



Have You Heard The News?

# K'wen 'inish-ha

November 2017

Newsletter of the Coquille Indian Tribe

Volume 24, Issue 11



## Heroism plus kindness

### Tribal member wins honors for rescue, generosity to child

By Clark Walworth  
Communications Officer

A dramatic rescue and an impromptu act of compassion are bringing recognition to Tribal member Cody Ponder, a police officer in Albany, Ore.

As *K'wen 'inish-ha* was going to press, Officer Ponder was heading to the 2017 convention of the Oregon Peace Officers Association (OPOA), where he was scheduled to receive one award for lifesaving and another for public service.

The deeds behind those awards make for a pair of inspiring stories.

**Tribal officer helps save coach's life**

— Page 4

On June 29, Ponder and his partner, Officer Jim Estes, were dispatched to an Albany bridge, where a woman was clinging to a bridge railing while leaning over the Willamette

River. They began talking to her while approaching from her left and right.

As traffic streamed past, Ponder used the noise as an excuse to move closer. He told her, "I really want to help you, but I can't hear you."



Contributed photo

Tribal member Cody Ponder, left, and partner Jim Estes are congratulated by their watch supervisor, Lt. Curtis Hyde. The pair pulled a suicidal woman from a bridge railing over the Willamette River in Albany, Ore.

The two officers slowly converged on the woman, exchanged glances, and made their move. Ponder, a former college wrestler, seized the woman's upper arm. Estes also grabbed her, and they pulled her over the railing to safety, preventing a leap that probably would have ended her life.

Saved from suicide, the woman subsequently sought mental health treatment. The two officers were honored by the Albany City Council on Oct. 4, and they're scheduled to be honored again at the OPOA convention, Nov. 1-3.

Ponder's other OPOA award isn't for his heroism. It's for his compassion.

Last year, Ponder and his previous partner, Lee Phelps, answered a shoplifting report at a department store. A woman had been caught stealing children's clothing, including an Easter frock.

The woman admitted the theft, and the officers cited her. But the 5-year-old girl accompanying the woman was heartbroken at losing her Easter outfit.



**FROM THE CHAIR**  
Brenda Meade

### Hope to see you at Nee-Dash and winter gathering

Dear Tribal members and families,

I hope you are staying warm and dry as we move into winter. The holiday season is always busy, but I hope you'll mark your calendar to gather around the fire for our Nee-Dash Ceremony. It begins with a potluck dinner with our Tribal family at dusk on Thursday, Dec. 21. This memorable event celebrates our culture and traditions as the seasons change.

### Medford movement

I am pleased to share that we finally can see progress on our Medford property. It seems the Interior Department is staffed up, and our fee-to-trust application for The Cedars at Bear Creek is moving ahead.

We look forward to giving you a full update at the General Council meeting during our Jan. 12-14 "Xin-dvn lhes-ya." (Pronounced hin-dun thes-ya, it means "winter gathering.") The Tribal Council looks forward to updating you on 2017's highlights and challenges, such as our pharmacy opening and completion of our

Please see Honors, page 5

Please see Chair, page 15



Save the date for  
**Xin-dvn lhes-ya**

Pronounced "hin-dun thes-ya," it's the Southwest Oregon Athabaskan phrase for "winter gathering."

**Along with a new name, this event has an exciting new focus.**

It's an expanded opportunity to reconnect with our families and our shared cultural heritage.

Jan. 12-14 at The Mill Casino-Hotel

Watch for your registration packet in November, with details on activities, meals and lodging.

## Council meetings and workshops

Dates and locations are subject to change. Please check MyTribe or contact the CIT Administration Office to confirm meeting details.

### Wednesday, Nov. 8

Tribal Council workshops 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., main office.

### Thursday, Nov. 9

Tribal Council workshops 9 a.m. to noon, main office. Council meeting 1 p.m.

### Wednesday, Nov. 29

Tribal Council workshops 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., main office.

### Thursday, Nov. 30

Tribal Council workshops 9 a.m. to noon, main office. Council meeting 1 p.m.

### Phone Number

Want to attend a Tribal Council meeting by phone? Please call the Tribal office at (541) 756-0904 for the dial-in number and access code. Or

check the meeting agenda on MyTribe. (<https://portal.coquilletribe.org>)

## Community events

### Culture and Education Committee Retreat

Friday, Nov. 3, to Saturday, Nov. 4, Spirit Mountain Resort.

### Mario Party 8 Tournament

Saturdays, Nov. 4, 18 and 25, noon to 5 p.m. Please see page 14 for details.

### Health Advisory Board

Tuesday, Nov. 21, 9 a.m., CIT Community Health Center conference room.

### Kilkich Residents Association

Monday, Nov. 13, 6-8 p.m., CIHA office.

### Civil War Tailgate Party

Oregon versus Oregon State, Saturday, Nov. 25, CIT Community Center. Start of party will depend on game time, TBA. Please call the Community Center for details: (541) 888-9494.

## Culture Days

The Culture, Education and Library Services Department is hosting our next series of Culture Classes. Please check K'wen 'inish-ha on Facebook for updates.

RSVP is requested. To sign up or for more information, please contact Danielle or Julie at (541) 751-2004.

### Friday, Nov. 17

Canning Jams and Jellies, Plankhouse Kitchen, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. (Tentative — watch for updates. Also: Class is limited to 15 people. Please call to reserve your spot.)

### Fridays, Dec. 1 and Dec. 8

Wa'paas baskets with Denni Hockema, Omashi's Haws, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## Elders Luncheon

Elders, please join us at noon on Friday, Nov. 17, at The Mill Casino. Lunch is upstairs in the Hazel-Willow-Beargrass Room.

Please RSVP by Nov. 13.

Questions? Please contact Lori Austin, Elders Coordinator, at (541) 888-9494 or (800) 344-8583, ext. 2214.

## Parenting classes

"Parenting with Love and Logic," 5:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Nov. 7, 14, 21 and 28, Coquille Indian Tribe Community Center. Please see page 14 for details.

