

## New housing project starts at Greeley Heights

Work has started on a new subdivision in the Greeley Heights neighborhood. The project involves construction of 35 new homes, new street, driveways and sidewalks.

The initial work is on the infrastructure aspect of the development. The subdivision is called Greeley Heights Subdivision Phase VI, located near Bear Drive and Mt. Jefferson Street.

Total acreage is about 35 acres. Total cost is close to



Preliminary work includes new roadways.

\$868,000. Funding comes from the Oregon Housing and Community Services Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program.

The program began in 1986, and encourages the construction and rehabilitation of housing for lower income households. This is the first time the Confederated Tribes have been awarded funds from the tax credit program.

The construction will be done in phases of six units.

## Diversity Coalition promotes cultural understanding

by Marina Rogers

Let's Talk Diversity Coalition

To promote cross cultural understanding, the regional health equity coalition Let's Talk Diversity is asking community members from different cultures to share their stories about living in Jefferson County, including Warm Springs.

This column features Ron Mulkey of Metolius, and Jolene Estimo-Pitt, of Warm Springs, both of whom are co-chairs of the Let's Talk Diversity Coalition.

Ron was raised in Silverton, which he describes as a small, predominantly Euro-American farming town at the time. While Ron comes from an accepting, welcoming family, he acknowledges there was a tension and defined difference at school between children from families in town and those from families who were migrant workers.

Discrimination happened at school. Ron explains, "You fell into it because no one raised the question of, Why do we say these unkind things about others?"

It was not until leaving his community that Ron credits getting to know people from backgrounds and cultures different than himself.



Coalition co-chairs Ron Mulkey and Jolene Estimo-Pitt.

Coming from an agrarian background, Ron recognizes that his family's culture of working and eating together kept him healthy physically.

He also comes from a Christian background, and as a Quaker, Ron's faith includes the belief that you can see a bit of God in each person.

Ron expresses the significance of this as having "less fear, less stress, more peace, and more possibility of building friendships." Ron also speaks about his family's and community's multigenerational interconnectedness as a source of health.

Jolene grew up in California, Oregon and Washington, on- and off-reservation.

Jolene reflects, "I think that as a young person, I was a bit confused about who I was or what I was, and it took my moving back to Warm Springs for a while to kind of

get grounded and figure out who I was."

Similar to Ron, Jolene's culture is also vital to her health. "My culture defines me," she says.

Later in life, Jolene started going into the longhouse and learning songs and traditional foods. She speaks of these practices and her connection to the land as defining her way of life.

"My culture is important to me because it tells me where I come from, which is the Columbia and Snake River areas," she said.

"That grounds me in a really profound way, knowing that my ancestors are literally making up the dirt, the ground for all those years."

Because of this connection, Jolene says, "For me a really important healing thing is going back there each year and reestablishing the bond.

We do our traditional services there with traditional songs and traditional foods."

Ron believes the diversity of cultures is a strength of Jefferson County. However, his first impression upon moving to Jefferson County was very different.

"Coming in I heard stories of the tension that some people viewed between the different cultures here. I wouldn't say there's fear, but there's apprehension.

"The glorious thing for me," he says, "has been to be able to be part of our Coalition. I'm meeting people that I might live here for years and never meet and discovering in some way my own narrow-mindedness."

Ron acknowledges the beauty of embracing diversity and getting to know people different from yourself.

"It's affirming the things that in my spirit I hold as a high value, and that is that we are to love everyone. The cultural competency training really talks about that.

"How can you love if you don't step outside of your own shoes, take off your own glasses and be willing to put on someone else's glasses to look at things a little bit differently?"

Jolene agrees. "We need to grow as a community. We need to evolve."

See **DIVERSITY** on 6

## Tribal Council Summaries

### August 6, 2014

- Members Present: Chief Joseph Moses, Evaline Patt, Orvie Danzuka, Kahseuss Jackson, and Carlos Smith, Emily Yazzie Recorder
- Tribal Attorney Update by Howie Arnett.
  - Proposed trust land
  - Informational Per-Capita issue
  - The Payer of medical bill issues
  - Gaming matters, OSP draft audit report
- State Issue - Chairman Eugene Greene appointed to work with the attorney's on this matter.
- Amended the Tribal Council August 2014 Agenda.

