

# K'wen Weekly

Oct. 30, 2020

## Boosting tribal members

The Tribal Council recently adopted a Tribal and Indian Preference in Employment Ordinance. Now comes the hard work of implementing it.

That job falls to former Vice Chair Kippy Robbins. Chairman Brenda Meade made the announcement this week.



[Read the announcement](#)



## Wanted: police reserves

The Coquille Tribal Police Department is seeking volunteer police reserves. You must be 21 or older to apply. You need a valid driver's license, and you must pass background and physical abilities tests. The deadline to submit applications is Dec. 10.

Reserve police officers are community members who are trained under state requirements as certified law enforcement officers. They supplement the full-time tribal officers in a variety of duties.

[What volunteers do](#)

## Lane County clinic purchase

The tribe has selected a site for its Lane County medical clinic. The Tribal Council voted this week to authorize a purchase.

[Details](#)



## Drone view

We've got aerial footage of the Ko-Kwel Wellness Center construction project.

[See it here](#)

**Also,** here's the latest update on



construction:

[Update](#)

## Let's stay healthy

The Community Health Center has some important information during this perilous time:

- [Protect your family with a safe Halloween.](#)
- [Your annual flu vaccine is more important than ever.](#)

## Produce for Elders

Fresh produce reimbursement for Elders will continue through November. Elders should turn in their receipts in to Elders Coordinator Lori Austin.

- **Reminder:** You can shop at your favorite market or farmers market.
- **Questions?** Call or email Lori Austin: (541)-888-9494, ext. 2214; (800) 344-8583; cell (541) 217-9898; or [loriaustin@coquilletribe.org](mailto:loriaustin@coquilletribe.org).



## Tracking Tribal Council

- Minutes of the Oct. 8 council meeting are [here](#).
- The workshop schedule for Nov. 3-4 is [here](#).

## Care about culture?

The Culture and Education Committee has a vacancy for a tribal parent. As a committee member, you'll advise the Tribal Council and staff on cultural, historical and education matters.

[Learn more](#)

## Get your K'wen how you like it!

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# K'wen Weekly

Nov. 6, 2020



## As COVID drags on ...

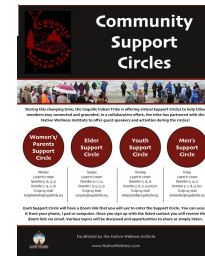
Chief Don Ivy shares some timely thoughts about coping with the pandemic.

[Read it here](#)

## Consider a support circle

During this changing time, the Coquille Indian Tribe is offering virtual support circles to help tribal members stay connected and grounded. In a collaborative effort, the tribe has partnered with the Native Wellness Institute to offer guest speakers and activities during the circles.

[Details](#)



## Need work? Tribe's hiring

The tribe is seeking two individuals for custodial work. Here are the job descriptions:

[Lead Custodial Technician](#)  
[Custodial Technician](#)

## Thanks for the chance to serve

The new Tribal Council vice chair reflects on the burdens and opportunities that come with the honor of a tribal leadership role.

[Read it here](#)



## C&E Committee will meet

The Culture and Education Committee will meet for its annual two-day work session this weekend, Nov. 7-8. The committee will meet from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. each day.

Saturday's meeting will focus on culture and historic preservation, and Sunday's meeting will

focus more on education. There will be a guest presenter from Oregon Department of Education to discuss the different types of schools that Oregon sponsors.

The agenda and Zoom information can be found on MyTribe. Or contact Bridgett Wheeler at [bridgettwheeler@coquilletribe.org](mailto:bridgettwheeler@coquilletribe.org).

## Share your voice

The Culture and Education Committee has a vacancy for a parent of a tribal child. If you are interested, please send a statement of interest to [eoipinion@coquilletribe.org](mailto:eoipinion@coquilletribe.org).



## See it for yourself

Want to see the Kilkich Wellness Center construction site? We've got you covered.

We have aerial video from a drone. AND we have a cool online app that lets you take a self-guided virtual tour of the interior.

[Aerial video](#)

[Virtual tour](#)

## How it's going

Here's the latest Construction Update, with details on what's happening now and what's happening next.