## Great American Smokeout

If you're a smoker, the Community Health Center encourages you to join the Great American Smokeout on Nov. 16. Who knows? A one-day break from tobacco might inspire you to quit for good!

## Birthdays

### November

**4**  
Susan McFarland  
Rhiannon Nelsen  
Lisa Summers

**5**  
Jennifer Bates-Reed  
Nicole Rodriguez  
Eva Short

**6**  
Cheyenne Lopez  
Talonie Metcalf  
Nico Van Ortwick

**7**  
Robert Allard  
Shawna Dodson  
Baily Garrett  
Isabella Jimenez  
Aiyana Mendoza

**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 Sr.

**14**  
Jordon Cannon  
Lori Claiborne  
Olive Faist

### 15

Jerad Gilkey  
Ashley Murphy-Gray  
Andrew Simpson  
Kaiale'a Tanner

**16**  
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

**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  
Jayden Jimenez  
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 Ann 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

**5**  
Cullen Ahlers  
Patrick Cantrell  
Vicky Harrison  
Clayton Wasson

# A prescription for convenience

## Medications by mail will save time, money

The Coquille Tribe's very own pharmacy will open for business in early November. Its arrival is an innovative response to the ever-increasing cost of prescription medications.

"I'm very excited about this opportunity to improve patient care," said Kelle Little, the Tribe's Health and Human Services Administrator.

Prescription costs for the Nasomah Health Group and Purchased and Referred Care have soared since the Grand Ronde Tribe's pharmacy eliminated its mail-order service. The Coquille Tribe's solution? Do it ourselves.

"The pharmacy allows us to have access to the same high-quality medications at deep discounts," Little said.

For example, the Tribe will save as much as 60 percent on prescriptions for Purchased and Referred Care patients,



Photo by Clark Walworth

Your pharmacy team, from left: Technician Samantha McGowan, Pharmacist Scott Everly and Clerk Kelsey Morris.

compared with costs at retail pharmacies. The money saved can serve other needs.

Opening a pharmacy is great for patients, too. It restores the convenience of mail-order service for long-term prescriptions, with the personal touch

that comes with Tribal ownership. For patients living nearby, the pharmacy can fill short-term prescriptions on-site at the Community Health Center.

Watch your mailbox for more information soon.

## Q&A: How the Coquille Tribal Pharmacy will work

### Q: What prescriptions will the Coquille Tribal Pharmacy fill?

A: We'll fill all maintenance meds (meds you take every day) by mail. Also, if you live close, we'll fill your short-term meds such as antibiotics on-site.

### Q: When will it be open?

A: 8 to 5, Monday through Friday. If

we're closed or you live too far away, you can use your local pharmacy.

### Q: How do I get my prescriptions to the Tribal pharmacy?

A: Several ways. Your provider can call, mail, fax or e-prescribe via Surescripts. To transfer a prescription from another pharmacy, just contact us.

### Q: How do I contact the pharmacy?

A: Phone (541) 435-7039 or (866) 200-2335, or mail to P.O. Box 3190, Coos Bay OR, 97420.

### Q: Don't stop! I have more questions!

A: No worries. The Community Health Center is mailing out more information.

## Also new

Along with the pharmacy staff, you'll find these new faces at the Community Health Center:



### Ashley Wilcot Medical Assistant

Ashley worked as a phlebotomist at Coquille Valley Hospital, has an associate's degree in medical assisting and is a certified medical assistant. Ashley is married with two little girls.



### Teone Fjeld Medical Assistant

Teone joined us from North Bend Medical Center and has worked in the medical field for about 6 years. She loves hunting, fishing, family time and her "very sweet son," Karson.



### Patricia Armijo Medical Receptionist

Trish worked at Huntsman Cancer Institute in Utah. She has an associate's degree and finished her prerequisites for nursing. She loves her cat and roller derby, skating as Ann R. Kissed#801.

## Meet your new pharmacy staff

The Tribal pharmacy opens with a small but well-qualified staff:

**Pharmacy Manager** Scott Everly "fell in love" with the Pacific Northwest after growing up and studying in Indiana. He moved to Portland six years ago, but Portland's sprawl and the South Coast's beauty prompted a move to Bandon and a job at Rite-Aid.

With a doctor of pharmacy degree from Purdue University, Scott has worked in a variety of settings, including both "big box" pharmacies and a nationwide medical non-profit. The chance to shape a small new pharmacy was alluring – and so was the Tribe itself. An avid hiker, Scott appreciates the Tribe's reverence for its ancestral homeland.

"It is so refreshing to serve a community that I already felt a connection to before I met them," he said.

**Pharmacy Technician** Samantha McGowan is a Wiyot Tribal member who grew up near Fortuna, Calif. She attended the College of the Redwoods in Eureka and later studied online to become a certified pharmacy technician. She has worked at the Walmart pharmacy in North Bend since 2013.

**Pharmacy Clerk** Kelsey Morris is a Coquille Tribal member who previously worked in surveillance at The Mill Casino. She plans to study at Southwestern Oregon Community College to become a pharmacy technician.



## Off-duty Tribal officer pitches in to save a life

COOS BAY – An off-duty Coquille Tribal police officer was one of seven people honored recently for saving the life of a middle school basketball coach.

"It was a very powerful day," said Officer Rob Scoville. "Everybody worked as a team and saved a person's life. It was very special."

Millicoma Intermediate School's boys team had just finished its Jan. 21 game when Coach Alex White collapsed in the gym. Scoville, who had been watching his nephew play for Millicoma, quickly came to the coach's aid. He and two other impromptu rescuers performed cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

Meanwhile, others called 911, cleared students from the gym, and fetched an automated external defibrillator (AED) from the school office.

"After two applications with the AED, we were able to bring him back to life," Scoville said. "It was a very



Photo courtesy of The World

Officer Rob Scoville (center, black jacket), was among those honored for saving the life of basketball coach Alex White (back row, gray sweater). Also in the photo are the emergency responders who arrived to complete the rescue.

emotional afternoon, watching his wife and kids get to see their father come back to life."

