

**CONSTRUCTION NOTICE
TO CLINIC CLIENTS**

This is advance notification to inform patients of the Grand Ronde Health and Wellness Center that construction will take place that requires the main entrance to be blocked off. The next issue of *Smoke Signals* will provide further notice. For questions concerning this issue please call John Mercier at 879-2400.

**Highway 18
safety work begins**

Yamhill County, Polk County and Oregon Department of Transportation crews have begun work on three projects to improve the safety of Highway 18 between Sheridan and Grand Ronde. Three gravel shoulder sections of the highway will be widened and rumble strips added. Rumble strips down the middle of the highway will alert drivers who drift across the centerline or off the road. The highway sections are:

- Between Muddy Creek and Oldsville Rd. east of Sheridan.
- From Oldsville Rd. to just west of Durham Lane.
- From Fort Hill area east of Grand Ronde to just west of the Wallace Bridge interchange.

Crews will work from 8 a.m. to dusk Mondays through Thursdays. Flaggers will control traffic.

ODOT, Polk and Yamhill County are each contributing money, workers, and material equipment. The Spirit Mountain Community Fund also contributed \$10,000.

New Director of Public Works enjoys challenges

By Justin Phillips

Searching for new community water sources, examining road improvement needs, and securing office space for the future are some of the challenges facing new Public Works Director Eric Scott.

Scott brings with him a master's degree in civil engineering with an emphasis in water resource management.

He has experience in site development, materials testing, and utility design. He is a registered building inspector and engineer who has done worked on subdivisions, schools, hospitals, stadiums and bridges.

Scott first came in contact with the Tribe in 1993 while he worked with Mater Engineering of Corvallis. He evaluated sites for the Spirit Mountain Casino and was part of the core

design team throughout the construction of the casino.

Upcoming projects for Scott and the Public Works Department include a Public Works warehouse, educational facility, a modular building for Before and After Care, Spirit Mountain Development offices and area road improvements.

"One big issue is working with the Water Association in developing an additional water source for the Grand Ronde Community," said Scott. "We are working with the association to address concerns with water availability."

Emergency generators for the clinic and assisting with the planning stages for the Veteran's Memorial are also on his agenda.

Scott runs his own business called

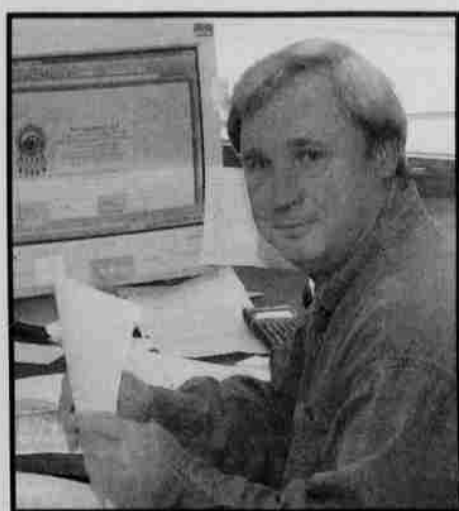


Photo by Justin Phillips

Eric Scott

Edgewater Engineering in Neskowin.

He said he looks forward to the hard work ahead.

"I will enjoy the challenge of the upcoming projects ahead," said Scott.

Yamhill County Sheriff's forum held in Grand Ronde

"What are the needs of the Community?"

By Brent Merrill

Representatives of the Yamhill County Sheriff's Department and the Polk County Sheriff's Department participated in a community question and answer forum in Grand Ronde at the Tribal Community Center on Wednesday, May 17.

The forum's purpose was to gather information from the community on how to make Yamhill and Polk Counties safer.

The Sheriff's Department presented the 20 people in attendance with a group of questions regarding community needs. Public safety was

the main issue.

Community members said they wanted better response time and a better understanding of the community by officers working in the area.

Community members said they would like to see a flashing light put in at the intersection of Grand Ronde Road and Hebo Road. People said the light would reduce accidents.

The idea of a light at the other end of Grand Ronde Road and Highway 18 was discussed with Polk County Deputy Sheriff Eric Shepard.

According to Yamhill County Sheriff's Public Information Officer

and Community Policing Specialist Kevin Weeks, the meeting in Grand Ronde was one of a series of meetings held throughout Yamhill County in May. Meetings were also held in Willamina, Newberg, Yamhill-Carlton, Amity and Dayton.

Weeks said information gathered would be used in the development of the Yamhill County Sheriff's long range strategic planning process.

Grand Ronde Tribal Safety Committee Chairman Mary Alice Bowen wanted to especially thank the Tribal Elders who participated in the community forum.

SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES

The Polk County Commission for Children and Families invites all youth to get involved and fill your summer with fun! Listed below are many unique opportunities with a chance to learn new skills, meet new people, have fun and help your community.

The Delbert Hunter Arboretum

- Assist in construction and operation of a composite site
- Adopt a plant! Love and assume responsibility for care of a plant.
- Learn gardening skills by assisting regular volunteers on Tuesday mornings.