Jackson, Orvie Danzuka, and Carlos Smith.

2. Executive Session: Contract Support Indian Health Service.

- Follow up meeting August 22, 2014.

3. Chinook Environmental Services Update.

- Future meeting to be scheduled with the Executive Joint Committee Chair people.

4. Indian Health Service Update.

5. Seventh Generation Update to be moved to September with date to be determined.

6. August 18, 2014, September Tribal Council agenda and travel delegation.

7. To be scheduled items: tour the Warm Springs Fish Hatchery, Redhills, Willamette Valley, Parkdale Fish Hatchery and revisit the Tribal Council proclamation.

### August 14, 2014

- Roll Call: Chief Joseph Moses, Chief Alfred Smith Jr., Chairman Eugene Greene Jr., Vice-Chairwoman Evaline Patt, Reuben Henry, Kahseuss

## Former MHS coach sentenced for abuse

Former Madras High girls' basketball coach Michael Osborne was sentenced last week to six years in prison.

Osborne pleaded guilty to six of the 25 sexual abuse charges brought against him in Jefferson and Washington counties.

Osborne, 45, had pleaded not guilty in December to 14 counts of second-degree sex abuse involving a now-17-year-old student. He was later charged in a separate indictment with 11 more counts in Washington County.

Osborne agreed to

plead guilty to four of the Jefferson County charges, and two counts in Washington County.

The victim, surrounded by family members, sat watching tearfully in the courtroom as Jefferson County Circuit Judge Annette Hamlin imposed the sentence.

The time Osborne has spent in the Jefferson and Washington county jails since his arrest last fall will count toward the time he will serve.

After three years behind bars, Osborne can get his sentence reduced by up to 20 percent for good behavior.

## Communications: helps Telecom, KWSO

(Continued from page 1)

This past year, Converge Communications helped the Public Safety Branch to complete a new 2014 Public Safety Communications Plan.

This plan is part of a larger Telecommunications Strategic Plan that was approved by Tribal Council in early 2014. The funding received in this latest grant will be used as identified in the plans.

The Warm Springs Tele-

communications Company launched in 2012.

The Telecom, and KWSO will be able to use the tower for additional equipment, and to expand the reach of the two tribal services.

The Telecom is a tribally-owned enterprise providing phone and internet services throughout the reservation.

The Telecom has been working closely with the Public Safety Branch to share communications resources to the benefit of all tribal

members.

Jose Matanane, Telecom general manager, was pleased to hear about the funding for the Mutton Mountains communications tower.

"Yes, we will definitely want to have our wireless network on the new tower," he said. "During the recent wildland fires, we provided phone and Wi-Fi service to the fire camps through our wireless network. This new tower will extend that capability, as well as help us reach

tribal members who live at the edges of the reservation."

The \$1 million communications grant to the tribes came from one of seven grant programs administered by Homeland Security and FEMA. A total of \$10 million was made available to eligible tribal nations to implement preparedness initiatives.

## Veterans: Forming Warriors Society

(Continued from page 1)

The building needs some improvements, but this would be complicated as it is not clear who is the landlord, the BIA or the tribes, Calica said.

The veterans would also consider moving to a new hall, he said.

One suggestion has been the cafeteria building that served the old Warm Springs Elementary School.

Calica also presented a proposal for the formation of the Warm Springs Warriors Society, which Council approved by resolution. The society has tribal, non-profit status.

Membership is open to any tribal member veterans. The society is a less formal organization than the VFW or American Legion, Calica said.

The goal is to help veterans with concerns about benefits, promote goodwill among veterans and their families, participate in local and national activities, parades, memorials, gravestone settings, presentation of colors, among other activities. Membership is free to veterans. Monthly Warrior Society meetings are held every second Wednesday at 6 p.m. at the Veterans Hall.

Next to the Warm Springs Market



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