[Details](#)

## Holiday closures

Coquille Tribal offices, including the Community Health Center, will be closed Wednesday for Veterans Day. [Clinic details](#)

## Crucial diabetes info

- Know your blood sugar numbers with a simple diabetes test. [Details](#)
- Are you at risk for diabetes? [Find out](#)



## Tribal Council minutes

[Oct. 22, 2020](#)

[Oct. 28, 2020](#)

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# K'wen Weekly

Nov. 13, 2020

## Holiday potlatch cards bring cheer!

As we near the end of a difficult and stressful year, I am pleased to say that the Coquille Tribe is able to uphold our tradition of distributing holiday potlatch cards. The tribe's budget has been hit hard by the economic impact of COVID-19, but we know that family budgets have been too. So we plan to send a \$50 gift card to the head of each tribal household.

This year's cards will be delivered a little later than usual. Our target date is the winter solstice, Dec. 21.

I hope this warm expression of the potlatch spirit helps brighten everyone's holidays. We wish everyone a happy holiday season and a healthy new year.

Shuenhalni,  
Brenda Meade,  
Chairman

## Flut shot winners claim \$500 prize

The flu shot clinics had a great turnout this year. Thanks to everyone who participated to make these events successful! Special thanks to Deb Richardson, Teone Fjeld, Nicole Johnson, Kelly Mitchell, Kelle Little and Derek Mollier who worked six different events to make vaccinations as easily accessible as possible.

The winners (randomly drawn) are...  
Douglas Grundman (Tribal Member)  
Lori Austin (CIT Elders Program Coordinator)  
Roberto Pedrini (TMCH Executive Chef)

Congratulations to the winners!

## Chat with the tribal family, virtually

During the month's of November and December the Community Health Center has partnered with Native Wellness Institute to host virtual support circles once a week. There are four different circles for men, women/parents, youth and Elders. Check out the information below.

[Details](#)

### [Zoom links](#)

## Oregon energy council seeks tribal rep

Want to promote a tribal perspective at the state level in energy projects? The Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council currently has a vacancy and they are very interested in having a tribal perspective on the Council. A letter sent from the director, Janine Benner, is attached and has more details.

If you have any questions, the council secretary and Oregon Department of Energy Siting Division Manager Todd Cornett is available by phone at (503) 378-8328 to answer questions.

### [Letter](#)

## New locks for Kilkich gates

All gates at Kilkich will have their locks changed as of Nov. 20. That means that if you have a gate key already, it will no longer work on Friday the 20th.

Kilkich gate keys are available to all tribal members. If you want a new gate key, please contact Brein Anglin at (541) 756-0904, Ext. 1230, or [breinanglin@coquilletribe.org](mailto:breinanglin@coquilletribe.org). Also: A form that you can print out and submit is in the link below or click on the Forms tab in MyTribe to find a fillable form labeled Kilkich Gate Key Request.

We appreciate your patience and understanding. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions

### [More details](#)

### [Gate form](#)

## Why is our tribe so "white" looking?

Ever felt like you didn't quite fit in to the Native American community because of the color of your hair, skin or eyes? You're not alone.

Join the Wawa Sisterhood next Wednesday, Nov. 18, via Zoom, as we discuss our unique tribal history and what that means for our identity today in Indian country. If you haven't already, check out the Wawa Sisterhood Facebook page. We welcome all women in the tribal community: tribal members, spouses, staff and residents of the Kilkich community.

### [Zoom link](#)

## Technology available for youngsters too

The Youth Technology Assistance Program is being amended to include tribal youth age 3-5. The tribe recognizes the importance of early childhood education and is hopeful that this change further allows for the technology support of educational resources into tribal homes. For questions or an application, please see MyTribe or contact Rhonda Ferguson at [rhondaferguson@coquilletribe.org](mailto:rhondaferguson@coquilletribe.org).

## Reminder: tutoring help for all tribal kids

The tribe is pleased to offer tutoring services for our tribal families, regardless of location. Tutors are provided free of charge to tribal families through this school year. You can book sessions with tutors using [this link](#).

Offered to learners in kindergarten through to college, tutors can help with online schooling, assignments, projects, and organization. Please be sure to check out the terms of service and codes of conduct that apply to these services. [Find them here](#), or check the MyTribe Highlights for more details.