The SABLE House

- Help raise awareness! Distribute information and answer questions at Summerfest.
- Get office experience — answer phones, file, type, make copies and sort donations.

The Dallas Retirement Village

- Assist with the planning and implementing of activities for the Elderly.
- Help with Hands of Compassion (touch therapy).
- Manicure nails and make new friends.
- Help set tables and make beds.

Child's World

- Help children learn, share your talents in art, music, dance, and much more.

Polk County Commission for Children and Families

- Walk in the sunshine and distribute information to local businesses.

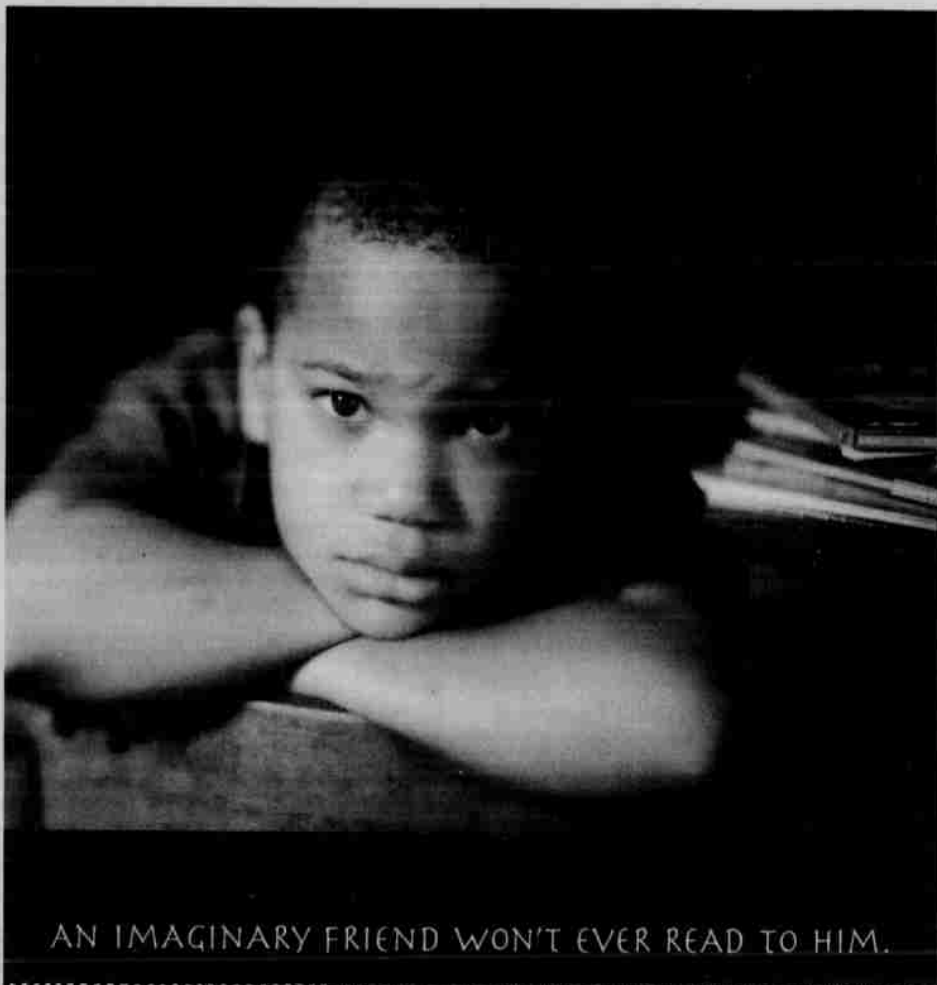
Anyone interested in volunteering — from young to senior citizen — please contact Molly at (503) 623-9664, ext. 457. WE HAVE A LITTLE SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE.

Families can get help with summer fun cost

A fund to help young people pay for activities is available to low-income Polk County families. The Dallas Resource Center and Main Street Center in Independence have scholarship money that can be used for programs such as ballet lessons, softball, after-school soccer, swimming passes or Scout dues, "pay to play" sports at school, for example. Funds may also cover equipment or supply costs such as uniforms.

The youth must be between infancy to 18 years of age and be a resident of Polk County.

These funds are made possible by the Polk County Commission for Children and Families. To apply, call the Dallas Resource Center at (503) 623-8429 or Main Street Center in Independence at (503) 838-0531.



The purchase of books and expansion of the SMART reading program in a partnership with the Blazers is just one example of how Oregon benefits from the Grand Ronde Tribes and Spirit Mountain Community Fund. The Community Fund gives 6% of profits from Spirit Mountain Casino to local schools, health care, environmental protection, and other worthy programs. Since its 1997 inception, thousands of Oregonians have shared in the benefits of the Community Fund, proving that the spirit of giving something back is alive and well at Spirit Mountain.

