

Coquille Indian Housing Authority

Sea-Ha Runner

*A fun and informative Newsletter
for the Residents of the Kilkich Community*



Winter



I have a Dream
Martin Luther King Day

January 2016

Volume 19

Issue 1

KRA Holiday Gift Card Drawing Winners

The Kilkich Residents Association (KRA) sponsored a Holiday Gift Card Drawing again this year for the Kilkich community.

Every home with outside holiday decorations displayed by the evening of Wednesday, December 16th was entered into the random \$25 gift card drawing. Decorations could include outside lights, wreaths, yard decorations, ... any outside holiday décor.

Congratulations to the winning households!

- 1. 2627 Mexeye Loop,
Patty Heyer**
- 2. 711 Jistajaya Court,
Ken Shea**
- 3. 707 Jistajaya Court,
Hal and Kelly
VanOrtwick**

Thank you to everyone who participated and decorated this year! The community looked



FREE Christmas Tree Pickup in January

CIHA maintenance will be providing a courtesy Christmas tree pickup throughout the Kilkich community the first two Mondays in January.

1. Monday, January 4
2. Monday, January 11

Please remove the tree stand and ALL decorations from the Christmas tree.



Set the tree out beside the curb at the end of your driveway.

CIHA maintenance will stop by and pick up your tree sometime during the day.

If you have any questions, please contact the CIHA office at 541-888-6501.



Happy New Year!

January Calendar

New Year's Holiday CIHA Closed	1
Christmas Tree	4
Christmas Tree	11
KRA Board Meeting at 5:30 p.m.	11
Martin Luther King Jr. Day - CIHA	18
CIHA Board Meet- ing at	28

RENT CHECK PICKUP

Rent check pickup is available for elders and people with disabilities.

Please call the CIHA office during normal office hours at 541-888-6501 to schedule a rent check pickup.

CARPET SHAMPOOER

CIHA has a carpet shampooer with an upholstery attachment available for Kilkich residents to borrow.

The shampooer comes with cleaning solution and instructions. The unit may be checked out for up to 3 days on a first-come, first-served basis.

Please call the CIHA office at 541-888-6501, a **day in advance**, to reserve the

Tips on How To Maximize Your 2016 Holiday Credit



In 2015, as in previous years, the CIHA Board of Commissioners approved a holiday credit to be awarded to each household on Tribal Lands. The credit ranged from \$25 to \$150.

The criteria to **earn the full holiday credit** payment amount is as follows:

1. Pay your rent/house payment on

time and in full each month
2. Pass your annual household inspection

3. Return all paperwork in full and on time

4. Have no actionable neighborhood complaints

5. Have no power, water, or garbage shutoff notices

6. Have no yard notices



Please contact the CIHA office at

Meet Your New Year's Activity Goals in a Fun Way



Once a month, beginning on January 26, 2016, the Tribal Community Center will be offering an "Adult Activity Night" for adults only; childcare will NOT be available during this time.

It is a night to learn a new exercise, try new things, and be more active.

Each month, the center will bring in a different instructor to teach a new activity, which will then be followed by an "open gym/fitness room" time. January's scheduled activity is yoga.

Yoga for all levels will be taught from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

After the yoga class, there will be an open gym/fitness room time from 6:45 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. You may come for the beginning, the end, or stay for the entire evening - whatever best fits your schedule.

For more information, contact Quila Doyle, 541-888-9494, ext. 2239, or quiladoyle@coquilletribe.org

You will need to sign a gym/fitness form and waiver.

Tribal Community Center Hosts Teen/Tween Group

The Tribal Community Center hosts a Teen/Tween Group for all Kilkich resident children ages 11-18.

The group meets most Thursdays from 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Transportation and dinner are provided.

For more information, please contact Laura or John at 541-888-9494.



Be Prepared for Winter Weather and Power Outages

Colder winter weather and continued wet weather is more than likely to be in our forecast in the weeks ahead. While we haven't had a significant hard freeze yet, it is important to be prepared **BEFORE** the cold weather arrives.

Remember to:

1. Disconnect and drain all garden hoses 
2. Let inside faucets drip if outside temperatures drop below 25° 
3. Have emergency preparedness supplies on hand in the event that power goes out for a few hours/days - food, water, medications, pet food, candles, flashlights and batteries; whatever you will need to survive until the power is restored
4. Refer to the following websites for ideas and instructions on emergency preparedness 

www.emergency.cdc.gov
www.ready.gov www.fema.gov www.redcross.org

Comedy Night at The Mill Casino · Hotel



Comedy in Coos Bay starring Brad Upton Saturday, January 23, 2016

Two Shows, 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.
Must be 21 and older to attend.

