



K'wen Weekly

June 18, 2021

Oregon's tap water is safe

Oregon's office of emergency management is assuring Oregonians that tap water throughout the state is clean and safe to drink.

A chlorine shortage due to a major electrical failure at a chemical company in Longview, WA has caused concern (chlorine treats the water supply), but officials believe current chlorine supplies are sufficient for the time being. Click on the link below to read the full press release.

[Press release](#)

Tribal Council to meet at a new time



Beginning in July and moving forward, Tribal Council will hold workshops on Tues. and Wed. from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. concluding with a Tribal Council meeting on Fri. at 10 a.m.

Next week, Tribal Council will observe the old schedule holding workshops Tue. and Wed. concluding with a Tribal Council meeting on Thur. at 1 p.m., June 22 -24. See the full agenda below.

[Details](#)

ODFW temporarily bans fall Chinook fishing

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is enacting temporary restrictions on coastal wild adult Chinook salmon harvest in the Southwest Zone due to low forecasted returns.

[Read the full story.](#)

COVID vaccines available for 12 - 15 year olds

Vaccines are now available for children ages 12 - 15. Click the link below for more info.

[Kids and COVID vaccines](#)

More COVID news

To understand more about the long-haul effects of COVID, click below.

[Long-haul COVID](#)

For the best protection against COVID, mask up and vaccinate. Learn more below.

[More info](#)

Elders frozen meal pick-up available daily

Now that the Ko-Kwel Wellness Center is open, Elders frozen meals in Coos County are available for pick-up daily, Mon. - Fri., 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at the new wellness center. No appointment is necessary. Call ahead if you want your meals ready when you arrive and they will be brought out to you.

Call Lori Austin at (541) 888-9494 ext. 2214 for more details.

Have time to lend a hand, at the wheel?

The Coquille Indian Tribe's mobility program is looking for volunteer drivers. The program provides the vehicle, insurance and training.

[Read all about it](#)

Read up on Head Start's record

The Coquille Indian Tribe's annual Head Start report is available for 2020 - 2021. Click below if you'd like to read it.

[Report](#)

Museum to mark lynching of black man

The Coos History Museum, together with the Alonzo Tucker Task Force Committee and the Oregon Remembrance Project, would like to invite the public to attend the unveiling of the Historical Marker for Alonzo Tucker in person on Saturday, June 19, from 10 - 11 a.m. The unveiling will acknowledge the lynching of Alonzo Tucker in Coos Bay, Oregon.

[See press release](#)

Opportunities

Family Support Service Navigator closes June 18. [Details](#)

Medical Assistant closes June 18. [Details](#)

Medical Director closes June 21. [Details](#)

Primary Care Physician for Eugene clinic. [Details](#)

Business Office Specialist closes June 25. [Details](#)

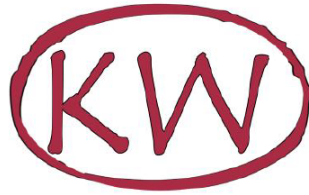
Teacher Assistant closes June 25. [Details](#)

National Museum of American Indians Director closes June 29. [Details](#)

Fire Science Intern for the South Slough, closes June 30 [Details](#)

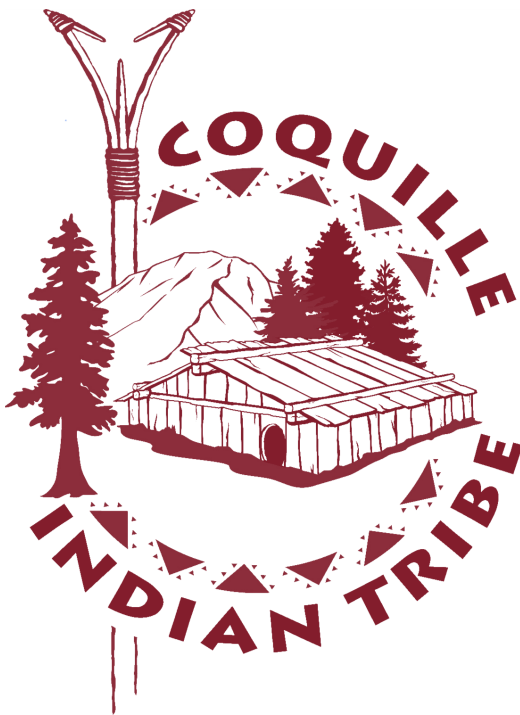
Estuary Explorers Educator for the South Slough, closes July [Details](#)

Tribal Liaison Specialist with FEMA, closes July 1 [Details](#)



K'wen Weekly

June 25, 2021



Restoration Celebration begins

The tribe's Restoration Celebration starts this afternoon with a state of the nation address from Chairman Meade via Zoom at 4 p.m. See the agenda below.