The American Heart Association honored Scoville and six others at a

Coos Bay School Board meeting in October, according to the Coos Bay World newspaper. Along with Scoville, the heart association named Matt Devine, Karrie Devine, Jamie Bridgman, Pam Connley, John New-

sum and Bryson Hampel.

"Thanks to these heroes, Coach White is here with us tonight," said Rick Cooper, a heart association CPR instructor.

## UO veep recounts ground-breaking research project

EUGENE — To hear his grandmother's voice, Jason Younker had to cross the continent.

Nellie Younker had died before her grandson was born, but a recording of her spoken words had been preserved in a federal repository. It waited in darkness, along with thousands of other documents and records of the Coquille Tribe, until Younker and three other Tribal members launched an ambitious expedition in 1995.

Younker, an assistant vice president at the University of Oregon, told the story in an Oct. 13 lecture at UO's Museum of Natural and Cultural History.

Younker and George Bundy Was-son Jr. were UO graduate students when

they led the first Southwest Oregon Research Project (SWORP) to Washington, D.C. Along with Younker's brother Shirod, fellow Tribal member Denni Hockema and other UO graduate students, they encountered a scene reminiscent of an Indiana Jones movie: a sea of green file boxes, stuffed with long-ignored documents and artifacts.

Among the records were government and military reports, letters, tape-recorded songs, photographs and maps. A particular treasure was a long-unseen map of lands ceded by Western Oregon Tribes, a document whose disappearance in the 1850s left Tribes in a limbo of unratified treaties.

In all, the group collected 60,000 photocopied pages relating to multiple

Links to an online video of Jason Younker's talk can be found on MyTribe and the K'wen 'inish-ha Facebook Group.



Tribes. Copies of those materials – and additional documents from a 1999 follow-up project – were shared with other Tribes in joyous potlatches, reviving a tradition that had lain dormant for more than a century.

Beyond basic informational value, Younker said the documents provide

validation for Native Americans' identity. The records demonstrate the complexity of traditional indigenous society – "how civilized the Indians were," he said.

SWORP was the first research project of its kind, and it has inspired similar expeditions by Tribes across the country.

"We have learned, as many Tribes have learned – your preservation is up to you," Younker said.

The SWORP documents remain at UO, continuing to aid researchers. Archivists are working to convert the material to digital form, making it more convenient to search and access.

## Former chairman resumes his retirement

### His timely comeback plugged a short-term gap

Ed Metcalf celebrated his second retirement from the Coquille Tribal Council in October.

"It's been an honor working with you again," Chairperson Brenda Meade told her friend and mentor during the Oct. 12 Council meeting.

Metcalf first joined the Council in 1989, becoming Chairman three years later. He served in that role for 21 years, leading the Tribe through construction of The Mill Casino, acquisition of the Coquille Tribal Forest and other crucial developments. He retired in 2012.

In June of this year, the Council called him to serve again. Linda Mecum had been elected to replace the late Joan Metcalf as Secretary-Treasurer, leaving a four-month vacancy in Mecum's previous job as Council Representative No. 2.

Appointing the former Chairman let the Council capitalize on Metcalf's experience, while avoiding an implicit endorsement of any candidate in the October election.



Photo by Clark Walworth

Tribal Council members give Ed Metcalf a grateful sendoff. From left: Chief Don Ivy, Vice Chair Kippy Robbins, Rep. Ed Metcalf, Rep. Toni Ann Brend, Chairperson Brenda Meade, Secretary-Treasurer Linda Mecum, and Rep. Eric Metcalf.

"You definitely stepped in and picked up the ball and got us through to this election," Meade said.

Metcalf remarked that he felt much less nervous about the job this time around. At his first Council meeting in 1989, "I was scared to death," he said. Laughter filled the Council chamber when Chief Don Ivy

replied, "So were we."

Metcalf thanked the Council and expressed his appreciation for all the Tribal members who contributed input to the Council.

"Now I'll go back to my honey-dos," he said.

## Honors Continued from page 1

"We have kids of our own, and we have kind of a soft spot in our hearts," Ponder said.

So, after confiscating the stolen goods, they led the child on a shopping trip of their own.

Ponder said they told her, "We have to take this stuff, but we're going to show you the right way to get them."

They invited the girl to pick out a new Easter outfit. Noticing that her feet had outgrown her shoes, they bought a pair of those as well.

Ponder hopes he and Phelps left a positive impression on the child.

"Our hope is that she doesn't grow up thinking it's OK to steal."

The OPOA is presenting the two officers with public service awards, but Ponder said they weren't looking for accolades.

"It was a good moment," he said. "You feel good in the heart."

Ponder, 31, is in his eighth year in law enforcement. He was a Benton County deputy from 2010 to 2015, before moving to the Albany Police Department.

He grew up in Jackson County, and he has happy memories of attending youth camp with his Tribe. He attended Oregon State University, where he competed in wrestling and graduated with a bachelor of science in sociology.

He and his wife, Amy, another OSU alum, have two children: a 4-year-old daughter named Taylor and a 9-month-old son, Camden.



Contributed photo

## Trophy bull

Tribal spouse Matt Eldridge (husband of Julie Eldridge) bagged this handsome 6x6 bull elk on Oct. 1, the second day of the early-season rifle hunt in Washington state. Stepdaughter Natalie Wilson, a 21-year-old Tribal member, was along on the hunt and had the dubious privilege of helping clean and pack out the magnificent animal.



## News for healthy families

### Clinic expands hours

Visiting the Community Health Center's Medical Clinic just got more convenient.

Starting in November, the clinic is offering patient appointments earlier in the morning, later in the afternoon, and through the noon hour. Patients will be scheduled from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

To make an appointment, call (541) 888-9494, ext. 2230.

### Parenting class is free

"Parenting with Love and Logic" is a free class geared toward parents, grandparents and anyone else who cares for kids.

Hosted by Family Support Services, the class will go from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. every Tuesday in November, at the Community Center.

You're welcome to attend some or all of the four sessions. Dinner and child care will be provided.

