



More than 300 attend Tribe's college fair

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Fun and fundraising

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See K'wen 'inish-ha online at www.coquilletribe.org/tribalnewsletter.htm



An honor for Jack Lennox

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Photo by Clark Walworth

Tribal Chairperson Brenda Meade swears in Chief Donald Ivy and Council Rep. Eric Metcalf at the first Tribal Council meeting following the recent election. Voters retained Ivy and Metcalf in their positions. Voter turnout was 37.2 percent, with 258 out of 693 mailed ballots returned and five more marked as spoiled ballots. Full results on page 2.

Coquille Indian Tribe
3050 Tremont St.
North Bend, OR 97459



Have You Heard The News?

K'wen 'inish-ha

November, 2016

Newsletter of the Coquille Indian Tribe

Volume 24, Issue 11



**FROM THE
CHAIR**
Brenda Meade

Celebrate community, equality, progress

Dear Tribal members and families,

Fall fell with a bang on the southern Oregon coast and around the country. I hope you are staying warm and dry as we move toward winter.

As November arrives, we start to think about the Thanksgiving holiday and our Christmas parties. These special times when we gather with family and friends are busy for everyone, but I encourage you to mark your calendar to gather around the fire with your Tribal family to celebrate our Nee-Dash ceremony. It will be held at our Community Plankhouse on Wednesday, Dec. 21, starting with a pot-luck dinner at dusk. This traditional event celebrates our culture and strengthens our great nation.

Community unity

You may have heard about the two hunters who went missing recently in Curry County. From the first day, volunteers came out of the woodwork to find those missing men, and the numbers grew daily. While scores of community

Please see CHAIR, page 15



Casino's new website features Plankhouse

The Mill Casino-Hotel recently updated its entire website. The new site lets visitors more easily navigate through the pages, learn about promotions and events, and reserve hotel rooms. The new site also features an updated section on the Coquille Indian Tribe, complete with a beautiful picture of the Tribe's Plankhouse.

See more pictures online at www.themillcasino.com/about-us/coquille-indian-tribe/.

Photo by Jon Ivy

Low-income rental aid grows to include OSA

By Anne Cook
CIHA Executive Director

Thanks to a generous donation from the Tribal Council, the Coquille Indian Housing Authority is pleased to announce the availability of the low-income rental assistance to Coquille Tribal members nationwide. The initial application period for the new Monthly Housing Assistance Payments (MHAP) program for out-of-service-area members is Nov. 1 through Dec. 31, 2016. Placements will begin in January.

Go to coquilleiha.org to learn more and download an application. Income limits vary by county and may be higher than you think. To find out if you're

income-eligible, please call (800) 988-6501 or email daleherring@coquilleiha.org.

Q&A about OSA MHAP

What is OSA MHAP? OSA MHAP is a tenant-based rental assistance program that helps low-income Coquille families pay rent to private landlords outside the Tribe's five-county service area. It's similar to Section 8 in public housing.

How does it work? 1) Pay your rent. 2) Turn in your receipt. 3) Receive a subsidy check.

How do I know if I'm low-income? In-

come limits vary based on where you live and may be much higher than you think. To give you a general idea, the CIHA webpage has a link to the current national income limits. The limits for your area may be higher. Please call or email us to find out for sure.

How much is the subsidy? It depends on your individual circumstances. Again, just to give you a general idea, the current one-bedroom subsidy is \$304. It goes up from there depending on family composition and household income.

What kind of place can I rent? It can

Please see MHAP OSA, page 7

Council Meetings and Workshops

Saturday, Nov. 19

9 a.m. CIT main office.
Workshops scheduled 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 16; 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17; 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, Nov. 18.

Thursday, Dec. 1

1 p.m. CIT main office.
Workshops scheduled 10 a.m. – noon Tuesday, Nov. 29, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 30, and 9 a.m. to noon Thursday.

Saturday, Dec. 17

9 a.m. CIT main office.
Workshops scheduled 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16.

New Phone Number

Due to security concerns, the number for attending Council meetings by phone has been changed. The new number is available from the Tribal office at (541) 2756-0904. It's also on the meeting agenda, and on the Members' Portal section of the Tribal Website.

Community Events

Culture and Education Comm.

Friday, Nov. 4, 11 to 3 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 5, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Many Nations Longhouse, Eugene, Ore.

Elders Committee

Tuesday, Dec. 13, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., CELS office.

Christmas Dinners

The Tribe's Christmas Dinners are scheduled as follows:

- Lane County - Monday, Dec. 5. 6 p.m. Holiday Inn, Springfield, Ore.
- Jackson County - Wednesday, Dec. 7. 6 p.m. Inn at the Commons, Medford, Ore.

- Douglas County - Thursday, Dec. 8. 6 p.m. Umpqua Community College, Roseburg, Ore.
- Coos/Curry - Sunday, Dec. 11. 1 p.m. The Mill Casino, North Bend, Ore.

Veterans Day

Friday, Nov. 11. CIT offices closed in recognition of the federal Veterans Day holiday.

Thanksgiving holiday

Thursday, Nov. 24. CIT offices will be closed Nov. 24-25 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Elders Meal

Friday, Nov. 18. 11 a.m. The Mill Casino Salmon Room.

Jackson County Outreach Event

Friday, Nov. 18. Please contact Molly Bess at the Tribe's Health Clinic for more information.

Culture Days

Tule Flat Bag

Friday, Nov. 18. Tule reeds will be used to make flat bags at Omashi's Haws starting at 10 a.m. Tule was used for a doll-making class in Oct. Ask Danielle how you can help gather materials for future classes.

Sedge and Cedar Basket Necklaces

Friday, Dec. 2. Learn how to make a decorative necklace using traditional materials. Show it off at the 2017 Mid-Winter Gathering.

Mason Jar Gift

Friday, Dec. 16. In the spirit of the candle-making class held in early Oct., this class will help you prepare a beautiful holiday present that you can preserve food in, too.

Please call (541) 756-0904 for more information on culture and education events. Dial ext. 1233 for Theresa Libbett or ext. 1238 for Danielle Summers.

New Year's Eve

Be on the lookout for an announcement for the CIT Community Center's annual drug- and alcohol-free New Year's Eve party.

Nee-Dash Winter Solstice

Wednesday, Dec. 21. Community Plankhouse. Join members of the Tribe's community to celebrate winter solstice with a Nee-Dash. There will be a potluck dinner before the dancing begins. Please bring a side-dish or dessert to share with friends and family. Dancing begins at dusk and will last throughout the night. Please stay until morning or leave when you or members of your family feel ready to go.

CIT Election 2016

The CIT Election Board, with a quorum of three board members and two alternates present, and assisted by an independent election watcher, tabulated the ballots for the position of Chief and Representative No. 3 on the Coquille Tribal Council.