Please note that there has been a location change for the Salmon Ceremony on Saturday held at Bullards State Park. It will take place on the beach just before the horse camping area instead of the West Day Use area. Just follow the signs. Parking is limited and priority will be given to Elders.

[Agenda](#)

[Detailed agenda](#)

[General Council agenda](#)

Restoration closes tribal offices June 28

In commemoration of the Coquille Indian Tribe's Restoration holiday, tribal government offices and the Ko-Kwel Wellness Center will be closed on Monday, June 28.

[KWC closed](#)

Long fought DHAT bill passes senate

We are happy to announce that the work that the Native Dental Therapy Initiative, Oregon tribes and NARA have been doing to establish dental therapy as a profession in Oregon reached a huge milestone in the passage of state legislation to license dental therapists statewide. While there were compromises that had to be made in order to move it through the finish line, the policy goals that were set from the

beginning are still intact:

- Making sure dental therapists participating in the Oregon pilot projects can apply for licensure and continue to serve their communities
- Making sure tribes that want to certify their DHATs through the Portland Area Community Health Aide Program instead of a state license are able to do that
- Making sure the scope of practice is strategically defined to provide routine care to Oregonians who need it most
- Recognizing different dental therapy education models, using standards set by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and maximizing the potential for a dental therapy workforce that is representative of the communities served.

[Read the news release](#)

[Read the House Bill](#)

Enjoy coffee with a cop



Join the tribal family at 9 a.m. Sunday during the Restoration Celebration and have a cup of coffee and a donut or two with the Coquille tribal police at the community plankhouse.

[Details](#)

Welcome to Emiliano and Milah

Just in time for Restoration, the Coquille Tribe gained two new members this week. The Tribal Council approved the enrollment of Emiliano Reyes Johnsen and Milah Kiley-Jo McLin.

Work day at memorial garden in Bandon

The tribe is hosting a volunteer day at the Nasomah Memorial in Bandon on Sat., July 24 from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Lunch will be provided. Only five volunteers are needed. For more information or to sign up, please contact Nichole Howe at nicholehowe@coquilletribe.org.

Free food event

Thanks to the generous work of the Willamette Action Collective there will be another free food event on Tues., July 20. See details below.

[Details](#)





Duo patrols Kilkich

Two new security officers are on the job, patrolling the Ko-Kwel Wellness Center and the Kilkich grounds to help keep everyone safe.

[Details](#)

Tribe lands dentist for wellness center

The tribe has secured a dentist to lead the new dental clinic at the Ko-Kwel Wellness Center. This week the Tribal Council secured the services of Dr. Mary Willard. A respected professional with long experience in treating Native American patients, Dr. Willard is expected to join the team by Aug. 1.

Elders will rock their house again

Once again, Coquille Elders are leading the way. Tribal buildings will end their pandemic-induced closure in July, and the first to open will be Yaalaak Haws, the Elders House at Kilkich. The Tribal Council approved policy details this week for a July 1 reopening.



Tribal Council action

Read minutes from the June 10 Tribal Council meeting.

[Minutes](#)

Recent job opportunities

IT Technical Support Specialsit II closes July 2 - [Details](#)



K'wen Weekly

July 2, 2021

Saturday night: Boom, boom, boom!



The Mill Casino-Hotel's annual July 3 fireworks display is back this year, with a viewing area set aside for tribal families. The Mill is providing chairs, hot drinks and snacks.

If you want to attend, please stop at the gift shop to pick up wrist bands and parking tags.

Tribal offices will close July 5

In observance of Independence Day, tribal government offices and the Ko-Kwel Wellness Center will be closed on Monday, July 5.

[Wellness center details](#)



July's newsletter is here

The July edition of The K'wen newsletter contains coverage of the Restoration Celebration and lots more.