Questions? Please contact [jenniferviksnehill@coquilletribe.org](mailto:jenniferviksnehill@coquilletribe.org).

## Upcoming workshops for Tribal Council

Stay informed. Check out the Tribal Council workshops for Nov. 17-19.

[Workshop schedule](#)

## Need work? The tribe is hiring

The Community Health Center is hiring a Public Health Improvement Coordinator. Questions? Contact Mike Frost at [mikefrost@coquilletribe.org](mailto:mikefrost@coquilletribe.org).

[Job description](#)

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# K'wen Weekly

Nov. 20, 2020



## Bringing the beach to Medford

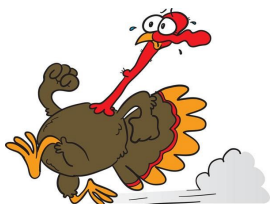
The Coquille Indian Tribe announced on Wednesday an exciting new partnership with Jimmy Buffet's Margaritaville Enterprises that will build a boutique hotel alongside U.S. Highway 99.

[Here are the details](#)

[Margaritaville blog](#)

## We're halfway there

The Ko-Kwel Wellness Center construction project has crossed the halfway mark. For a progress update plus the latest aerial video, follow [this link](#).



## Thanksgiving office closure

In observance of the Thanksgiving holiday, tribal offices including the Community Health Center will be closed Thursday and Friday, Nov. 26 and 27.

For medical emergencies, dial 911 or go to the nearest hospital.

The 24-Hour Nurse Line is available at (844) 829-0166 for PRC patients and (866) 883-4486 for Nasomah Health Group members.

## Health Center open for patients

Other than the Thanksgiving holiday closure, the Community Health Center is continuing to provide patient care.

[Details](#)

## Fitness Center closes

In response to COVID-19 and the governor's orders for the state of Oregon, the Killich Fitness Center is temporarily closed.

[Details](#)

## Watch for your check

You probably heard already about the COVID-19 relief check that's heading your way. If not, see all the details [here](#).

## Understand contract tracing

To slow the spread of COVID-19, the Community Health Center has a contract tracing process in place.

[Details](#)

## Tribal Council minutes

The minutes of the Nov. 4 Tribal Council meeting are [here](#).



## Youth Council openings

The Coquille Indian Tribe Youth Council has openings!

The council meets regularly to discuss topics that relate to tribal youth. It also provides opportunities for youth to volunteer and engage in leadership activities while learning more about the governmental functions of the Coquille Indian Tribe.

If you or a family member is 12-18 years old (still in school) and interested in serving on the Youth Council, please contact Becky Cantrell by email at [beckycantrell@coquilletribe.org](mailto:beckycantrell@coquilletribe.org). Or text or call (541) 217-1350.



## New cultural videos

Cultural Activities Coordinator Jennifer ViksneHill has put together several videos to help educate tribal members and bring culture to you, wherever you are. Check them out!

[Acorn gathering](#)  
[Pine nut necklaces](#)  
[Understanding regalia](#)

## Transportation group to meet

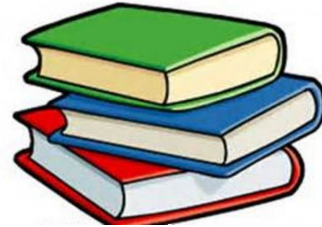
The Transportation Advisory Committee will meet at 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, at the Learning Center. Social distancing will be observed.

Topics will include an update on the status of proposed temporary changes to the transportation policy and a review of grant applications and projects for the 2021-2023 grant cycle.

If you would like to attend the meeting in person or via Zoom, please contact Lauren Morris, Mobility Program Coordinator, at [laurenmorris@coquilletribe.org](mailto:laurenmorris@coquilletribe.org) or (541) 888-9494, ext. 2251.

## Tutoring is available

School for our tribal families is especially challenging this year. With school metrics changing every week and additional state mandated restrictions, it is hard for many students to find their bearings.



The tribe continues to stand by our students, with the offer of tutoring services free to all tribal families. [Use this link to book tutoring sessions.](#)

Please check the terms of service and codes of conduct that apply to these services. They are available on MyTribe [here.](#)

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the program, please contact [jenniferviksnehill@coquilletribe.org](mailto:jenniferviksnehill@coquilletribe.org).