The results are as follows:

Representative No. 3 — Eric Metcalf (135); Write-in (123)

Chief — Troy Anderson (10); Don Ivy (178); Anne Niblett (64); Write-in (6)

Total eligible voters: 693

Total ballots mailed: 693

Total valid ballots: 258

Spoiled ballots: 5

Total write-ins: 129

Unknown mailing addresses: 41

Returned packets: 5

Birthdays

November

5

Jennifer Bates-Reed
Alexandra Loomis
Nicole Rodriguez
Eva Short

6

Cheyenne Lopez
Talonie Metcalf
Nico Van Ortwick

7

Robert Allard
Shawna Dodson
Baily Garrett
Isabella Jimenez
Aiyana Mendoza
Joan Metcalf

9

Alexander Mecum
Brandon Siewell

10

Ryan Stora

11

Michael Summers

12

Christopher Boyce
Caleb Burns
Shawn Chase
Hadassah DeOs
Jennifer Procter Andrews
Elias Strasman

13

Jennifer Grundman
Nathan Short, Jr.

14

Jordon Cannon
Lori Claiborne
Olive Faist

15

Jarad Gilkey
Ashley Gray
Andrew Simpson
Kaiale'a Tanner

16

Dennis Gilkey
Hilarie Mitchell
Kassy Short
Shona Turner

17

Brenda Meade
Merna Sharp
Mary Torres
Ruby Torres

18

Alexandria Jones
Andrew Metcalf
Dilon Spencer

19

Bailee Burns
Nichole Carlson
Cassandra Gilkey
Erin Van Ortwick

20

Kaylee Matheny
Aaron Mecum
Alexis Turner
Bobby Way

21

John Foerster
Colin Miller-Molitor
Abigail Simpson

22

Clay Ross

23

Mariah Epps
Michelle Epps
Katherine Matson
Trinidad Saludes

24

Westye Metcalf

Gary Robertson

25

Cohen Bennett
Brendon Mitchell

Erin Procter

26

Richard Garrett
Aaron Heihn
Waid Smith
Miles Whitley

27

Eduardo Alcolea-Meza
Ronnie Short

28

Roberto Cantu
Jared Mecum

29

Toni Brend
Jean Moore
Karsen Stinnett

30

Melissa Cooper
Kayla Garrett
Cory Powell

December

1

Linda Blakely
Dawson Chaput
Calvin Summers

2

Edward Mattos
Ashly Parrish

3

Ella Gilkey
Karson Jasper
Leland Locken
Shannon Sweet-Litzinger

4

Brian DeOs

Swimming in Seattle

Elias Strasman, a North Bend High School swim team member, recently participated in an interstate swim meet in Seattle, Wash. Elias used the Tribe's Wendy Matheny Youth Merit Program to help with travel to this meet. This is his letter:

Dear Wendy Matheny Youth Merit Program Board,

Thank you for supporting me so I could go to Sectionals in Federal Way, Washington. I swam the 1,650 freestyle, or the mile. It is 66 lengths of the pool. I competed against Oregon, Hawaii, Wyoming, Idaho, and Washington. I had a personal record with a 19:09. I was close to medaling. The top 8 medal. I got ninth.

I swam at the King Aquatic Center. It is where people try out for the Olympics. It is also where big colleges compete. The blocks were different than the blocks I am used to. I had to learn how to do them before I raced. They were good blocks.

I liked going to Seattle. Seattle is close to Federal Way. I got to see the Space Needle. It was closed so I could not go up, but I got to see it. I also got to go to Pike's Market and see one fish get thrown. We also walked around.

Thank you for the opportunity to go. It was a fun trip.

**So grateful,
Elias Strasman**



Photo by Jeranna Strasman

Swimmer Elias Strasman recently participated in an interstate swim meet in Washington. His family used the Wendy Matheny Youth Merit Program to help pay for traveling expenses. The program will pay qualified applicants up to \$500 annually to travel or attend events. Learn more at www.coquilletribe.org/YouthPrograms.htm.

ClT member Clay Beauvais aims to win Mr. MHS title

Tribal member Clay Beauvais is running for Mr. MHS, a contest for senior boys at Marshfield High School. As part of the competition, Clay is raising funds to support the local Share Bear program that provides healthy food packages to local students. He submitted this message:

Hi, My name is Clay. I am a Coquille Tribal youth, a member of the Coquille Indian Tribal Youth Council, and a candidate for Marshfield High School's Mr. MHS Charity Program.

I am active with my Tribe and my Tribe's youth leadership and I also participate in Marshfield High School sports. I was a volunteer at the Gathering of Oregon First Nations pow-wow from 2010 to 2014; the 2015 Pear Blossom Festival in Medford; attended an Environmental Impact Statement meeting on the Cedars at Bear Creek project (an interesting experience); and I have paddled in various canoe club events including the 2009 Canoe Journey, our annual Salmon Bake Celebration, and the Bandon Marsh Ceremony Paddle.

Joining my Tribe's Youth Council is a new and beneficial way for me to be more involved and keep close relations with my Tribe. I like to learn more about our ancient traditions and share them in a fun, hands-on way with our youth. Reinstating our traditions is but one way to keep our cultures' heart beating.

I have been involved in varsity wrestling, junior varsity football, track, and baseball. I have been taking online college courses through SWOCC and Brigham Young University. I am also a volunteer tutor and work with classmates before and after school who need help with math and history. I help other students understand the curriculum while also motivating them on the importance of education.

Last year I was chosen to participate in the Rotary Youth Leadership Academy, attended a week-long leadership camp, and was asked to join both the National Honor



Photo by Dasha Beauvais

Classmate Ali Randle is working with Clay Beauvais on his Mr. MHS campaign and charitable work. (Clay's best friend managed to photobomb this picture.)

Society and the Science National Honors Society. This year, I was offered to join the National High School Scholars Society, of which I am a current member.

During my free time I enjoy reading books on war, strategy, philosophy and history and listening to my favorite singer, Hank Williams Sr.

My senior partner Ali and I are raising funds throughout this school year to support ORCAA's Share Bear Snack Pack Program. We created removable window clings to help us reach a part of our goal. These clings are designed to not leave residue on window glass.

The window clings are available for a donation of \$5 each. All proceeds will support the Share Bear Program. If you are interested in supporting our goal, please contact me at dustndash@yahoo.com or call/text me at (541) 290-7782. We can deliver a window cling to you either in person or via USPS mailing.

Indigenous Pink Day highlights breast cancer

American Indian Cancer Foundation

Friday, Oct 21, was Indigenous Pink Day – a national breast cancer awareness campaign for American Indian and Alaska Native communities. The event, coordinated by the American Indian Cancer Foundation (www.americanindiancancer.org) invited men and women of all ages to wear pink and share photos using the hashtag #IndigenousPink as a means to spread breast cancer awareness.

Breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death and the most common cancer found in American Indian and Alaska Native women. Indigenous Pink Day's goals is to educate

all indigenous people on the importance of early detection and remind both men and women to keep up to date on their cancer screenings.