Laugh with Brad Upton who is nearing 6,000 lifetime performances and gets more laughs per minute in his set than nearly anyone in the business.

Tickets are \$20 retail; \$15 for Mill Club members.

Tickets on sale now at the Ko-Kwel Gift Shop - 541-756-8800,

Join the After School Prevention Program

The After School Prevention Program is open to Killkich children ages 5-18. The Tribal Community Center is open Monday through Thursday 2:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. and on Friday 12:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. An afternoon snack is provided.



During the spring, summer, and winter breaks, the program is open from 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Breakfast, lunch, and a snack are provided. Please contact the Tribal Community Center for more information at 541-888-9494.

DRUM AND DANCE PRACTICE

Wednesday nights at the Community Plankhouse from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Children age 13 and under must be adult supervised. Questions? Contact Lyman, 541-297-5582.

LAWN EQUIPMENT

CIHA has lawn mowers, a rake, a wheel barrow, and weed eaters available for Killkich residents to borrow.

The equipment may be checked out on a first-come, first-served basis for 24 hours or over the weekend if checked out on a Friday.

Please call the CIHA office at 541-888-6501, a **day in advance**, to reserve the yard equipment.

Coquille Indian Housing Authority

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If opportunity
doesn't knock,
build a door.
~ Milton Berle



S/Nipped - Low Cost Spay & Neuter Clinic

For information on services available and to schedule your low cost spay/neuter, please call 541-808-2377 or visit the S/Nipped website at:

<http://snippedandspayed.webs.com/appointments.htm>

- × The clinic is located at 132 N. Wasson, Coos Bay (right behind Empire McKay's grocery store)
- × Female Dog Spay - \$100; Male Dog Neuter - \$100
- × Female Cat Spay - \$65; Male Cat Neuter - \$45
- × Feral Cat Package - \$45
- × Low-cost vaccinations are available for surgical patients



KRA Meeting on Monday, January 11th

KRA will meet on Monday, January 11th at 5:30 p.m. in the CIHA office. All Kilkich residents are welcome and encouraged to attend. If you are unable to attend the meeting but would like to submit a question or comment, please send an email to: kilkichresidents@gmail.com

Emergency Preparedness - How To Stay Safe Around Downed Power Lines

It is a matter of "when", not "if" a catastrophic earthquake will shake our coastal shores. Knowing what to do and what not to do could save your life - especially when it comes to electricity.

Downed utility poles and power lines will be a consequence of a major earthquake. Lines will be down across roads and perhaps even your home.

If you see a downed power line, **move away from it** and anything that touches it. The ground around power lines, up to 35 feet away, may be energized. You cannot tell whether or not a power line is energized by just looking at it - **assume all downed power lines are live.**

The proper way to move away from a power line on the ground, minimizing the potential for a strong electric shock, is to "shuffle" away with small

steps, keeping your feet together and on the ground at all times.

Electricity naturally tries to flow to the earth or ground through any and all materials that will conduct an electrical current. Wood and glass are poor conductors of electricity; water and many metals are good conductors of electricity. The human body, largely due to the amount of sodium and water in the human body, is able to conduct an electrical current.

Therefore, do not touch a person who is in direct or indirect contact with a downed line; do not attempt to move a downed power line - severe injury or even death could result. Be safe; **call 911.**

Also, non-conductive materials, like wood or cloth, if slightly wet, can conduct electricity. Never

drive over downed power lines. If your car comes in contact with a power line while you are inside, **stay in the car. Call 911 if you have a phone.** If you must escape your car (fire, leaking gas, hazardous situation), jump out of the vehicle with both feet together so both feet land at the same time, if at all possible, and **avoid contact with both the car and the ground at the same time.** Shuffle away from the car as explained earlier.

Electricity is extremely dangerous. Knowing what to do in an electrical emergency may save your life.

Visit the following websites for additional information on electrical safety and hazard

www.esfi.org

www.nfpa.org

www.pacificpower.net



Nee Dash (The Dance) – Shared Culture with the Tolowa and Siletz A Unique Celebration of the Pacific Northwest

The Coquille Indian Tribe has celebrated the winter and summer solstices on its lands for the last several years. When the Tribe holds the celebration, some participate in the dancing, while others attend the event bringing their potluck dishes, and support the dancers with their presence by whooping, clapping, and otherwise showing positive encouragement - just as their ancestors have done since time immemorial.

These celebrations are called Nee Dash (or Nee Dosh) which translates to 'The Dance' in the Tolowa Dee-Ni' language, an Athabaskan language dialect similar to Upper Coquille Athabaskan dialect. Often described as a world renewal ceremony, Nee Dash is celebrated by many native communities in the Pacific Northwest. Two of these communities are the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians and the Smith River Tolowa Dee-Ni'.