Questions? Contact Roni Jackson at (541) 888-9494, ext. 2219, or ronijackson@coquilletribe.org.

### Remember your flu shot

Did you know that pneumonia and flu are a leading cause of death among Native Elders? The Community Health Center wants you to know:

- The CHC clinic has the vaccine in stock. Call for an appointment today.
- If you don't use the clinic, your primary care provider or a local pharmacy can provide the vaccine.
- Nasomah Health Group and the Tribe's Purchased and Referred Care both cover vaccines.
- American Indians and Alaska Native lacking insurance won't be charged.
- The vaccine is safe. It can't give you the flu.

To learn more, call the Community Health Center or (800) CDC-IN-FO, or visit [www.cdc.gov/flu](http://www.cdc.gov/flu).

## It's time for yuletide yumminess

Member families throughout the five-county service area are invited for Christmas dinners. Along with food and fun, Tribal leaders and staff members will be on hand to hear your comments and questions.

**Lane County** — 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 4, East and Middle Willamette Rooms, Valley River Inn, 1000 Valley River Way, Eugene.

**Jackson County** — 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 6, Crater Lake & Rogue River Room, Inn At The Commons, 200 N. Riverside Ave., Medford.

**Douglas County** — 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7, LANG/Event Center, Umpqua

Community College, 1140 Umpqua College Road, Roseburg.

**Coos & Curry counties** — 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10, Salmon Room, The Mill Casino-Hotel, 3201 Tremont, North Bend.

To sign up for the dinner in your county, and to provide Santa with gift ideas for your children, please fill out the form on the "Christmas Dinners" page of MyTribe.

Or contact Toni Scavera Howard at (541) 888-9494 or (800) 344-8583, ext. 2211; or [toniscavera@coquilletribe.org](mailto:toniscavera@coquilletribe.org); or CIT Community Health Center, P.O. Box 3190, Coos Bay, OR 97420.

## Coquille babies are cutest!



Contributed photo

Ryan William Houchin arrived in the world at 4:03 p.m. on Sept. 17, 2017, weighing 6 pounds, 1 ounce. His proud parents are Tribal member Christina (Husko) Houchin and her husband, Andrew Houchin. Ryan's proud brother is Colton Houchin.



## Mario Party 8 Tournament

**When:** Nov. 4, 18, and 25, 2017, noon-5 p.m.

**Where:** Coquille Indian Tribe Community Center Gymnasium

**How:** All competitors will need to play three 15-turn games to qualify. Game play will be held in two sessions each Saturday. The first session will begin at noon and the second session will begin at 2:30 p.m.

**Who:** All Tribal family members and Kilkich residents (any age) are welcome. Please RSVP to John Thomas at the Community Center: [johnthomas@coquilletribe.org](mailto:johnthomas@coquilletribe.org) or (541) 888-9494, ext. 2248.

The gymnasium will be open for community use during the tournaments.

## After high school, what's next?

In the potlatch tradition of sharing with the community, The Mill Casino and the Coquille Tribe hosted their second annual Coos County College and Career Fair on Oct 18.

About 400 students attended the fair, sampling the 14 recruitment booths representing colleges, universities, trade schools, the military and local employers. The Coos County Sheriff's Office was a popular draw, displaying a dune patrol four-wheeler, an aerial drone and other law enforcement gear.

The fair is a community event organized by the Culture, Education, and Library Services Department, with all Coos County high schools invited.

Higher Education Coordinator Molly Hockema explained to a local news reporter, "We really care about our community, and we really care about education. We want people to come back to our community and work for their community."

This year's guest speaker, Coos County Commissioner Melissa Cribbins, told about her career path as a waitress, biologist, lawyer and local official. She assured the teens it's OK to not know what they want to do right away. She encouraged them to take their time deciding on their career paths.

In keeping with the potlatch theme, students were given breakfast or lunch, and the morning and afternoon sessions ended with drawings for gifts including headphones, bluetooth speakers, gift cards, tablets, and laptop computers.

The Mill donated the use of the Salmon Room. Next year's fair will be held there in October 2018.



Top: Chef Shawn Hanlin of Oregon Coast Culinary Institute drew much attention from students interested in restaurant and hospitality careers.



Left: Representatives from multiple colleges and universities, including Kira Oerman from Roseburg's Umpqua Community College, provided information for students.

Photos by Clark Walworth

## Teacher shares her ancestral heritage with students

Fifth-graders from Glide Elementary School made their annual trek to Coos Bay on Oct. 9 to experience Oregon's South Coast and learn about Native American culture.

Accompanied by their teacher, Coquille Tribal member Lynn Hill, the kids received a warm welcome at our newly landscaped Plankhouse. Kassie Rippee, Danielle Summers, Denni Hockema, Molly Hockema, Helena Linnell, Jesse Beers and Doc Slyter

greeted our guests in the spirit of potlatch.

The children explored traditional history and culture including first foods, the Tribal fisheries at Fourth Creek, storytelling and music.

After staying overnight at the Plankhouse, the group experienced a morning culture presentation hosted by Mark Petrie. Next came a visit to Sunset Bay and Shore Acres State Park for a day of

fun-packed cultural and environmental activities.

At Sunset, the youngsters took turns navigating the perimeter of the Bay in "Ponto" — the Tribe's aludaq-style canoe — with Doug Barrett, Kassie Rippee, Jesse Beers and Todd Martin. They explored the tidepools, played in the surf, and learned about the history of Tribes in Coos County.

The Tribe's Culture, Education, and

## Relationship abuse often starts young

Here's a startling statistic: More than half the people who have been sexually abused or stalked by a dating partner first experienced abuse between ages 11 and 24.

The Community Health Center is spreading the word about dating abuse. Also known as dating violence, intimate partner violence, or relationship abuse, dating abuse is a pattern of violent words and actions used to control someone.