Tribal members and employees of the Tribe wore pink on Oct 21 to show support for Indigenous Pink Day and its goal of educating people on keeping up with their cancer screenings as a means to ensure early detection of breast cancer.

Get screened! Support our efforts by setting up an appointment with your medical provider and getting screened.

American Indians, Alaska Natives face increased risk of cancer

The data provided on cancer for American Indians and Alaska Natives is often presented as reflecting the rates for cancer diagnosis and death for the United States as a whole. Presenting data for the entire country rather than for a specific community can mask some important differences.

Why are cancer rates higher among American Indians? A high burden of cancer risk factors including tobacco abuse; alcohol abuse; diets high in animal fats and low in fiber, fresh fruit and vegetables; lack of regular physical activity; obesity; diabetes; and family genes.

Individual barriers to prevention and care include low awareness of cancer risks, low awareness of screening options, distrust of medical systems and research, fear of screening tests or results, and health benefits that may conflict with prevention practices.

Data indicates that Native Americans in the Pacific northwest have fewer cancer disparities than in other regions in the country, but also show similar or worse rates for top cancers when compared with other groups.

The most common cancers for Pacific northwest native men are lung, colorectal and prostate. Of these cancers, Native American men have a higher rate of death for colorectal cancer. The most common cancers for native women are lung, breast, and colorectal with native women having a higher rate of death from lung cancer and higher rates of both diagnosis and death from colorectal cancer.

Breast cancer is increasing every year among Native women. This disease is more common among Natives living in Alaska and the northern and southern Plains than in other parts of the country. It is less common among southwestern Tribal Nations. Even in the southwest, breast cancer is the 2nd leading type of cancer among Native women

About half of Native women are younger than 50 when they are diagnosed with breast cancer (only 1/4 of white women are diagnosed younger than 50).

(Information provided by the American Indian Cancer Foundation and the Native American Cancer Research Center.)



Photo by Mike Lenox

Supporting breast cancer awareness

To show their support for Indigenous Pink Day, Coquille Indian Tribe employees wore pink to support breast cancer awareness. CELS staff members Theresa Libbett, Danielle Summers, Bridgett Wheeler, Chris Tanner and Chelsea Burns met for a group photo at Omashi's Haws, where Danielle was running a Culture Friday class.

Get involved

Want to get involved and help in the fight? There are many ways for you to help reduce cancer and its impact on American Indian families:

- Volunteer your time and talents
- Speak up as an advocate
- Partner with us on a project
- Share your story to help others
- Share your survival stories to give others hope.
- Share your stories of catching cancer early to help us promote use of screening.
- Share your stories of families who inspire all of us to do more to fight cancer so that we can put an end to this disease.
- Donate to the American Indian Cancer Foundation
- Make a gift in memory or in honor of someone you admire. Raise money for the foundation with your friends and family.

Lenox honored for Native business growth

By **Chris Tanner**
Newsletter Editor

Tribal member Jack Lenox was a recent recipient of a Warrior Award from the Oregon Native American Chamber (ONAC), an organization dedicated to promoting business opportunities in Indian Country. Lenox received the award in recognition of his outstanding and significant contributions to the business and economic development efforts taking place in Native American communities in the Pacific Northwest. Both tribal and non-tribal business leaders and partners who work with tribes and tribal communities can receive this award.

Jack is a long-standing Chairman of the Board of Directors for ONABEN, the Oregon Native American Business and Entrepreneurial Network. His work with ONABEN has helped several Coquille Tribal members start an expand their business. He is also the Principal of JHL LLC, a business development and project management group, a member of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians' Economic Development Board, president of the West Lane Translators Board of Directors, and a member of the Coquille Tribe's Investment Committee.



Photo provided by Oregon Native American Chamber

Jack Lenox receives an Eagle Award during the Oregon Native American Chamber's annual gathering. The award was given to recognize his ongoing contributions to economic development in Native American communities. These contributions include his ongoing work with ONABEN, the Oregon Native American Business and Entrepreneurial Network, where he helped develop programs designed to assist Native American business owners and entrepreneurs create new or expand existing businesses.

Before working for the Tribe as Strategic Planner, Jack was employed by IBM as a business development manager, and later was the sales and marketing manager for IntelliMark.

Lenox received the award at ONAC's annual gathering, an event that brings

together Tribal representatives, corporate partners, city, county, and state government agencies and community leaders to celebrate the contributions of ONAC members and the Native American business community. Learn more about the Oregon Native American Chamber by visiting their web site at <http://onacc.org>

Elders Benefit reminder – form is due Dec. 31

Members of the Tribe's community who receive the Elders Benefit must return the certification form by Dec. 31.

In early November, the Tribe mailed all recipients of the Elders Benefit information about the annual certification process and the certification form. Program recipients must complete, sign and return the form by the Dec. 31 deadline in order to certify tax-free treatment of their 2016 benefit payments under the Tribe's Elders' General Welfare Assistance Program.

The Tribal Elders General Welfare Assistance Program is designed to comply with the Tribal General Welfare Exclusion Act of 2014 and Internal Revenue Code Section 139E by helping to ensure the well-being of Tribal Elders, which is an important traditional and cultural value of the Coquille people. Under the program, monthly payments provided to Tribal Elders are not considered taxable income if used for qualifying purposes consistent with the program's guidelines.

The form verifies tax-free treatment of the payments received, and confirms the benefits paid in 2016 do not exceed the total amount spent during the year for qualifying "Safe Harbor" expenses.

For any questions about the annual certification requirements, please refer to the information contained in the mailing or call the Tribal Office at (541) 756-0904 or (800) 622-5869 and ask to speak with:

- Mark Gagnon, Chief Financial Officer;
- Jon Ivy, Tribal Member Services Coordinator;
- Or Scott Mickelson, Tribal Attorney.

Thank you for returning your certification form on time!

Health Advisory Board seeking members

The Coquille Indian Tribe Community Health Center is recruiting Coquille Tribal members for the Health Advisory Board. The term for the current Board members ends Dec. 31.

No expertise required

Any Coquille Tribal member can serve on the Health Advisory Board. No education or work experience is required.

The board consists of Coquille Tribal members who have an interest in the health and wellness of Tribal members and their families.

Advises Tribal Council

The Advisory Health Board helps the Coquille Tribal Council ensure the CIT Community Health Center provides efficient and effective health care to Tribal members and other eligible individuals.

The Board meets a minimum of four times per year to review policies, program eligibility and advise the Community Health Center Administration regarding program development, assessment, direction and allocation of resources.

If you are interested, please send a resume or letter describing your experience and a statement expressing your interest to serve on the Health Advisory Board. The board is composed of five Tribal members and the Community Health Center's Health and Human Services Administrator.

Interested individuals must submit their letter or resume no later than December 31, 2016. If you have any questions, please contact Kelle Little, Health and Human Services Administrator, at (800) 344-8583 or (541) 888-9494, ext. 2217, or kellelittle@coquilletribe.org.