[Read it](#)

It's time for sports exams

If your kids do school sports, the Ko-Kwel Wellness Center reminds you that now is the time to make an appointment for a sports physical.



[Details](#)

Are vaccines safe during pregnancy?



Yes! A mom-to-be who gets a COVID-19 vaccine protects herself AND her baby, according to this publication from the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board.

[See it](#)



Can you help at Nasomah Memorial?

We need some volunteers to help tidy up the Nasomah Memorial in Bandon. The work party will take place from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. PDT Saturday, July 24. Lunch will be provided afterward.

Limited space is available. For more information or to sign up, please contact Nichole Howe at nicholehowe@coquilletribe.org.

Remembering Toni Ann

A tribute to the late Toni Ann Brend will be held on Sunday, July 11.

[Details](#)



Volunteer drivers gather for lunch

Coquille Tribe Community Services will host an informational luncheon for volunteer drivers at noon Wednesday, July 21, in the Ko-Kwel Wellness Center's community gathering space.

Please RSVP to Mobility Program Coordinator Lauren Morris at laurenmorris@coquilletribe.org, or call (541) 808-9494, ext. 2251.



Come and get it!

Tribal families, tribal staff and Kilkich residents are eligible for a free food distribution Tuesday, July 20.

[Details](#)

Opportunities

The Ko-Kwel Wellness center has three openings:

Mental Health Therapist
Behavioral Health Specialist
Clinic Nurse - Eugene

[How to apply.](#)



K'wen Weekly

July 9, 2021

Toni Ann tribute

Reminder: A tribute to the late Toni Ann Brend will be held this Sunday, July 11.

[Details](#)



We're back!

Tribal offices will reopen Monday, ending a 15-month COVID-driven closure. Most tribal employees will be back at their desks, having spent more than a year working at home.

(Incidentally, many of our returning employees will be having their first exposure to our new phone system. Your patience will be appreciated!)

Growing pains

Speaking of the new phone system, we're still working out some bugs. In the meantime, if you have trouble reaching the Ko-Kwel Wellness Center, call Anna Chavez at (541) 888-9494, ext. 2211. She can help.

The staff directory on MyTribe is useful, too. It's listed under the "MyTribe Resources" tab, and it has every tribal government employee's phone number and extension.



Our apologies for any inconvenience you've encountered.



Eugene clinic blessing

Tribal members in the Eugene area are invited to attend the blessing ceremony for the Ko-Kwel Wellness Center-Eugene.

It starts at 5 p.m. Saturday, July 17, at 2401 River Road.



Coffee, water and cookies will be available.

There will be no online live stream.

Council K'wen

The Tribal Council will hold workshops and a meeting next week. We're on a new schedule, with the formal meeting set for Friday morning.

[Schedule](#)



Calling all preschoolers

The tribe's Head Start program is recruiting students for the 2021-22 school year. Here's a flier with details, including a link to the application form.

[Flier](#)



Food distribution, July 20

Reminder: Tribal families, tribal staff and Killich residents are eligible for a free food distribution Tuesday, July 20.

[Details](#)



Thanks, survey responders!

The tribal health and wellness staff thanks everyone who took part in the 2020 satisfaction survey. The survey invited patients and clients to rate services, programs and communication, to help identify opportunities to improve.

Participants who provided contact information were entered in a drawing for a \$100 Amazon gift card. This year's winner is Jamison Schwerdtfeger, an employee at the

Mill Casino/Hotel.

Hazardous waste disposal

Coos and Curry County residents can dispose of unwanted household chemicals for free, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, July 24. Please call (541) 396-7624 to make an appointment.



Details



K'wen Weekly

July 16, 2021

Sad news to report

A letter from Chairman Brenda Meade sadly reports the resignation of Chief Don Ivy.

[Read the letter](#)



Youth fund and other programs reinstated

On Friday, Tribal Council voted to reinstate some of the programs that had been put on hold during the COVID crisis. Read all about it below.

[Details](#)



Nominations meeting Saturday

On Saturday, July 17, a General Council meeting will be held to nominate tribal members for council positions. It will be followed by a special Tribal Council meeting.

[Nominations meeting agenda](#)
[Special Tribal Council meeting agenda](#)

Let's go to the fair!

The Culture and Education Department has received many questions about Coos County Fair admission and ride bracelets this year. Tribal families are encouraged to access the newly reinstated Youth Education and Enrichment Program to cover these costs for tribal youth age 0-18.