Here are some warning signs:

- Hitting, shoving, biting, kicking, or any other use of physical force to cause fear or injury.
- Verbal or emotional abuse, such as threats, insults, humiliation, intimidation, stalking or constant monitoring.
- Sexual abuse such as rape, coercion, or restricting access to birth control.
- Using digital technology or social media to harass or threaten a current or former dating partner.
- Physical or online stalking.
- Financial abuse such as taking or withholding money, or blocking a partner from earning money.

Need help Call (866) 331-9474, or text "loveis" to 22522. Learn more at [breakthecycle.org](http://breakthecycle.org).

Library Services Department frequently provides cultural education and outreach opportunities for Tribal and non-Tribal youth within our service area. Examples include our annual fourth-grade program and the Bullards Beach Junior Ranger Program. Hill brings her class on a South Coast field trip each year. Glide is in Douglas County, northeast of Roseburg.

CELS' mission is to provide cultural education for all Tribal Members and the communities with which they engage.



# A harvest of fun

## Lane County bounty



Kathy Elisan (top photo) and Libby Bass (at right) enjoy a wagon ride to the pumpkin patch at Lone Pine Farms, Junction City.



Below, Jeff Wasson waits patiently for his pumpkin to be weighed.

Lane County's Harvest Party kicked off the series Oct. 7.



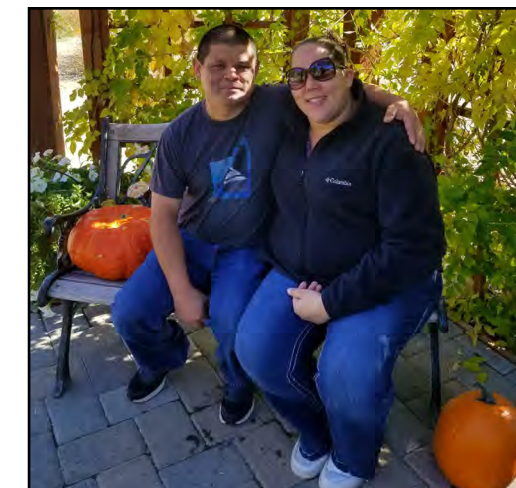
## Roseburg ramble

At left, Josslynn Mecum savors an early taste of this year's pumpkin pie. She was with her dad, Matthew Mecum, at Roseburg's Kruse Farms. Below, brother Emersyn contemplates tackling a challenge.



At bottom, Paulette Richards and her granddaughter enjoy a hayride.

The Douglas County party was Oct. 15



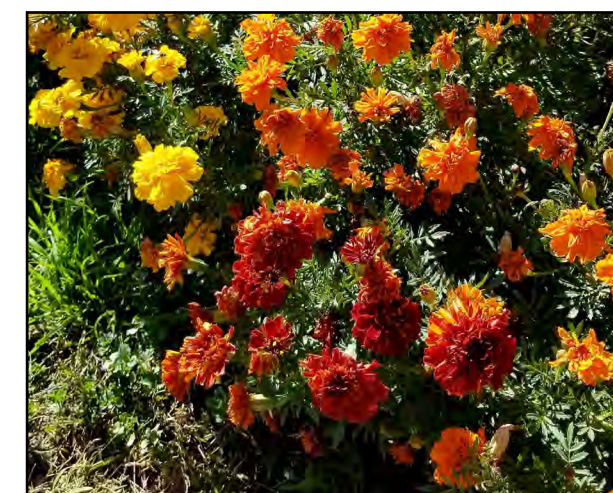
## Jackson jubilee

Top left: Chloe Arakawa enjoys a visit with aunt Kara Towner from Coos Bay.

Top right: Candy Sharp basks in dappled sunlight with fiance Rusty Arakawa.

Left: Oh, those fall colors! (The name of those flowers is a secret, so mum's the word.)

The Jackson County Harvest Party took place Oct. 14 at Medford's Pheasant Fields Farm.



### Thanks to all who attended

Thank you to all the Tribal families who attended our annual harvest party. This year was the best by far. We had the opportunity to connect faces to people we knew only by email.

the kids try to pick up the heaviest pumpkins possible, and spending time together and building our Tribal relationships. I hope you all enjoyed the parties as much as we all did.

Our harvest parties have become one of our favorite outreaches: handing out coats for kids, seeing

**Kara Towner**  
Family Support Services Navigator

K'wen 'inish-ha thanks Candy Sharp, Tina Turner, Tricia Marie Powell and Kara Towner for supplying photos. Watch for pictures of the Coos-Curry outreach gathering in December's edition.



# You'll see **RED** (And also gray and taupe, when you ogle the new Plankhouse pavement)

By Clark Walworth  
Communications Officer

When Tribal families visit the Killich Plankhouse during January's Winter Gathering, they'll see a much different landscape.

The gravel road is gone, replaced by a quarter-mile of blacktop. Also gone is the stubby field outside the ceremonial building. In its place is a 13,000-square-foot plaza surrounded by trees, shrubs and ground cover.

The \$800,000 project, completed in October, provides all-weather accessibility for every visitor – including Elders and those with special needs.

"That was really the primary purpose – taking care of the Elders," said Todd Tripp, the Tribe's property and project manager.

The plaza, where the familiar big tent will shelter Restoration Celebrations each June, features two-foot squares of jointed concrete, colored through-and-through with "Indiana Red." The wheelchair-accessible sidewalks are "Tennessee Taupe."

Tripp said the whole area is flat for easy access. The only interruptions of the level surface are the "wheel stops" marking the ends of parking spaces. Antique-style light poles will illuminate the parking area.

Landscaping around the plaza features dozens of the local area's native plant species, such as cedar, maple, fir and kinnikinnick (bearberry). Rainwater will drain into an existing wetland swale and some new retention basins before settling into the water table.

The project's general contractor was Knife River Corp. The Portland office of Akana, a Native-owned firm, designed the project. Billeter Marine of Coos Bay poured the concrete, Kyle Electric



Photos by Todd Tripp

'Indiana Red' is the chosen color for the plaza surrounding the Community Plankhouse at Killich. Checkerboard grooves in the jointed pavement give the impression of paving stones or tiles, but it's all concrete.