New exhibit features 14,000 years of Oregon culture

**From the University of Oregon
Museum of Natural and Cultural History**

Who were Oregon's first people, and when did they get here? How are ancient Oregon cultures reflected in the traditions of today's tribes? Visitors to the Museum of Natural and Cultural History can explore these questions at the newly redesigned exhibit: Oregon — Where Past is Present.

The exhibit's grand reopening weekend was set for 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 5 and 6 at 1680 E. 15th Ave. in Eugene.

Under construction since January, the revamped exhibit will feature rare artifacts, enhanced basketry and weaving displays, touchscreen learning stations and an all-new interactive zone titled Paisley Caves and the First Americans.

Through remains like stone tools, woven fibers and even ancient feces, Paisley Caves and the First Americans tells the story of Oregon's earliest known human occupation. It also tells the more recent story of research at the site and how it's reshaping long-held theories about the peopling of the Americas.

The latter story begins with Luther Cressman, the museum's founding director, who in the 1930s asserted that humans and Pleistocene megafauna had coexisted at Paisley Caves.

"No one believed that a human occupation in Oregon could be as ancient as Cressman claimed, and the dating techniques available at that time weren't reliable enough to change many minds," said Dennis Jenkins, who in 2002 resumed investigations at the site with the goal of testing Cressman's conclusions.

Minds started changing after Jenkins and his colleagues uncovered a number of human coprolites, or dried feces, at the site. Subsequent DNA analysis conducted at the University of Copenhagen together with radiocarbon dating of the specimens confirmed that humans had occupied Paisley Caves more than 14,000 years ago, predating Clovis culture — long regarded as the oldest cultural tradition in North America — by more than a thousand years.

In addition to the Paisley display, visitors can explore Oregon's major cultural regions through lifelike dioramas, interactive touchscreens, and archaeological and historical objects from museum collections, many of which have never before been on public view.

Among the new items slated for display is a mysterious duck sculpture that was uncovered near Mapleton, Ore., in 1956.

"The duck is unusual. It differs stylistically from typical Columbia River

and Northwest Coast stone carvings, and it comes from an area where few stone representations of animals have been found," said Pamela Endzweig, director of the museum's anthropological collections. "It's a unique item — and it seems especially appropriate to include it in an exhibit at the University of Oregon."

A fiber arts display showcases thousands of years of weaving practices — ranging from the oldest basketry fragment ever uncovered in Oregon to historical items from around the Pacific Northwest. Visitors will get a view into the museum's ongoing fiber artifacts research, and at a nearby interactive station they can try their hand at ancient weaving styles.

"The museum holds a world-class collection of woven fiber artifacts from sites across the Northern Great Basin, including the famous 10,000-year-old sandals from Fort Rock Cave," said the museum's archaeological research director, Tom Connolly. "The items from this collection reveal Oregon's deep history of weaving traditions and point to its ongoing life within Native American communities today."

"Tribes from across Oregon contributed images, stories and contemporary items to the exhibit," said Ann Craig, the museum's exhibitions director. "From the poetry of Oregon Poet Laureate

Elizabeth Woody (Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs) to a handcrafted canoe paddle by Shirod Younker (Coquille), the items demonstrate a continuity of technology and practice over thousands of years."

Visitors to the exhibit will be encouraged to add their voices to Oregon's collective story. Part of the redesigned space is devoted to a visitor-created display where participants can share their personal perspectives on community, history and life in Oregon. The first two Oregonians to add their stories to the display will be mayor-elect Lucy Vinis and Heisman Trophy winner Marcus Mariota.

"We hope to collect thousands more over the next year," Craig said.

The \$500,000 redesign project was made possible through a combination of public and grant funding as well as major gifts from the Pederson Family Trust, the Donald and Coeta Barker Foundation, the museum's Friends and Sandal Society, the Soderwall Endowment, and numerous anonymous donors. Democratic state Rep. Nancy Nathanson, the Oregon Legislature and the Oregon Cultural Trust were also instrumental in making the project a reality, as were the museum's exhibit design partners at The Alchemy of Design and the architectural team at Robertson-Sherwood and Associates.

24-hour medical hotlines supply information on demand

By Deb Sensenbach
RN Case Manager

Since July 2015, the Team Health Medical Call Center (THMCC) has served the Tribe's five-county service area by delivering medical advice after hours. You and your eligible dependents are able to call registered nurses who can guide you through your health concerns 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. They will help you decide what action to take for the symptoms you are experiencing, help you become familiar with a new diagnosis, answer medication questions, and much more.

This service is provided to you, the Coquille Tribal membership, to provide your peace of mind in knowing that even after hours, there is someone available to help you with medical concerns.

Refrigerator magnets with the contact information for this nurse call service are available. If you would like a magnet, please call your Purchased and Referred Care office; we would be happy to send you one.

The number for the nurse line is also posted on the Coquille Indian

Tribe's web site, www.coquilletribe.org, under Purchased and Referred Care. For your convenience, we suggest that you store the number in your cell phone so you will always have it with you.

For those of you with Nasomah as your primary insurance, the 24-hour nurse advice line FONEMED number is still the same; 855-354-9014.

If you have any questions or concerns about this service, please call Trudy Simpson, Business Office Director, or Deb Sensenbach, RN Case



Manager at (541) 888-9494, ext. 2204, or (866) 862-7506. You can also contact Deb via email at deborahsensenbach@coquilletribe.org.

Coquille Indian Tribe Private Residential Leasing Program

**Private home lots available
to eligible Coquille members**

Applications are being accepted for the private residential lots located along Miluk Drive in the Kilkich housing community on Coquille Tribal Lands. Applications will be reviewed for eligibility pursuant to Coquille Indian Tribal Code Chapter 420.100 and entered into a random drawing at the next regular CIHA Board of Commissioners meeting.

Each eligible applicant will have the opportunity to lease a lot and begin the process of building and owning a home on the Tribe's reservation.

For more information about the process, please go to www.coquilleiha.org or contact CIHA Housing Programs Coordinator Dale Herring by telephone at (541) 888-6501 or (800) 988-6501, or by email at daleherring@coquilleiha.org.

Program administered by the Coquille Indian Housing Authority

MHAP OSA

Continued from page 1

be an apartment or single-family home, including space rented for a manufactured home. Housing that doesn't qualify includes an RV, a room or area in someone else's home, a dorm, a nursing home, or a public or Indian housing unit.

Does my landlord have to do anything?

There are some lease addendums that you and your landlord will complete when you sign up, but otherwise no.

How do I apply? Fill out and return an application with the required documentation. Applications are available online at www.coquilleiha.org or by contacting Dale at the address or phone numbers shown above or by email at daleherring@coquilleiha.org.

Is there a waiting list? Sometimes. It depends on funding availability.

Anything else? If you're interested in learning more about the program, please feel free to call or email. Our office hours are Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Pacific time.

Helping CIT families have safe homes

By Chris Tanner
Newsletter Editor

The General Welfare Home Repair Program was created to provide emergency funding to eligible Coquille families. Funding can be used to make specified types of maintenance and repairs on their home that are necessary to ensure the health and safety of household family members.

