spring 2026

Tuesday, March 24th from 12-1pm

Muckleshoot Tribal College  
Room 204

39811 AUBURN ENUMCLAW RD SE  
AUBURN, WA 98092

Zoom\*:  
[muckleshoot-nsn-us.zoom.us/j/9876543210](https://muckleshoot-nsn-us.zoom.us/j/9876543210)

\*students attending on Zoom must have camera on, or attendance will not be recorded

Students receiving Muckleshoot Scholarship must attend Orientation once per academic year

ScholarshipsDept@Muckleshoot.nsn.us

SCHOLARSHIP  
SEMINAR SERIES

PURPOSE

The purpose of our Seminar Series is to build a strong community and equip our MIT Scholarship students with the skills needed to succeed in higher education, all while integrating Muckleshoot traditions, language, and culture into the academic experience.

DETAILS

Who: MIT Scholarship Students  
Time: 3:30pm-4:30pm  
Location: Muckleshoot Tribal College (Other events TBD)  
Dates: Listed at bottom (Most seminars land on every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday)  
There will be light refreshments provided.

DATES FOR WINTER / SPRING TERM

January 15: Study Habits (Online Only, Link Below)

February 19: Mid-Winter Weave & Tea

March 19: Resume/CV Workshop

April 9: Cedar Caps

April 16: Cedar Caps

May 14: End of School Year Celebration

Zoom Link: [Muckleshoot-nsn-us/my/advisor](https://muckleshoot-nsn-us/my/advisor)

ScholarshipsDept@muckleshoot.nsn.us

REMINDER TO ALL MUCKLESHOOT HIGHER EDUCATION GRADUATES AND CERTIFICATE RECIPIENTS  
2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

LET SCHOLARSHIP KNOW

You finished your degree or earned a certificate! We're so proud of you!

PLEASE MAKE SURE TO INFORM SCHOLARSHIP OF YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENT

All you need to do is send an email to [ScholarshipsDept@muckleshoot.nsn.us](mailto:ScholarshipsDept@muckleshoot.nsn.us) with the following information:


Subject Line: Graduation Notification

Email Body:  
I am graduating from: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Example: Green River College, University of Washington, etc.)  
I am graduating with: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Example: B.A. in Education, Certificate in Welding, Certificate in Medical Assisting, etc.)

P12 · FEBRUARY 2026

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT [MUCKLESHOOT.NSN.US/MESSENGER](https://muckleshoot.nsn.us/messenger)





**KINDERGARTEN**  
**\*\*Damon Carter**  
**\*\*Alisandra Santiago Navarro**  
Malakai Brown  
Penelope Brown-Hernandez  
Dreamer Carreno  
**\*\*Oaklyn Moses**  
Zeno Shelafoe

**1st GRADE**  
**\*\*Joshua Diaz**  
**\*\*Nicolas Smiskin-Hernandez**  
Heaven Arbuckle  
Amar'e Erholm  
Nayeli Santiago Navarro  
Ezra Miller  
Nusux Sampson-Eyle

**2nd GRADE**  
**\*\*Sage Hutchins**  
**\*\*Stanley James**  
Eliana Dominick  
Kwahu James  
Xyleena Cross-Penn  
Leilani Franquez-Cross  
Liam Moses  
**\*\*Ava Jackson**  
Roman Courville-Rodarte  
Toriana Hutchins  
Janine Jerry  
Floyd Williams  
Bryon Capoeman  
Koda Schneider

**3rd GRADE**  
**\*\*Savion Kato**  
**\*\*Jesus Santiago-Navarro**  
Jacob Ames Jr  
Jakobe Elkins  
Eric Pacheco Jr  
Raven Tangedahl  
Daniel Perez  
**\*\*Yessenna Davis**  
**\*\*Jacob Dominick**  
**\*\*Jason Flores II**  
Raelynn Moses  
Shawn Starr  
Ansley Vaiese  
Viliami Taufatofua

**4th GRADE**  
Christopher Hutchins Jr  
Julie Pacheco  
Mya Tom  
**\*\*La'mia Braun**  
**\*\*Jean Cruz**  
**\*\*Justyss Starr-Moses**  
Tyler Hutchins  
Khyree Jones-Bullock  
Brandon Lloyd

**5th GRADE**  
**\*\*Paloma Flores**  
**\*\*Harlyn Moses-Cross**  
Talisia Olivas-Jansen  
Presley James  
Lilyanah Lloyd  
Shoni Wyena-Pacheco  
Tayler Williams  
Mason Corwin  
Dawn'esha Powderface

**Muckleshoot Tribal School Elementary**  
**100% Attendance: December 25 & January 26**

**\*\*= December/January**

## How To Use a Car Seat Harness



### What Is a Harness?

A car seat harness keeps a child correctly restrained in the event of a crash and spreads crash forces across the strongest areas of the child's body (hips and chest).



