

## SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT NEWS

### Entrepreneurs Of The Month: Larry & Patti Tasa

By Tracy Olson

Larry and Patti Tasa have been married for nearly 28 years and have worked for themselves during most of that time. Together with the help of their children, they own and operate *B&H Electric* in Hillsboro, which is much more than a repair shop.

The Tasas previously owned a painting business before taking over *B&H Electric*. Patti's step-father was one of the founders (*B&H* stands for Bill & Harold), and he taught Larry all about repairing electrical motors.

Said Patti, "To come up with the money to remodel and get the business going, we had to sell everything. We sold a boat, a camper, a truck, almost everything we didn't really need."

The family remodeled the back part of the business, where they now live.

*B&H* is capable of repairing almost any tool: lawnmowers, appliances, and other mechanical items. The other facet to the business is one of commercial and residential water system installation. In the summer months, people want irrigation for their lawns, so they call *B&H* to install one.

Larry handles the physical end of the business, while Patti does the books, payroll, and taxes.

"Shelley (Hanson) and Elaine (Moore) say I can put my books on computer, and they'll be a lot easier. That's my next goal," said Patti.

The Tasas are currently working with Small Business Development in getting a business loan.

Said Larry, "Shelley and Elaine are working with us on this. The Tribe has been very helpful in getting this done."



Larry And Patti Tasa in front of their business.

### Seniors Tax Assistance

Business Development Division staff are offering tax preparation assistance to tribal elders. Staff members will input tax information into the Turbo Tax software program which is designed to help prepare returns. Returns will be prepared on an appointment basis, so please call ahead to schedule a time, and to find out what information you need to bring with you. If you are a tribal elder and interested in doing this, please call Debby Childers at 1-800-422-0232 for an appointment.

### Tribal Member Business Registry

Tribal member businesses wanting to bid on projects with Spirit Mountain Development Corporation will need to be registered with the Small Business Development Division of the Tribe. As a registered Grand Ronde tribal business, participants will receive all tribal and Spirit Mountain RFPs (Request For Proposals) and bid requests. (Keep in mind that SMDC will not accept bids from businesses not registered with Small Business Development.) Small Business Development will assist members in meeting the bonding and insurance requests per the bid specifications. Start-up businesses can receive planning assistance to qualify for future tribal business projects. Any Grand Ronde Tribal member owned business can register by contacting Small Business Development staff members at 1-800-422-0232.

### April Seminar: "How To Finance A New Or Existing Business"

Do you have a burning business idea just waiting to blossom, but you're short of funds? Do you have a business that's been around a while, but could use some expanding or a line of credit for the busy times? For those of you in business, or those thinking about starting a business, make a long-term investment and attend the April Small Business Development Seminar: "How To Finance A New Or Existing Business". Do you know how much of your own money will be required by a lender? What types of businesses are financial institutions interested in financing? What do financial institutions look for in a loan recipient? For answers to these and other questions, come to the Tribal Community center Thursday, April 14 from 3-6:00 P.M. for a seminar. For more information, contact Debby Childers at the Small Business offices.

Your Business Development Center offers a variety of services:

Business Planning	Fax Service
Management Assistance	Computer Lab
Trainings	Phone Message Service
Resource Library	Mail Center Service
	Photocopy Service

### Computer Training Schedule

The Business Development Department is offering several computer training classes in March. Space is limited to three people per class, so call Debby and reserve a spot now. The numbers are: 879-2476 or 1-800-422-0232. If you are interested in a specific computer training not offered, call and make an appointment with a staff member.

**BASIC COMPUTERS:** Come learn the basics of the computer. We cover an overview of the computer, learn to use the mouse, and do a brief overview of Word For Windows. Instructor: Shelley Hanson. Offered 4/18, 10:00 A.M. until noon, and 4/27, 6-8:00 P.M.

**WORD FOR WINDOWS:** Word for Windows is an easy to use, quick learn word processing system. If you are wanting to write letters or memos, or create reports, Word for Windows is an ideal program for those projects. Instructor: Mitch Conley. Offered 4/7, 1:00-3:00 P.M. and 4/21, 1-3:00 P.M.

**PRINT SHOP DELUXE:** Do you ever need flyers or signs for your business or program? Print Shop Deluxe is easy to use, and creates flashy designs. Print Shop Deluxe has a variety of pictures and graphics to add pizzazz to your flyers, signs, calendars, or cards. Instructor: Debby Childers. Offered 4/13 1-3:00 P.M.

**TURBO TAX:** Are you feeling a little overwhelmed about your taxes? Come try Turbo Tax, and relieve a little stress from your life. Turbo Tax will figure your federal and state tax returns, and print them out for you. Turbo Tax is an easy to use, Windows-based system. You answer questions as you go and after completing the question and answer period, are ready to print your return. Instructor: Elaine Moore. Offered 4/01, 9-10:00 A.M., 4/6, 2-3 & 3-4:00 P.M., 4/11, 2-3 & 3-4:00 P.M.

**QUICKEN:** Are you looking for a simple, inexpensive accounting program? You can use Quicken to write checks, and maintain business and personal books. Instructor: Elaine Moore. Offered: 4/20 1-3:00 P.M.

### "Jobs In The Woods" Program

By Constance Albrecht

The U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management are beginning the "Jobs In The Woods" Program this summer. Under President Clinton's initiative to assist Northwest communities impacted by the downturn in the timber industry, these federal agencies are beginning forest restoration projects. They will be hiring contractors for projects throughout Oregon this summer.

Several projects are slated for the Yamhill and Nestucca River drainages near Grand Ronde. However, there will be other contracts in western Oregon including the Santiam River Basin in Eugene.

The Tribe has information on the specific project locations and contract amounts/ The Tribe encourages any members in construction, excavation and revegetation business to review this information and immediately contact the Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management. For more information call Mitch Conley at Small Business Development at 879-2475.

### Upcoming Seminars

THURS. APRIL 14 "How To Finance A Business"  
 THURS. MAY 12 "Budgeting & Cash Flow Management"  
 THURS. JUNE 9 "Legal Aspects Of Doing Business"  
 THURS. JULY 14 "Arts & Crafts Marketing"  
 THURS. AUGUST 11 "Personnel Issues"  
 THURS. SEPT. 8 "How To Start A Business In Oregon"  
 All seminars are held from 3:00-6:00 P.M.