This program uses an income-based tier system to determine the funding amount a family can receive. A completed application must be submitted to the Tribe's Public Works Department before any request is approved. Rented and leased homes are not eligible for this program.

Based on income level, a qualifying family can receive up to \$3,000 in assistance for one year.

Qualifying families can receive funding for two or more years in a row. However, funding for the program

overall is limited and preference is given to new applicants and families that did not receive funding the previous year. A family can request an amount above the tier level if they have an extenuating circumstance which must be documented in their application.

Eligibility for Home Repair includes enrolled Coquille Tribal members, non-tribal custodial parents with enrolled Coquille children living at home, foster parents or other guardians of Coquille children, and non-tribal widow or widower of a Coquille Tribal member. All eligible applicants are subject to the program's income-based tier system. This program only operates when budget funding is available.

Maintenance and repairs that will be funded include projects associated with plumbing, electrical, interior and exterior work. This includes, but is not limited to, faucets; water heaters; toilets, appliances; light fixtures; furnaces and

other heat sources; circuit breakers; dry rot; roof repair; and door and window replacement. A full list of sample work that can be requested is included with the application.

Items that will not be funded include cosmetic repairs, previous faulty home improvements, repairs eligible for insurance coverage, replacing functional items, repairs that do not affect the health and safety of household members, and items purchased before a submitted application is approved.

This program is administered by the Tribe's Public Works Department. Final decisions on approvals are made by a designated Emergency Fund Committee.

For more information, please contact Sheldon Chase at (541) 756-0904, ext. 1244, or download the application and policy online at www.coquilletribe.org/pcres.htm.



Harvest, prepare, weave, repeat

CELS' Cultural Friday classes are still going strong, with classes and field trips scheduled through December. These classes, organized by Danielle Summers, offer opportunities to learn and practice traditional technologies, as well as visit areas in the Tribe's ancestral homelands to harvest the same materials used by Coquille ancestors.

Here is a schedule of the remaining Culture Friday classes for the rest of this year. (Note: The Dec. 16 class is not a traditional class, but a chance for students to make fun Christmas presents.)

- Tule Flat Bag – Nov. 18
- Sedge and Cedar Basket Necklace – Dec. 2
- Mason Jar Gifts – Dec. 16

Above: Youth working with Community Center staff and Kilkich Youth Corps members help process Woodwardia fern harvested from the Tribe's lands.

Right: Chris Tanner works on a huckleberry basket during a September class. Led by master weaver Nan Macdonald, students used sedge, cedar bark and Woodwardia fern that were processed and prepared during previous gathering trips. Nan provided expert instruction and even some molds that helped newer students get going on their baskets.



Photo by Jackie Chambers



Photo by Dani Bliss

Training the next generation

The Coquille Indian Tribe participated in Bring Your Child to Work Day on Friday, Oct. 14. Employees from the Tribe's CELS Department, Health and Community centers, and the Tribe's administrative office brought their children to the workplace to give these future workers a taste of what it's like to work in a professional career.

Nationally, this public education program is a project of the Take Our Daughters and Sons To Work Foundation (daughtersandsonstowork.org). The program

encourages girls and boys across the country to dream without gender limitations and to think imaginatively about their family, work and community lives.

Bringing young people to the workplace connects what they learn at school with the actual working world. Children learn that a family-friendly work environment is an employer and family issue, and not just a woman's issue. Bring Your Child to Work Day helps girls and boys discover the power and possibilities associated with a balanced work and family life.

Above: Londa and Keira Beebe work together on projects related to managing the Coquille Indian Tribe's Gaming Commission.

Above left: Hallie Chambers learns how to use a wireless headset while multi-tasking.

Left: Zoey Leavenworth learned about working with patients on health and wellness issues at the Community Health Center.

Visiting fifth-graders learn about coastal Tribes



Photo by Chris Tanner

In early October, Tribal member Lynn Hill brought her 5th-grade class from Glide Elementary School for an overnight stay with the Coquille Indian Tribe. The class toured the Tribe's Plankhouse and Community Park; they learned from experts in the Coquille and the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw tribes about potlatch culture, how traditional clothes and tools were made; and listened to a traditional story.

After sleeping at the Community Center, the class headed to Sunset Bay where they learned about canoe culture in the best way possible: by pulling in a canoe. They also toured Shore Acres and learned about that the native peoples who lived there. Louis Simpson purchased the land in the early 20th century. Lynn Hill has brought her class to the southern Oregon coast for several years to teach her students hands-on.

Tribe's health-care options might be expanded

Consulting firm's report will describe potential new health services for Tribal Council to consider

By Mark Johnston
Interim Executive Director

For some time, the Tribe has discussed the possibility of expanding the services provided at its Community Health Center (CHC). Health care expansion has been a topic of much discussion and energy since the Tribe's last Strategic Plan. This plan includes a goal of expanding health care services and a directive stating the Tribe will "by 2017 complete a feasibility study for specialty health care services and clinics."

To meet this goal, the CHC conducted a series of surveys and focus group meetings to gain direct feedback from the Tribe's community regarding what new services they would like to see at the Tribe's health center.

The Tribe also contracted with Moss Adams, a CPA firm and business consultant group, to perform an evaluation and analysis of how to best meet this goal. Moss Adams has been meeting

with Tribal Council, the Health Advisory Board, CHC patients and CIT employees to gather data directly from the Tribe's community regarding the types of health services the Tribe should consider for further analysis.

Using the data they collect, Moss Adams will complete a plan that will highlight one to three potential new health services and give the Tribal Council and administrators the information

they need to objectively consider how to best expand health services for the Tribe's community; and devise a strategy for paying for these new services.

This final report will be presented to the Tribe at a Tribal Council workshop by the end of this year. The work performed by Moss Adams for the Tribe has been funded by an Indian Health Service management grant.

Learn to learn study skills

By Chris Tanner
Newsletter Editor

A few years ago, Linda Mecum, the Tribe's former Education Director, wrote out a series of study skill advice for students in the Tribe. Copies of the guide are available at the CIT Library.

As part of CELS' ongoing efforts to encourage the Tribe's youth to be the best students they can be, we are including excerpts from this guide here.

Good listening in class

It is important for you to be a good listener in class. Much of what you will have to learn will be presented verbally by your teachers. Just hearing what your teachers say is not the same as listening to what they say. Listening is a cognitive act that requires you to pay attention and think about and mentally process what you hear. Here are some things you should do to be a good listener in class.

Be ready to listen

Be cognitively ready to listen when you come to class. Make sure you complete all assigned work and readings. Review your notes from previous class sessions. Think about what you know about the topic that will be covered in class that day.