The pavement assures firm footing and wheelchair accessibility between the Plankhouse and the kitchen.

provided the lighting, Cleancut Landscaping planted the green spaces, and Coast Pavement striped the parking area.

Planning for the project started in March 2016. Construction began in July 2017 and finished on time.

"They did an awesome job," Tripp said.

Money for the project came from the federal government's Tribal Transportation Program, administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Tripp said the Tribe banks its annual allotments to amass

money for big-ticket projects.

Next up are paving and bridge abutments on Upper Fourth Creek Road, leading to the Tribal cemetery. Tripp expects to spend a couple of years rebuilding the construction fund before that can happen.



Contrasting sidewalks in 'Tennessee Taupe' connect the buildings to a paved and striped parking lot.

# Blanche Doyle: Always ready for adventure

## Tribe's eldest Elder was happy, caring and courageous

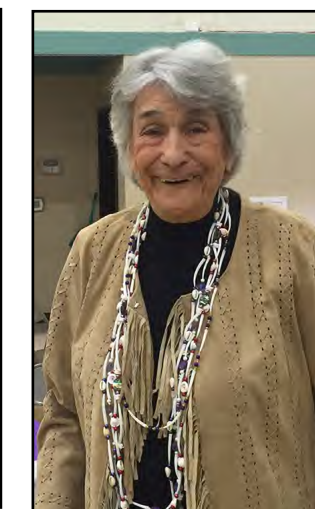
Blanche Doyle, the Coquille Indian Tribe's oldest living member, passed away September 24, 2017, at the Coos Bay home of her son, Terry, with her family gathered beside her.

Blanche was born Aug. 31, 1924, to Draper Watson Short and Nellie Sue Metcalf Short Younker in Coos Bay. She and her older sister, Laura Belle Short Kroc, were raised in Charleston by their mother and stepfather, Frank Wyman Younker. She spent her younger school years with her grandmother, Laura Hotchkiss Metcalf, while her parents were logging up South Slough. She attended Charleston Grade School and Marshfield High School.

Blanche met her future husband, James A. Doyle, in Coos Bay and married him in 1947 in Chehalis, Wash. She traveled the country with Jim, who was in the U.S. Coast Guard, living in Oregon, Washington, Alaska, New York, New Jersey and finally settling down in Juneau, Alaska, in 1964. She and Jim lived in Funter Bay, Alaska, first as caretakers of an old Alaska cannery, and then in their new home at the head of the bay, for more than 30 years before moving back to Juneau.

They returned to Coos Bay in 2004, where Blanche enjoyed being once again close to her family. Family was always the most important part of Blanche's life, and having her home filled with family members is what made her happy. A good bowler for many years, she was eventually forced to give it up. Wii bowling became her favorite game in her 80s and she out-bowled her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She was a happy and caring woman who was loved by all who knew her. She gave each life she touched a special gift



Top, Blanche was known for her unconventional Christmas card photos.

Left, Blanche in 1942 and 2015.

and will be greatly missed by all. She had a multitude of nicknames given to her through the years: Momma-san, Momma Mia, Dana, GranDana, Tia, Trauma Momma, and Mom. She loved them all.

When her daughter Wendy lost all her hair from chemo treatments, Blanche shaved her head in a show of solidarity. When Wendy's siblings all got tattoos to

honor Wendy, Blanche and her brother Tom got tattoos as well.

She left high school to care for her ill mother and was not able to graduate. She always regretted that, so at age 84 she studied and studied, and at age 85, she earned and received her high school diploma. She always told her family that they could do whatever they wanted to do; all they had to do was

work for it. And she practiced what she preached.

Blanche was game for anything exciting. She enjoyed riding up the Amazon River in a small boat, go-cart racing with her grandchildren, catching a 300 pound halibut while fishing in a skiff, and riding the "Banana Boat" in Mexico. She drove the Alaska Highway with her daughters and played "chicken" against the ocean waves with her sons. At 86, she returned to visit Alaska and rode a float plane out to Funter Bay to visit. She made a grand entrance to her 87th birthday party on the back of her son's motorcycle.

Blanche was of the Euclwa Clan and the oldest member of the Coquille Indian Tribe. She was the granddaughter of Laura and Ira Metcalf, great-granddaughter of Adulsa and Charles Hodgekiss, and great-great granddaughter of Gekka Gis-cu-ae and Kit-sun-gin-um.

She was preceded in death by her parents; sister, Laura Belle Short-Kroc; husband, James A. Doyle; daughter Wendy Sue Matheny; brothers Frank E. Younker and Robert I. Younker; and great-granddaughter Gia Branting.

She is survived by her daughter Laurabeth Barton; son Paul "Rocky" Doyle (Jan); son Terry Doyle (Bev); grandchildren Lon Matheny (Lisa), Wynette Hanna (Zachary), Fauna Larkin (Dillon), Kitzen Branting (Jeni), Quila Doyle, Brendan Doyle, Katie Doyle, and Lynn Cox; great-grandchildren Kaylee Matheny, Sarrah Matheny, Daniel Cox, Siena Hanna, Isabella Hanna, Jackson Hanna, Pel'el Branting, Atlua Branting, Adly Branting, Baelfire Branting and Makayla Doyle; sister Elizabeth Scott and brother Tom Younker; nieces and nephews Lisa Bohanan, Val Healy, Randy Scott, Shawn Scott, Brady Scott, Tom Younker, Chris Keenan, Julie Eldridge, Jason Younker, Shirod Younker and Jeranna Strasman; and many great- and great-great-nieces and nephews, all of whom she loved.



# It's much more than just a warehouse



**May:** First step: A concrete slab.



**June:** Steel posts ensure a sturdy ridge line.



**July:** A crane hoists exterior framing into place.

**Yes, the building will store stuff, but that's not its only purpose**

**By Clark Walworth**  
Communications Officer

To borrow a line from Rodney Dangerfield, maintenance buildings don't get no respect.

"It's kind of a big deal," said Anne Cook, executive director of the Coquille Indian Housing Authority (CIHA). "But people won't get jazzed about it like they would a new swimming pool."