5-point adjustable harness

### Where Do the Harness Straps Go?



**Rear-Facing Seats**  
Shoulder harness webbing **AT or BELOW** the child's shoulders



**Forward-Facing Seats**  
Shoulder harness webbing **AT or ABOVE** the child's shoulders

### Where Does the Chest Clip Go?

The chest clip should be placed at the child's armpit level.



### How Tight Should the Harness Be?

The harness should pass the 'pinch test': when pinching the harness webbing vertically at the shoulder with the thumb and forefinger, your fingers should slide off easily and you should **not** be able to pinch any webbing between them.

The harness should lie flat and fit snugly at the child's shoulders and hips.





U.S. Department of Transportation  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration



[NHTSA.gov/TheRightSeat](https://www.nhtsa.gov/TheRightSeat)



**NHTSA**  
16678a-052325-v1a

## The Simple Facts About LATCH



### Lower Anchors and Tethers for Children

- LATCH is a system that makes child safety seat installation easier — without using seat belts. LATCH is required on child safety seats and most vehicles manufactured after September 1, 2002.
- LATCH is not required for booster seats, car beds, and vests.
- Attachments on a LATCH-equipped child safety seat fasten to lower anchors and a tether anchor in a LATCH-equipped vehicle.
- The top tether strap is located at the top rear of convertible child safety seats, forward-facing toddler seats, and combination seats. Most rear-facing infant seats do not have a top tether strap or hook as they do not generally use this equipment for installation.
- The lower anchor straps are attached to the rear of the child safety seat. Most U.S. child safety seats come with flexible lower attachments. There are a few models of child safety seats that have rigid lower attachments. Be sure to read the manufacturer's instructions.
- LATCH-equipped vehicles have lower anchors in the right and left rear seat positions. If the center seat doesn't have lower anchors, you can install your child safety seat securely using a seat belt.
- There are a minimum of three tether anchors (metal loops) in the vehicle. In sedans, these are usually located behind the vehicle's rear seat on the rear shelf. In some larger vehicles such as vans, pickup trucks, and SUVs, these anchor points may be found on the rear of a vehicle seat itself, on the floor, the roof, or other location. Be sure to carefully read your vehicle owner's manual to find out where they are in your particular vehicle and to avoid confusing them with other vehicle hardware such as luggage tie-downs.
- If your vehicle isn't LATCH-equipped, use the seat belt to install the child safety seat and, if available, a top tether.
- If your child safety seat isn't LATCH-equipped, it's still safe to use as long as it has been correctly installed using a seat belt, hasn't been recalled, and hasn't been damaged.
- For correct installation and use of **ALL** child safety seats, **ALWAYS** follow your vehicle owner's manual and child safety seat manufacturer's instructions.
- Remember, children of all ages are safest when properly restrained in the back seat.

For a child safety seat inspection by a certified technician, call 888-327-4236 or visit [www.nhtsa.gov](https://www.nhtsa.gov).





U.S. Department of Transportation  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
DOT HS 809 488



**Anchor, Tether, LATCH**  
The next generation of child safety.

March 2011



**YOU HAVE A 99% CHANCE OF SURVIVING A VENOMOUS SPIDER BITE.**



**YOU ONLY HAVE A 50% CHANCE OF SURVIVING A CRASH WITH NO SEAT BELT.**

**EVERY TRIP. BUCKLE UP. EVERY TIME.**






# Muckleshoot Birthday Shout Outs



February 17<sup>th</sup>

Happy  
Birthday  
Norman Eyle

Happy birthday brother  
Norm; we hope you have  
a good one!  
-from your sister Roberta  
& family




FEBRUARY 25<sup>TH</sup>

LYRIC  
LOZIER

HAPPY 15TH BIRTHDAY  
LYRIC!!  
LOVE MOM, KARI, POOTA,  
LAYSIA, KAT, LEE AND MANS!!





Ansley Vaiese


Happy 9th  
Birthday Ansley!  
Love, mom, dad  
and siblings!

\* Happy \*  
Birthday

February 7<sup>th</sup>

Happy 23rd Birthday Desmond L.  
Moses!