Be emotionally ready

Be emotionally ready to listen when you come to class. Your attitude is important. Make a conscious choice to find the topic useful and interesting. Be committed to learning all that you can. Listen with a purpose. Identify what you expect and hope to learn from the class session. Listen for these things as your teacher talks. Listen with an open mind. Be receptive to what your teacher says. It is good to question what is said as long as you remain open to points of view other than your own. Be attentive. Focus on what your teacher is saying. Try not to daydream and let your mind wander to other things. It helps to sit in the front and center of the class, and to maintain eye contact with your teacher. Be an active listener. You can think faster than your teacher can speak.

School Support

Remember these CELS programs designed to help Coquille students with school:

Tutoring: The Tutoring program reimburses families who hire a tutor to help their children with school. Tutors must provide proof of their credentials and the students must submit goals and objectives as well as academic progress reports.

Kindergarten Readiness: This program provides financial support to families who enroll their children in qualified pre-schools.

School Supplies: This program reimburses families for basic school supplies, including a backpack. The program will pay up to \$50 for students in grades K-7 and \$100 for students in grades 8-12.

More Information: Contact Rhonda Ferguson or Chelsea Burns at (541) 756-0904, or email rhondaferguson@coquilletribe.org or chelseaburns@coquilletribe.org.

Use this to your advantage by evaluating what is being said and trying to anticipate what will be said next.

Take good notes

Take good written notes about what your teacher says. While you can think faster than your teacher can speak, you cannot write faster than your teacher can speak. Taking notes requires you to make decisions about what to write, and you have to be an active listener to do this. Meet the challenge. Don't give up and stop listening when you find the information difficult to understand. Listen even more carefully at these times and work hard to understand what is being said. Don't be reluctant to ask questions. Triumph over the environment. The classroom may be too noisy, too hot, too cold, too bright, or too dark. Don't give in to these inconveniences. Stay focused on the big picture, learning.

Solve math with RQWQCQ

RQWQCQ is a strategy students can use when working on math word problems. Each letter in RQWQCQ stands for a step in the strategy.

Read: Read the entire problem to learn what it is about. You may find it helpful to read the problem out loud, form a picture of the problem in your

mind, or draw a picture of the problem.

Question: Find the question to be answered in the problem. Often the question is directly stated. When it is not stated, you will have to identify the question to be answered.

Write: Write the facts you need to answer the question. It is helpful to cross out any facts presented in the problem that are not needed to answer the question. Sometimes, all of the facts presented in the problem are needed to answer the question.

Question: Ask yourself, "What computations must I do to answer the question?"

Compute: Set up the problem on paper and do the computations. Check your computations for accuracy and make any needed corrections. Once you have done this, circle your answer.

Question: Look at your answer and ask yourself: "Is my answer possible?" You may find that your answer is not possible because it does not fit with the facts presented in the problem. When this happens, go back through the steps of RQWQCQ until you arrive at an answer that is possible. Use RQWQCQ to help you correctly solve math word problems.

Film documents soldiers' healing

By Chris Tanner
Newsletter Editor

On Nov. 11, Veterans Day, the Egyptian Theatre will present a documentary on military veterans with PTSD and the charitable work they perform as a form of therapy.

The film documents the charitable work of Operation Restore Hope, a non-profit that works with military veterans diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder; and how that work helps veterans cope with the physical and psychological trauma armed conflict creates in many military personnel.

From start to finish, viewers will watch a team of veterans prepare for a trip to Tijuana, Mexico, where they construct a home for a needy family. More than just building a home, the film demonstrates how the project helps the veteran volunteers find hope and meaning in their lives. Interviews with the veterans brings depth to their experiences in war; as do the segments on classes providing tools for them to help fight depression and other symptoms associated with PTSD.

The film was produced by Q.Missions, an umbrella charity that works with Operation Restore Hope and other non-profits dedicated to helping veterans of military service. Q.Missions is presenting this film to numerous communities as a means to raise awareness and support for veterans across the country as they continue to heal from the effects of war.

The event begins at 5:15 p.m. Friday, Nov. 11, at the Egyptian Theatre, with a social hour prior to viewing of the 45-minute documentary. Tickets are \$13 and can be purchased at the door. Ticket sales will support Operation Restore Hope's current and future missions.

Learn more about Q.Missions and their work by visiting www.qmissions.org/about.

Event exposes teens to opportunities

More than 300 attend college fair

More than 300 students from local high schools attended the Coquille Tribe's College and Career Fair Oct. 26 in North Bend. There they considered their future options as they learned about apprenticeship opportunities from local employers and the skills needed for careers in several vocations including plumber, electrician and beautician.

The fair also had representatives from Oregon public universities, community colleges and specialty schools.

Students who visited these booths talked about their future career goals and learned about the degree programs and other services these schools offer that could help them meet their goals.

The College and Career Fair was paid for by The Mill Casino-Hotel. The Mill receives money every year from PepsiCo for selling their products. Every year, The Mill donates that money to support the Tribe's education programs and services.



Photo by Chris Tanner

CIT Staff members Jesse Davis and Kassandra Rippee talk to students from Marshfield High School about the skills needed to become an archaeologist at the Tribe's 2016 College and Career Fair. The Cultural Resources job booth was one of several job information booths set up at the event.

College and Career Fair offerings

Opportunities presented at the College and Career Fair included:

University of Oregon – The UO has received new funding for its Sapsik^{wa}la program, which supports Native American students seeking to become teachers. Learn more about the program at education.uoregon.edu/program/sapsikwala-project. The school also has a Future Stewards program for native students who wish to enter one of the school's graduate programs.

Oregon State University – The school has many student groups focused on engineering, computer programming, science and related skills. OSU is home to a chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society, a national organization focused on increasing the numbers of indigenous students pursuing studies and careers in science, technology, engineering and math.

Eastern Oregon University – Located near La Grande, EOU's anthropology

program has a partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and provides several internships for its students. The school's distance education program offers several on-line degrees and several members of the Tribe's community have earned their degrees from EOU while taking classes and studying from their homes in southwestern Oregon.

Southwestern Oregon Community College – More Coquille Tribal students attend this college than any other school in Oregon. SWOCC has several nursing certification and degree programs, including a bachelor's in nursing from the Oregon Health and Science University earned while living in the South Coast. The schools also has two-year programs for forestry, welding, and fire protection, among others.

Oregon Institute of Technology – OIT prides itself on hands-on education. Its degree programs include computer engineering technology, electrical engineering, and renewable energy

engineering. The school also features pre-professional programs in dentistry, medical, osteopathic medicine, pharmacy, physical therapy, dental hygiene and veterinary medicine.

Central Oregon Community College – COCC has multiple Central Oregon campuses and over 75 certification and degree programs. The college has a First Nation Students Union which hosts discussion groups, classes in traditional technologies and organizes an annual salmon bake.

Portland State University – PSU maintains a Native American Student and Community Center, a gathering space for celebrating and empowering students through culturally relevant programming, academic support and inter-generational community engagement. PSU's Graduate School of Education is recruiting students for its American Indian Teacher Program that offers Native American students free tuition and fees. Learn more at www.pds.edu/aitp/home.