Maybe they should. CIHA's new Projects and Maintenance Operations and Storage Facility is often called a warehouse, but it's much more. When it opens next month, the building will feature:

- A spacious workshop for CIHA's three maintenance workers, including a dedicated project space for each worker
- A paint booth
- Indoor parking for vehicles and equipment

**Please see PROJECT, page 13**



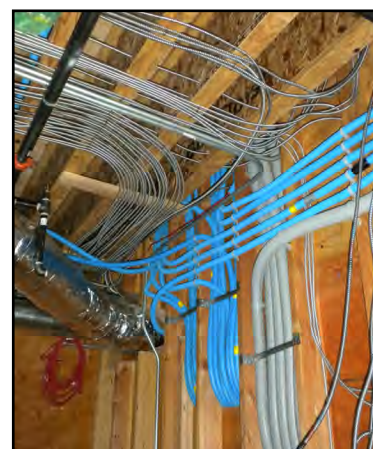
**Oct. 16:** Tribal Council tours the nearly complete building.



**Early October:** Siding begins to provide a finished look.



**August:** Roof trusses play a supporting role.



**September:** Spaghetti, anyone?

## Project

Continued from page 12

- Secure storage for tools and other property
- A wash-down pad, using rainwater from a pair of 5,000-gallon tanks. (The building's roof will shed an estimated 400,000 gallons a year.)
- A small office and server room
- Restrooms and an emergency shower

Planning for the project started in 2014, and construction began in May 2017. It's expected to be finished around the end of November, with move-in starting Dec. 1.

The new building replaces a decrepit structure that was demolished in 2015. CIHA has limped along in the meantime, storing materials in two vacant houses on its Killich property.

Cook described the new building as "incredibly necessary" and "a long-term asset for the Tribe."

Altogether, the building offers 20,480 square feet of work and storage space. That includes five rental spaces totaling 3,240 square feet.

CIHA will lease the rental spaces to the Tribe for uses such as an archaeology lab, a fitness room, and storage of emergency management gear. Instead of renting space elsewhere in town, the Tribe will be "keeping it in the family," Cook said.

The building's upper level provides 6,800 square feet for CIHA to store cabinets, countertops, carpeting, light fixtures, doors, drywall and other building materials. Keeping an inventory of those items will let CIHA capitalize on volume discounts.

"This is going to save us a lot of money in the long run," Cook said.

The building provides a special treat for CIHA's maintenance workers: For the first time, they'll have a locker room for their boots and rain gear.

# Scraps of memory

## Preserving family history stimulates creativity

Those boxes of old pictures in your closet aren't just dust catchers. They're also your family's story, and they deserve to be preserved, says Lois Parrish.

Old Polaroids are notorious for degrading, but regular prints can fade, too. And your grandma's keepsake albums may contain acidic paper and destructive adhesives.

A small group gathered recently at Killich for a day of scrapbooking. Led by Parrish, participants combined creativity with curation, learning how to display and preserve their photographic treasures.

"It's just a nice way to pass down family memories," Parrish said.

Participant Kim E. Ridge-Severson, busily punching out and applying paper shapes, chimed in with her own perspective:

"It's fun and addictive," she said.



Photos by Clark Walworth

Lois Parrish displays a pair of Halloween-themed pages, cheerily decorated and ready to accept some ghoulish photos.



Kim E. Ridge-Severson positions elements of her design.

## Want to learn more?

Lois Parrish will lead another scrapbooking workshop on Dec. 15. These workshops are part of the Tribe's recurring Culture Days, sponsored by the Culture, Education and Library Services Department.

Future events include:

**Nov. 17** – Jam and Jelly Canning, Plankhouse Kitchen. (Class is limited to 15 participants.)

**Dec. 1 and 8** – Wa'paas Baskets with Denni Hockema, Omashi's Haws.

**Dec. 15** – Scrapbooking, Omashi's Haws.

Snacks or lunches will be provided. Please RSVP to hold a spot in the class, and to help the staff estimate material and food needs. Contact Julie Goff or Danielle Summers at (541) 751-2004.

Watch MyTribe and the K'wen 'inish-ha Facebook Group for details as the dates approach.



# At last, you can fly your own Coquille flag

Are you proud to be Coquille? For the first time, you can show your Tribal pride by owning and displaying the Coquille flag.

In response to a Tribal member's request, the Tribal Council decided in October to make flags available to individual members. With a burgundy-colored Tribal seal emblazoned on a gray background, the flags come in 4-foot by 6-foot and 3-foot by 5-foot sizes.

To purchase a flag, contact Executive Management Coordinator Kay Collins at:

(541) 756-0904, ext. 1242  
3050 Tremont Street  
North Bend, OR 97459  
kaycollins@coquilletribe.org

The larger, 4-by-6 flag, is priced at \$79 plus shipping. The smaller, 3-by-5 flag, is \$65 plus shipping.

At right: If you fly your Coquille Tribal flag on the same staff as the American flag, remember that the U.S. Flag Code reserves the top spot for the Stars and Stripes.

Photo by Clark Walworth



## About the Tribal flag

The seal, or emblem, on the Coquille Tribal flag is an updated version of a design that has represented the Tribe since 1993. It includes several images with deep meaning to the Coquille people:

- Triangles circling the border represent a traditional basket design.
- The cedar tree symbolizes cleansing, protection and healing.
- Grandmother Rock symbolizes spirituality.
- The spear symbolizes sustenance.
- The Plankhouse represents shelter.

## Respecting the flag

To be a Tribal member who flies our flag is an honor that should not be taken lightly. Symbolizing our culture and identity, the Coquille Tribal flag evokes pride and lends itself to celebration. As a symbol of our nation, the Tribal flag always should be handled with dignity and respect.

Please do not:

- Sell or trade the flag. (It may be gifted to another Tribal member.)
- Use the flag for advertising or promotion purposes. (Tribal members who display the flag do not speak for the Tribe or represent Tribal government.)
- Fasten or display the flag in a way that will permit it to be damaged or soiled.