## State emergency job

The State of Oregon is advertising to hire a tribal emergency coordinator. (Interested? You don't have to move to Salem. You can work remotely.)

[Details](#)

## Postdoctoral scholar opportunity

The American Indian Policy Institute (AIPI) in the Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions at Arizona State University invites applications for a full-time, 12-month, benefits-eligible, postdoctoral scholar. See the link below for further information.

[Link](#)

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# K'wen Weekly

Nov. 25, 2020



## Step up, chime in, help out

The Coquille Tribe needs some fresh energy to help with the important work of tribal committees. Please consider volunteering for one of these roles:

- Elders Committee
- Investment Committee
- Natural Resources Committee
- Culture and Education Committee (parent of a tribal student)

Interested? Want to know more about the committees? Email [opinion@coquilletribe.org](mailto:opinion@coquilletribe.org). Or call Kay Collins at (541) 808-5006.

## Where should your check go?

The tribal staff will start mailing Coronavirus Emergency Relief Program (CERP) checks to all tribal members as early as next week. But do we have your current address?

- If you received a CERP check from the tribe in June, and if you haven't moved since then, you're good to go.
- If you have moved, and if you haven't notified the tribe, we need to hear from you ASAP. Email [enrollmentservices@coquilletribe.org](mailto:enrollmentservices@coquilletribe.org). (If you're not sure, please contact us.)
- If your child's address or custody status has changed, please let us know that, too.

**Questions?** Please email [enrollmentservices@coquilletribe.org](mailto:enrollmentservices@coquilletribe.org).



## Not just puddles

Strategically placed low spots in the Ko-Kwel Wellness Center landscape are designed to filter runoff and nurture greenery. Learn about "bioswales" in this week's Construction Update.

[Details](#)



## Opportunities for youth leadership

The Coquille Tribal Youth Council has openings for young people to learn leadership skills while serving their tribe.

The Youth Council meets regularly to discuss topics affecting tribal youth, including policies, funding opportunities and programs. It's a chance for tribal youth to volunteer, engage in leadership activities and learn about tribal government.

If you are a tribal youth between 12-18 and still in school, or if you know someone fitting that description, you can find out more by contacting Becky Cantrell, assistant director of Culture, Education and Learning Services. Email [beckycantrell@coquilletribe.org](mailto:beckycantrell@coquilletribe.org). Or text or call her at (541) 217-1350.

## COVID Q&A

We've found an excellent resource for COVID-19 information in southwestern Oregon. Dr. Bob Danneffer, executive director of the Douglas Public Health Network, conducts a livestream Q&A session each Friday on Facebook.

[Find him here](#)  
[Send him a question](#)



(Note: The livestream is usually at 6 p.m. -- but not always. Check the Douglas Public Health Facebook page for details about this week's live show. Or watch a [recording](#) of Dr. Danneffer's latest show any time.)

## Help for Native-owned businesses

If your small business has been affected by COVID-19, you might qualify for a stabilization grant from the National Congress of American Indians and Google.org.

[Details](#)





## Get your flu shot yet?

Bigfoot and the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board remind us that COVID-19 isn't the only disease we need to prevent this year.

[Details](#)

## Plankhouse is still available

You still can use the Plankhouse despite the COVID-19 pandemic. Things to know:

- Safety is our top priority.
- Gatherings are limited to 25 people indoors or 50 outdoors.
- If more than six people or anyone outside your immediate family attends, we strongly encourage everyone to wear masks.
- The fire pits are not working, but the tribe can provide up to six heaters.
- If you are interested in an outdoor event, the tribe can provide up to eight pop-up canopies. Please keep in mind they don't have sides.
- Plankhouse access and limits on gatherings are subject to change.

For more information about reserving the Plankhouse, please contact:

Nichole Howe  
Travel & Events Coordinator  
[plankhouseevents@coquilletribe.org](mailto:plankhouseevents@coquilletribe.org)  
(541) 756-0904 ext. 1256

## Holiday office closures

In observance of the Thanksgiving holiday, tribal offices including the Community Health Center will be closed Thursday and Friday, Nov. 26 and 27.

For medical emergencies, dial 911 or go to the nearest hospital.