PSU offers Morris K. Udall Scholarships to Native American students interested in health care or public policy.

Hair We Are Beauty College – This North Bend-based school provides training for hair design, nail technician and esthetics.

Students who attend this school will learn these skills hands-on and will leave with the knowledge needed to pass the Oregon State Board of Cosmetology's certification exam. Learn more about the school online at www.hairwearebeautycollege.com.

Oregon Culinary Institute – If you want a career in the restaurant industry, this school is the place to go.

The school believes a superior culinary education begins with the mastery of basic principles. Many of this school's graduates can be seen working in kitchens in the local area's best restaurants. Some of them are responsible for the edible art seen, and eaten, at the Tribe's events held at The Mill Casino-Hotel.

Oregon zoo-hatched condor makes history

Kun-Wak-Shun raises first wild-hatched fledgling at Pinnacles, Cal. since 1890s

By Hova Najarian
Oregon Zoo News

PORTLAND, Ore. — The offspring of an Oregon Zoo-hatched California condor is making headlines as the first wild-hatched condor in more than a century to survive, leave its nest and soar among the majestic rock formations in Pinnacles National Park.

The Oregon Zoo’s Jonsson Center for Wildlife Conservation has raised and prepped more than 40 wild-bound condors for release since joining the nationwide effort to save this critically endangered species in 2003. The zoo’s first chick — hatched in 2004 and dubbed Kun-Wak-Shun, or “Thunder and Lightning” — is flying free at Pinnacles now, where he and his mate are raising the history-making fledgling, known as No. 828.

“It’s a great milestone for the recovery effort,” said David Shepherdson, Oregon Zoo deputy conservation director. “The goal is to establish a self-sustaining population that someday re-inhabits the species’ full historical range.”

Though he is a prolific father and considered Pinnacles’ most dominant male, Kun-Wak-Shun — now simply known as No. 340 — has led a taxing life since leaving Oregon about 10 years ago. As with nearly every free-flying condor, he’s been treated for lead poisoning multiple times — 12 to be exact. He also lost his first mate, No. 444, to the starvation-inducing effects of lead.

But like a true Oregonian, No. 340’s got grit. Following his treatments, he paired with another female condor — San Diego Zoo-hatched female No. 236, who was released in 2002 at Big Sur, about a 40-mile flight from Pinnacles. The duo has been bonded now for two years.

Lead poisoning remains the leading cause of death in free-flying condors, according to Sorenson — specifically, lead-based ammunition.

Although lead has been widely eliminated from paint, gasoline and water



Photo courtesy of the Oregon Zoo

Condors Kun-Wak-Shun (Thunder and Lightning), a California Condor born at the Oregon Zoo and now living wild in California, extends his wings after being examined for medical issues, such as lead poisoning, as part of an ongoing condor recovery project. To its right is “#236”, a female condor born at the San Diego Zoo and Kun-Wak-Shun’s mate. The two recently made history when their wild-hatched condor became the first to survive and fly out of its nest in more than 100 years.

pipes, it remains the metal of choice for ammunition manufacturers. And — like eagles and other scavengers — condors can ingest the toxin when they eat the remains of an animal that’s been shot with lead ammunition.

“Anyone who shoots an animal with lead ammunition can accidentally poison scavenging animals,” said Leland Brown, non-lead hunting education coordinator at the Oregon Zoo. “Shown the unintended consequences of using lead, many have started to switch to non-lead ammunition.”

The California condor was one of the original animals included on the 1973 Endangered Species Act and is classified as critically endangered. In 1982, only 22 individuals remained in the wild and by 1987, the last condors were taken into captivity in an attempt to save the species. Thanks to breeding programs like the Oregon Zoo’s, condor numbers now total

more than 400, with the majority of those flying free.

The Oregon Zoo’s condor recovery efforts take place at the Jonsson Center for Wildlife Conservation, located in rural Clackamas County. The remoteness of the facility minimizes the exposure of young condors to people, increasing the chances for captive-hatched birds to survive and breed in the wild.

More than 60 chicks have hatched at the Jonsson Center since 2003, and more than 40 Oregon Zoo-reared birds have gone out to field pens for release. Several eggs laid by Oregon Zoo condors have been placed in wild nests to hatch — including one this year in near Big Sur.

California condor breeding programs are also operated at San Diego Zoo’s Wild Animal Park, the Los Angeles Zoo and the Peregrine Fund’s World Center for Birds of Prey in Idaho. For more information, visit oregonzoo.org/Condors.

Language Lab

Miluk Words and Phrases

Shit’a – Bird

Haats – Owl

Dzits’ii – Wren

With_bee_yeh - Duck

Maqtlh’ – Crow

Tuuya – He fell off

Source - www.miluk.org

Upper Coquille Athabaskan Words/Phrases

Tchas ya li dah – A bird was flying

Jut Dah – Feathers

Chulah sheh – Eggs

Source - Gilbert Towner Tututni recording and transcript. Both available at CIT Library.

Chinuk Wawa

Yak’isił-nus - Condor

ChakChak – Eagle

Q’wəł-q’wəł-stik – Flicker (woodpecker)

qhawaq – To fly (like an eagle)

tsin – Hummingbird

kusax; saxali-kikwəli - Sky

Sources - Chinuk wawa language app (available on iTunes and Android); Chinuk Wawa: As our elders teach us to speak it (available at CIT Library).

U.S. has honored Native heritage for a century

Bureau of Indian Affairs

www.bia.gov/DocumentLibrary/HeritageMonth

For almost 100 years, Americans both Indian and non-Indian have urged that there be permanently designated by the nation a special place on the calendar to honor the contributions, achievements, sacrifices, and cultural and historical legacy of the original inhabitants of what is now the United States and their descendants: the American Indian and Alaska Native people.

The quest for a national honoring of Native Americans began in the early 20th century as a private effort. As far back as the late 1970s, Congress has enacted legislation and subsequent presidents have issued annual proclamations designating a day, a week or a month to celebrate and commemorate the nation's American Indian and Alaska Native heritage. In 2009, Congress passed and the President signed legislation that established the Friday immediately following Thanksgiving Day of each year as "Native American Heritage Day."

Historian was early advocate

After 1900, one of the earliest proponents of a day honoring American Indians was Arthur Caswell Parker (1881-1955), a Cattaraugus Seneca and the director of the Rochester Museum in New York (now the Rochester Museum

of Arts and Sciences). Parker (Gawasco Waneh) was a noted anthropologist, historian and author whose great-uncle was Brig. Gen. Ely S. Parker, secretary to Gen. Ulysses S. Grant during the Civil War and the first American Indian to serve as Commissioner of Indian Affairs in the Department of the Interior. Parker also served as the first president of the Society for American Archaeology (1935-36).

Parker was a founder of a number of American Indian rights organizations, including the Society of American Indians (SAI) in 1911 and the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) in 1944, and advocated for American Indians to be given U.S. citizenship. He was successful in persuading the Boy Scouts of America to set aside a day for the "First Americans," which they did from 1912 to 1915.