The Coquille Indian Tribe had not held 'The Dance' for decades, if not longer. This celebration had disappeared from our modern culture making the return even more significant. The Tolowa and Siletz were in a similar position with both documenting their communities holding Nee Dash celebrations in the last 20 years, after generations of holding them in secret, or not at all.

Again, Nee Dash comes from the Tolowa Dee-Ni' language and means 'The Dance'. The CIT Library has a Tolowa dictionary titled *Now You're Speaking Tolowa*. A quick search of this dictionary confirms that the Smith River Tolowa Dee-Ni' use Nee Dash to describe their world renewal ceremony.

The book includes an eleven page introduction and history, which includes a *description of their Solstice Celebration*:

"In the early days, Yontockett the 'Center of the Earth' was the host of the ten day winter solstice ceremony of Creation and Earth Renewal. Annually, Deeni people of the Smith, Winchuck, Chetco, Pistol, Rogue, and Sixes Rivers, and the Yurok of the Klamath River pilgrimage to this spiritual center to partake in the ten day Feather Dance. They gathered to dance, sing, and give praise to the Creator for his Creation, Law and Blessing." – *Now You're Speaking Tolowa*.

Tolowa Dee-Ni' is also one of the traditional languages of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians. It is a language that is taught and spoken in their community. Not a bright spot in American history, but in the mid-19th century over 1,400 Tolowa members were forced marched to the Siletz Reservation. The descendants of those who survived make up a part of Siletz's membership today.

Prior to this removal, the Tolowa and guests from neighboring villages were victims of a horrific and devastating attack during a Nee Dash ceremony. Yontockett, referenced in the above quote, was burned to the ground by a pioneer militia. The attack at this place of spiritual genesis left 600 Athabaskan speaking people dead and the location of their renewal ceremony burnt to the ground. Yontockett was renamed "Burnt Ranch" in reference to this attack.

There are many references to this atrocity, including one from an essay written by David Lewis about Tolowa fishing camps, that is included in the Coquille Tribe's Changing Landscapes series.

Speaking to the Nee Dash connection between the Siletz and Smith River Tolowa Dee-Ni' is the recently published *The People are Dancing Again*; a history of the Siletz tribes. This book contains multiple historical and modern references to Nee Dash in the Siletz community. It includes photographs of Nee Dash held in the late 1800s and of Siletz dancers in 1996 preparing for the first formal Nee Dash in the Siletz's newly built traditional dance house. This allowed for the celebration to be held as it was before treaties, the removal to Siletz, and restrictions placed on their religion.

"Despite government suppression, the ancient dance Nee Dash never died out. Siletz dancers regularly performed it at local social events such as county fairs, clam bakes, the Cherry Festival, and the Redhead Roundup. Nee Dash also was done much more traditionally, underground, after the BIA crackdown on ceremonial dances. Spiritual dances were held secretly in peoples' homes in the Siletz area, at the risk of arrest by BIA police up until the 1930s, when Commissioner John Collier revoked the ban. Private-home dances continued into the 1980s." – *The People are Dancing Again*.

The Siletz built a new traditional style dance house in 1996. During the summer solstice of that year, the Nee Dash was performed in the open, and in a traditional style house, for the first time in 120 years. This happened after years of preparation that included re-learning the Feather Dance, trips to the National Museum of the American Indian to reclaim regalia, and learning how to use traditional materials to make new regalia. Nee Dash has been performed at Siletz every summer and winter solstice since 1996.

These stories speak to the strength and resiliency of the Coquille, Tolowa Dee-Ni', and the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians. Nee Dash, 'The Dance', never died out. It was not performed by the Coquille Indian Tribe for multiple generations, but it came back. Likewise for the Siletz and Tolowa communities whose members worked hard to bring it back. You can't take pictures of the Coquille Indian Tribe's Nee Dash, but if you go, you will never forget what you saw.

Visit the Siletz's online language page at www.siletzlanguage.org and you will find several references to Nee Dash. The Smith River Tolowa Dee-Ni' have a smartphone app for their language you can download at <http://www.tolowa-nsn.gov/tolowa-dee-ni-language-app-now-available/>.

Both language programs indicate that Nee Dash means 'The Dance'.

The Coquille Indian Tribe's Community Plank House was completed in 2005, and the Tribe's first Nee Dash in a long time was held there in 2009. Drum practice, a way for members of the Tribe's community to learn, practice, and hang out with friends and family, is held there every Wednesday evening starting at 6:00 p.m.

Submitted by Chris Tanner, CIT Librarian
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