Remember to hang onto the receipt, or some other proof of purchase, in order to be reimbursed.

Leann is here to stay

Family Nurse Practitioner Leann Willis-Welch will continue her work as a primary care provider at the Ko-Kwel Wellness Center. Leann withdrew her resignation before it went into effect. We're delighted that Leann will continue to be on the direct care team and provide primary medical care to patients of the KWC. You can make your appointments with Leann at the new Ko-Kwel Wellness Center. Call (541) 888-9494, option 1.

Elders get-togethers planned this summer

Tribal Elders' luncheons and dinners are back! Several get-togethers have been scheduled for Elders in the five-county service area. See the details below.

[Lunch and dinner schedule](#)

Fresh produce for Elders

Tribal Elders are eligible to get reimbursed up to \$25 per month for fresh produce through the Fresh Produce program. See the flier for more details.

[Produce flier](#)

Celebration of life for Elizabeth Furse

Elizabeth Furse (1936-2021) was a life-long activist, a three-term congresswoman and a champion for the restoration of Oregon tribes. She served Oregon's First House District from 1992 to 1999.

Portland State University's Hatfield School of Government and the Center for Women's Leadership, in partnership with the Oregon Historical Society, welcome Congresswoman Elizabeth Furse's friends, family, colleagues and the public to celebrate her life and legacy at Helvetia Vineyards and Winery in Hillsboro, Ore.

Saturday 9/18/2021: Celebration of Life for the Honorable Elizabeth Furse.

Sunday 9/19/2021: Day of honoring and ceremony for the tribal communities.

To learn more, please contact: government@pdx.edu

[See the flier](#)

Eugene clinic blessing Saturday

Tribal families in the Eugene area are invited to attend the blessing ceremony for the Ko-Kwel Wellness Center-Eugene. It starts at 5 p.m. Saturday, July 17, at 2401 River Road. Coffee, water and cookies will be available.

There will be no online live stream.

New member and CIHA board appointees

The Tribal Council voted on Friday to enroll **Trylian Oliver Gilkey** as a new tribal member.

Judy Rocha, Jeffrey Severson and **Denise Hunter** were all appointed to serve three-year terms on the Coquille Indian Housing Authority.

Volunteer luncheon next week

The Coquille Tribe Community Services team invites you to learn about how to become a tribal volunteer driver. Join us for lunch at the Ko-Kwel Wellness Center's Community Gathering Room at noon Wednesday, July 21. Read all the details below.

[Details](#)



Food distribution next Tuesday

Reminder: Tribal families, tribal staff and Kilkich residents are eligible for a free food distribution Tuesday, July 20.

[Details](#)

K'wen Weekly

July 23, 2021

Election for new chief Oct. 15

As we collectively mourn the loss of Chief Don Ivy, in keeping with his specific wishes, the election for our next chief will take place the same day as the tribe's General Election.

[Details](#)



Tribute from Gov. Brown

Oregon Gov. Kate Brown issued a statement this week, saluting Chief Don Ivy for his life's work, "dismantling the structures of racism that have created disparities in our society."

[Press release](#)

Wellness on the web

The Ko-Kwel Wellness Centers (Coos Bay and Eugene) have a brand-new website. Please stop in for a look.

[Website](#)



Meet candidates in August

On August 14 from 9 a.m. to noon, a General Council forum will be hosting a virtual panel to help tribal citizens make informed decisions for voting.

[See the details](#)

Marine biology undergrads share path to U of O

Wondering how to start a career in marine science? Listen to undergraduates from across the country share their paths from high school to the University of Oregon's Research Experience for Undergraduates program.

[Learn more](#)

Get reimbursed for youth activities

Now that the Youth Education and Enrichment Program has been fully reinstated, you'll need the updated application form for 2021. Lucky for you, K'wen Weekly has your back!

[Application](#)



Council K'wen

The Tribal Council will hold open workshops on Wednesday, July 28, followed by a formal meeting on Friday, July 30.

[Schedule](#)

Also: Here are minutes from two recent meetings:

[Tribal Council, June 24](#)

[General Council, June 26](#)

Opportunities

The Mill needs a gift shop manager as well as a wide range of food-service employees -- from busser to assistant food and beverage director. Also, CEDCO needs an office manager.

[Details](#)