A 4,000-mile pilgrimage

In the spring of 1914, another Indian rights advocate, the Rev. Red Fox James (born around 1890), also known as Red Fox Skiukusha, whose tribal identity is undetermined, began a 4,000-mile trek on horseback to Washington, D.C., to petition the president for an "Indian Day." The next year, again on horseback, he traveled state-to-state seeking gubernatorial support for U.S. citizenship to be extended to American Indians. On December 14, 1915, he presented to the

White House the endorsements of 24 governors. In 1919, he petitioned the state of Washington to designate the fourth Saturday in September as an "Indian holiday."

Also in 1915, the Congress of the American Indian Association, meeting in Lawrence, Kansas, directed its president, the Rev. Sherman Coolidge (1862-1932), an Arapaho minister and one of the founders of the SAI, to call upon the nation to observe a day for American Indians. On Sept. 18, 1915, he issued a proclamation declaring the second Saturday of each May as "American Indian Day" and appealing for U.S. citizenship for American Indians.

In 1924, Congress enacted the Indian Citizenship Act extending citizenship to all U.S.-born American Indians not already covered by treaty or other federal agreements that granted such status. The act was later amended to include Alaska Natives.

State observances

The first time an American Indian Day was formally designated in the U.S. may have been in 1916, when the governor of New York fixed the second Saturday in May for his state's observance. Several states celebrated the fourth Friday in September as American Indian Day. In 1919, the Illinois state legislature

enacted a bill doing so. In Massachusetts, the governor issued a proclamation, in accordance with a 1935 law, naming the day that would become American Indian Day in any given year.

In 1968, California Gov. Ronald Reagan signed a resolution designating the fourth Friday in September as American Indian Day. In 1998, the California State Assembly enacted legislation creating Native American Day as an official state holiday.

In 1989, the South Dakota state legislature passed a bill proclaiming 1990 as the "Year of Reconciliation" between the state's American Indian and White citizens. Pursuant to that act, South Dakota Governor George S. Mickelson designated Columbus Day as the state's American Indian Day, thereby making it a state-sanctioned holiday.

Federal observances

In 1976, the United States' bicentennial year, Congress passed a resolution authorizing President Ford to proclaim a week in October as "Native American Awareness Week." On October 8, 1976, he issued his presidential proclamation doing so. Since then, Congress and the President have observed a day, a week or a month in honor of the American Indian and Alaska Native people.

Where to learn about indigenous American history

By **Chris Tanner**
Newsletter Editor

November is Native American Heritage Month. In recognition, we are looking at a few websites showcasing events and activities native peoples and tribes are doing today.

The United States has officially recognized Native American contributions to its heritage for over a century. A history of Native American Heritage Month is online at www.bia.gov/DocumentLibrary/HeritageMonth/.

This year, several communities in

Oregon held Indigenous People's Day celebrations on Oct. 10, the same day as the federal Columbus Day holiday. The University of Oregon held several events that weekend in recognition of Indigenous People's Day. This included the re-commissioning of the Oregon Tribe flags at the UO's Museum of Natural and Cultural History.

The flag ceremony was performed while the museum completes a new wing dedicated to sharing information on Oregon's tribes. A "grand re-opening" of the new wing was held the first week

of November and featured new exhibits on Oregon's first peoples and videos documenting living members of Oregon tribes working on preserving their tribes' culture and history.

Another way to learn more about what tribes are doing today is visiting web sites offering news from the perspective of native communities.

Indian Country Today's website at www.indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com has in-depth coverage of news affecting American Indian communities.

Indianz.com (www.indianz.com) is another outstanding source of news. The site connects readers to multiple news outlets producing stories from Indian County.

The Library of Congress has a special web site for the month at <http://nativeamericanheritagemonth.gov>. The site includes exhibits on traditional music (with recordings!), Native American veterans, treaties signed between tribes and the United States, and resources for teachers and other educators.

Chair Continued from page 1

members searched those treacherous mountains, others donated food and supplies, and still others cooked meals for the 140-plus volunteers.

A number of our Tribal members and staff took the lead in many areas of support and organizing the collection of food and supplies. The Tribal Administration Office became a drop zone for donated supplies. I was so proud to see the amazing work that happened in our community when community members needed it the most!

Equal access for OSA members

The Tribal Council is delighted when elements of our Mission Statement come to fruition.

Our Tribal Mission Statement calls for programs and services that promote equal access and opportunity for Tribal members. During our strategic planning process, Tribal members let us know they want our programs and services to be available to all members, regardless of where they live.

In keeping with that sentiment, as well as your input on the Tribe's strategic initiatives, we have prioritized three programs to be expanded this year for "OSA" members living outside our service area:

- Elder care reimbursement, helping Tribal Elders and spouses maintain independent lifestyles.
- Transportation reimbursement, helping Elders and disabled Tribal members travel to medical appointments and other destinations.

- The addition of slots for OSA members in our Monthly Housing Assistance Payments (MHAP) program. This program provides home rental reimbursement for Tribal members with low incomes.

I look forward to sharing more information with you at the next General Council meeting at January's Mid-Winter Gathering.

Freeing our forest

Last month I made what I hope will be my final trip this year to Washington, D.C. As 2016 comes to an end, we continue to work with our representatives to push our Coquille Tribal Forest legislation to the finish line.

As I've reported to you previously, the "forest fix" has passed the House and is waiting for action in the Senate. We have been working for more than a decade to remove the offensive requirement that our Coquille Forest must be managed the same as adjacent federal lands. If you have been keeping up with the issues facing federal lands in western Oregon, you know the federal agencies have not been successful in managing healthy, sustainable forests.

The legislation that we have been working on has the support of Congressman Peter DeFazio and Sens. Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley. We hope we finally will see its passage this year. With Senate approval and the president's signature, we will be able to manage our forest under the same management requirements as all other federally recognized Tribes in this country. Keep your fingers crossed for good news soon.

While in D.C., I also met with Interim Assistant Interior Secretary Larry Roberts and Office of Indian Gaming Director Paula Hart, to get an update on the draft Environmental Impact Statement for our Medford project. As things move forward we will be sure to keep you informed.

Closing thoughts

Thank you for supporting our election process by casting your vote! We had a great turnout this year. Thanks again for upholding our sovereignty and giving input into our Tribal government representatives.

I also continue to encourage any Tribal member who owns a business to visit the Tribal website, go to the Members Portal, and add your business to the Coquille Tribe's vendor list. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Chelsea Burns, the Tribe's Education and Employment Success Counselor, at (800) 622-5869 or (541) 756-0904.

In closing, I would like to send prayers to our family members who are sick or who have recently lost loved ones.

Take care for now, and please, if you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to call me or any one of your Tribal Council Representatives. The Administration office number is (541) 756-0904 or (800) 344-8583. More information is also available on the Tribal Portal for your convenience.

Thank you,
Brenda Meade
Chairperson

Coquille Indian Tribe

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