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Portland Fire & Rescue's new twin fire boats, kwansəm and skukum ats, were christened on Thursday, July 16. They received Chinuk Wawa names to honor the original peoples who lived and worked along the rivers that Portland Fire & Rescue serves.

## Two new Portland fire boats receive Chinuk Wawa names

By Dean Rhodes  
Smoke Signals editor

In the near future, Portland Fire & Rescue fire boats with Chinuk Wawa names will be traversing the Willamette River under a bridge with a Chinuk Wawa name – Tilikum Crossing.

Tilikum Crossing is already constructed and awaiting its Sept. 12 grand opening, and Portland Fire & Rescue's new twin fire boats – kwansəm and skukum ats – will be plying the river's waters in about three months after crews are trained on them.

The 55-foot-long fire boats, christened on Thursday, July 16, received Chinuk Wawa names to honor the original peoples who lived and worked along the rivers that Portland Fire & Rescue serves, states a press release.

In partnership with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and Cultural Education and Outreach Program Manager Kathy Cole, as well as historian Chet Orloff, the names were selected to reflect Portland Fire & Rescue's motto and mission.

The kwansəm ("always," "forever"

and "all the time" in Chinuk Wawa) reflects the department's motto of "Always Ready, Always There" and skukum ats is the kwansəm's "strong sister."

Each of the boats can travel faster than 40 knots and has the pumping capability to 8,000 gallons per minute for both firefighting and water supply.

Each vessel has state-of-the-art electronics and communications for command and control at large incidents, and crews are being trained to respond to and assist with marine fires and hazardous materials incidents, and perform technical rescue, support dive efforts, support law enforcement, environmental mitigation response, and natural disaster response and recovery efforts.

The boats were constructed in Portland by Oregon Iron Works and each one cost about \$2.5 million, bond money Portland residents approved in 2010.

Tribal Council member Jon A. George attended the afternoon christening event and presented a Tribal necklace to Portland Fire & Rescue Marshal Erin Janssens. ■

## BIA announces new Tribal recognition rule

ST. PAUL, MINN. – Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs Kevin Washburn announced a final rule to amend the regulatory process of how the U.S. Department of the Interior officially recognizes Tribes at the National Congress of American Indians 2015 Mid-Year Conference on Monday, June 29.

The ruling fulfills a promise to speed recognition and make the steps more transparent in a process that has long been considered broken.

Tribes putting forth their sovereign status for federal acknowledgement need to prove that they were a community that had a governing authority since 1900. Supporting documents can be placed online during the recognition process with opportunity to file comments as the process moves forward.

"This updated rule is the product of extraordinary input from Tribal leaders, states, local governments and the public," Washburn said. "It is a fair compromise. We have a responsibility to recognize those Tribes that have maintained their identity and self-governance despite federal policies expressly aimed at destroying Tribes."

"Since the beginning of President Obama's administration, the department has worked with Tribal and government leaders on improving the federal acknowledgement process, which has been criticized as inconsistent, slow and expensive," said Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell. "This administration takes very seriously its important trust and treaty responsibilities to Native Americans and Alaska Natives. This updated process for important Tribal recognition makes good on a promise to clarify, expedite and honor a meaningful process for federal acknowledgement to our first Americans."

To maintain the substantive rigor and integrity of the current process, the final rule carries forward the current standard of proof and seven mandatory criteria that Tribes must meet to substantiate their claim of Tribal identification, community and political authority.

In a press release, the Department of the Interior said that more than 2,800 comments were provided on the discussed draft and more than 330 comments were submitted on the proposed rule. ■

## College Placement Testing offered

College Placement Testing is offered on-site at the Adult Education Building for Chemeketa Community College, Linn-Benton Community College and Mount Hood Community College. The Placement Test is one of the first steps to beginning college classes. Call 503-879-2282 to sign up for your placement test. ■



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**2 pm to 6 pm**

- Give to 3 organizations in one location!
- We are seeking items to create a Bed-in-a-bag. Please consider donating: tent, tarp, pillow, sleeping bag, blankets, sheets, or a foam mattress for homeless families.
- Clean out your food pantry, we'll figure out the expiration dates!
- Consider donating pet food, pet toys, or beds.
- Clean out your clutter and donate clothes, toys, household, and kitchen items!
- We will take books for our lending library.
- If you are not sure if we can take it, bring it or give us a call.





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# Farmers Market!

**When: August 8, September 12, October 10**

**Time: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

**Where: Back parking lot of the C-Store**

\*The Community Garden will have a booth and then we are opening 5 other booths for Tribal member families at the low cost of \$20 per Farmers Market. It will be first-come, first-served to sign up for booth.

\*If you are interested in having a space, please contact Kristy DeLoe 503-879-2018 or Patti LeClaire 503-879-2247

\*Funds received from booth rentals will go back to the Food Sustainability Project and Community Garden

\*Each person is responsible for supplying their own tables, tent, etc.



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