- Love Mom, Dad and Family




February 7<sup>th</sup>

Happy 12th  
birthday  
grandson!  
Gramma loves  
you!

Keoni George

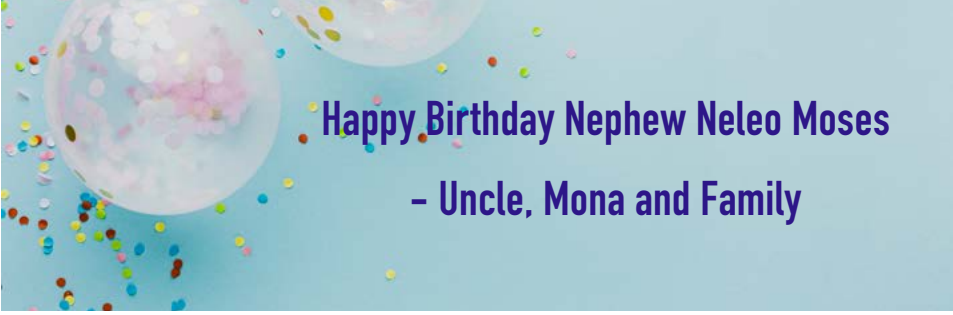




Happy 35th  
Birthday, Son.  
We hope your  
special day is filled  
with all you  
deserve, we love  
you, Tana, Nana, Z,  
Lee, Gam Gam,  
Oppah, & Family

Happy Birthday Nephew Neleo Moses

- Uncle, Mona and Family







# Muckleshoot Birthday Shout Outs





February 7<sup>th</sup>

♥

HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
TO MY  
GRANDSON,  
KEAHI!  
GRAMMA LOVES  
YOU!



HAPPY 26<sup>TH</sup>  
BIRTHDAY  
RIVER ALLEN!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
BABY BROTHER!  
LOVE YOU TO THE  
MOON.


FEBRUARY 2ND

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MOM! WE LOVE YOU SO MUCH.  
THANK YOU FOR ALWAYS BEING THE BEST,  
KINDEST, AND MOST LOVING MOTHER EVER!  
- LOVE, YOUR CHILDREN, GRANDCHILDREN, AND  
FAMILY ♥



FEBRUARY 15<sup>TH</sup>

LONNA SWANSON



February 16

For Melanie Porterfield -  
Wishing you a very happy  
birthday from all of us in  
Trust Services!


We're grateful for your  
dedication, and we wish  
you all the best on your next  
trip around the sun.

Happy  
Birthday

NIYA  
AHSHAPANEK

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BUBBIE!  
WE ALL LOVE YOU SO  
MUCH AND HOPE YOUR  
DAY IS FILLED WITH LOVE  
AND HAPPINESS!

LOVE ALWAYS, YOUR  
FAMILY <3



February 21<sup>st</sup>

Happy  
Birthday  
Agatha



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO  
OUR BIG SISTER!  
WE LOVE YOU AND  
CAN'T WAIT TO  
CELEBRATE WITH YOU!  
WISHING YOU THE BEST  
ALWAYS!

♥ YOUR FAVORITES



FEBRUARY 11<sup>TH</sup>



# Muckleshoot Birthday Shout Outs

Happy Birthday!  
Jordan Mathias

WE WOULD LIKE TO GIVE A BIRTHDAY SHOUT OUT TO MY BIG BABY JORDAN. HOPE YOU MAKE THE BEST OF YOUR DAY SON. HAVE FUN GOLFING! WE ARE SOO PROUD TO CALL YOU OUR SON AND CELEBRATE YOU. WE LOVE YOU!! ♥ LOVE MOM, DAD & LARISSA



February 6<sup>th</sup>



February 27<sup>th</sup>

Leticia "Sis" Lozier Jr.



I would like to wish my beautiful daughter a wonderful birthday and many many more blessed years to come!  
We love you so mucha mucha!  
-Mom, G, Gramma Doy, Tootzee, Rick, and My Ry Guy!

I ♥ you

February 18<sup>th</sup>



Happy 17th Birthday Derek! 🥳  
I love you and wish nothing but the best for you! So proud of you and the young man you're becoming 💕 -Mom



Happy sweet 16th birthday  
Jessenia & Jasmine!



Your big brother loves you  
to the moon and back! ♥ ♥

February 24<sup>th</sup>

Happy 25th Birthday  
Dakota E. Moses!

- Love Mom, Dad,  
and Family



Birthday shout outs  
are back! Use the QR code  
to submit a shout out for  
the next Messenger.