The 24-Hour Nurse Line is available at (844) 829-0166 for PRC patients and (866) 883-4486 for Nasomah Health Group members.

## Reminder: new gate locks

All gates at Kilkich have had their locks changed as of Nov. 20. If you want a new gate key, please contact Brein Anglin at (541) 756-0904, Ext. 1230, or [breinanglin@coquilletribe.org](mailto:breinanglin@coquilletribe.org).

Click the link below to print and submit a form. Or click on the Forms tab in MyTribe to find a fillable form: "Kilkich Gate Key Request."

[Gate key form](#)

## Round, round, get around ...

The Transportation Advisory Committee will meet at 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, at the Learning Center. Social distancing will be observed.

Topics will include an update on the status of proposed temporary changes to the transportation policy and a review of grant applications and projects for the 2021-2023 grant cycle.

If you would like to attend the meeting in person or via Zoom, please contact Lauren Morris, Mobility Program Coordinator, at [laurenmorris@coquilletribe.org](mailto:laurenmorris@coquilletribe.org) or (541) 888-9494, ext. 2251.

## Have a happy and SAFE Thanksgiving!

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# K'wen Weekly

Dec. 4, 2020

## Health center will reopen (partly)

The Community Health Center, which closed this week because of COVID-19 exposure, will resume limited services the week of Dec. 7.

### Starting Monday:

- The pharmacy will reopen.
- COVID-19 testing will be available.
- The clinic staff can assist patients by phone or through the Patient Portal.
- Other non-clinic services of the Health and Human Services Department will function as usual.

### Starting Tuesday:

- The medical clinic will offer limited appointments via telehealth.

Questions? Call the Community Health Center on Monday at (541) 888-9494.

## COVID vaccine is coming

The Coquille Tribe will receive its first allocation of COVID-19 vaccine at the end of December. A distribution plan is being developed.

More information will be announced as it becomes available.



## Tribal Council action next week

The Tribal Council will hold workshops Tuesday through Thursday of next week, followed by a formal council meeting at 1 p.m. PDT Thursday.

### [Schedule](#)

**Want to attend?** For information on joining the council sessions via Zoom, please see the Highlights section of [MyTribe](#). Or contact Executive Management Coordinator Kay Collins by [email](#) or phone (541) 751-7488.



## Here comes your check

Coronavirus relief checks from the tribe are on their way.

[Details](#)

## More help for pandemic impact

If your family has been financially affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, you may be eligible for help from the Oregon Health Equity Assistance Program.

The program provides as much as \$800 per tribal household to assist with rent, utilities or food, as outlined in the policy below. If you think you qualify under the policy, please return your signed certification form to Family Support Services, PO Box 3190, Coos Bay, OR 97420.

Or email it to:

[yvonnelivingstone@coquilletribe.org](mailto:yvonnelivingstone@coquilletribe.org) or [ronijackson@coquilletribe.org](mailto:ronijackson@coquilletribe.org)

The deadline is Dec 28. If you have questions, please contact Yvonne Livingston at (541) 888-9494, ext. 2213, or Roni Jackson at ext. 2219.

[Emergency Fund Policy](#)

[Certification Form](#)

## Understanding pain

Managing pain is a crucial element of maintaining your personal wellness. So the tribe is sponsoring a free online educational event this month.

Dr. Kevin Cuccaro, a physician and consultant, will present "The Science of Pain Care" via Zoom on Dec. 13 and 16.

[Details](#)



## More help for wellness center

The Ko-Kwel Wellness Center project got another boost this week, when a nearly \$1.5 million federal grant was announced. We knew it was coming, but it became official this week.



This money will help pay for equipment and supplies. It's a great example of how outside funds are building this excellent facility with minimal tribal investment.

[See a local TV report](#)  
[See our senators' press release](#)





## Milling our own

Some of the lumber for the wellness center comes from the tribe's own trees and sawmill. This week's Construction Update reports on a batch of rough cedar planks.

[Read the update](#)

## Natural resources scholarships

Native American students pursuing higher education in the natural resources field can apply for scholarships from the Intertribal Timber Council.

[How to apply](#)



## Job announcement: finance manager

The Coquille Tribe needs to fill a key Finance Department position

[Details](#)

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