Photo by Molly Hockema

Ashley Cordes, a Coquille Tribal member and University of Oregon doctoral student, prepares to raise the CIT flag.

## Native students at UO show their colors

By Molly Hockema  
Higher Education Coordinator

EUGENE — Singing and drumming accompanied a flag-raising ceremony at the University of Oregon last month.

The Oct. 19 ceremony marked the annual replacement of nine flags representing Oregon's nine federally recognized Tribes. The year-old flags were lowered and replaced, and all nine new ones were raised at the same time to express that students on campus are united as one people.

The Native American Student Union organized the event and invited a drum family from the Chemawa

Indian School to participate. The Chemawa group sang to open the ceremony and sang again while the flags were lowered and raised.

The flag poles have stood in a courtyard at the university's Memorial Student Union for several years. Students in the Native American Student Union proposed the courtyard, and, with support from the university, raised \$46,000 for the flag poles and construction.

The students fly the flags as a way to remind everyone on campus that Oregon's Native Americans are still here.

## Chair

Continued from page 1

Plankhouse paving project. We hope to get your input on issues awaiting us in 2018.

## Working together

October was a busy month, beginning with the Legislative Commission on Indian Services meeting, hosted by the Warm Springs Tribe. This commission is a venue for leaders of the nine Oregon Tribes to receive updates from state officials, including:

- The Oregon Health Authority's transition to a new director, Patrick Allen.
- An Oregon Department of Forestry report on the 2017 fire season that has touched so many people this year.
- The state's role in dealing with Sudden Oak Death Syndrome (SOD), which has reached Curry County and continues to move north. This is a huge concern for our Sek-wet-se Forest located in Curry County. We are working with a coalition sponsored by Sen. Jeff Merkley that includes federal, Tribal, state and local governments. We hope to address this before it spreads into Coos County and beyond.

The Oregon Tribes are planning a government-to-government summit the

first week in November. It will include a day of training for all state agency directors. They'll hear from Tribal leaders about the importance of Tribal sovereignty and consultation as they do work that affects our nations and Tribal members. All nine Tribal chairs will discuss mutual issues and concerns with Gov. Kate Brown. The Coquille Tribe continues to work with the state on education, health care, natural resources and cultural resources, just to name a few.

## Better Elder care

The Tribal Council met with our Elders Committee and Health Advisory Board in October on a topic that touches all our families: Elder care.

When the Tribal Council recently updated our Mission and Core Values, we looked at the priorities of past Tribal leaders since even before our Coquille Constitution was written. We realized that our priorities have never changed. We have always striven for better health care for our people, to take care of our Elders, and to educate our children.

It was time to check in and see if we are hitting our goals and how we can better support our Elders' needs. For this meeting, we asked:

- What are we doing today to care for our Elders?

- What are the needs of our Elders today?
- What resources are available in our community?
- What challenges are our families facing when looking for care for loved ones?

Unfortunately, we heard that our care needs are growing with our population, and there is a huge lack of resources in our local communities. I found myself frustrated and looking for solutions.

One thing that I know is that it is important for us to communicate the issues we are facing with you, and continue to look for solutions. We have much more work to do!

## Find it on MyTribes

I encourage you to visit our website, where the new "MyTribes" section has new information on programs and services. We are working hard to get you important information as quickly and conveniently as possible. Please take some time to visit, and let us know what you think.

## Let's do business

All you entrepreneurs out there, be sure to add your business to the Coquille Tribe's vending list so we can support your business. If you have any questions, please call Arlea Grenade, procurement officer, at (800) 622-5869 or (541) 756-0904.

## Your voice matters

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

## Thoughts and prayers

In closing, I would like to send our thoughts and prayers to our family members who are sick or have recently lost loved ones – and also to everyone who has been affected by wildfires and natural disasters around the country. Our hearts are with you.

Take care for now, and if you have questions or concerns, please 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 available on MyTribes.

Thank you,  
Brenda Meade  
Chairperson

Get the news first!  
Join K'wen 'inish-ha  
on Facebook



## Coquille Indian Tribe

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cit@coquilletribe.org

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Property and Projects — Todd Tripp  
Finance — Mark Gagnon  
Tribal Member Services — Jon Ivy  
Natural Resources — Darin Jarnaghan  
Information Technology — Robert Goldrick  
Communications — Clark Walworth

### Tribal Court

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Clerk Lynda Payton  
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**Culture, Education & Library Services**  
Director Bridgett Wheeler  
(541) 751-2004, (800) 622-5869

### Tribal Police

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Chief Scott Lafave  
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(541) 888-0189

### Nasomah Health Group

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(541) 751-0940 rodcook@coquilletribe.org

### Community Health Center

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**Contract Health**  
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**Community Center**  
Director Becky Cantrell  
(541) 888-9494; (800) 344-8583

### Housing Authority

CIHA Executive Director Anne Cook  
2678 Mexeye Loop Coos Bay, OR. 97420  
(541) 888-6501, (800) 988-6501

### Coquille Economic Development Corp.

Chief Executive Officer Judy Metcalf  
3201 Tremont St. North Bend, OR. 97459  
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### Gaming Commission

(541) 756-5664, (800) 953-4800

### Medford Office

2355 S. Pacific Hwy  
Medford, OR 97501  
(541) 779-1501, jonivy@coquilletribe.org  
8-4 Mon-Fri, or by appointment





## Police group honors CIT member

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## Family fun at Harvest Parties

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Look for K'wen'inish-ha on Facebook and MyTribe.



## Here comes your Tribal mail-order pharmacy

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Photo by Clark Walworth

## Winners go to work

Chairperson Brenda Meade, right, swears in Kippy Robbins and Don Garrett on Oct. 28 as Vice Chair and Representative No. 2 on the Tribal Council. The Oct. 20 vote count for Vice Chair was: Kippy Robbins 156, Tom H. Younker 94. The count for Representative was: Troy Anderson 69, Marsha Frost 42, Don Garrett 100, Jen Procter Andrews 40.

Coquille Indian Tribe  
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