

Publications to adopt standard rate mailing

Move will reduce postage expenses, affect delivery minimally

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

Beginning with the Jan. 1, 2009, issue, *Smoke Signals* will be mailed to the Tribal membership using the less expensive standard postal rate.

"Tribal Council charged the Executive Team and all managers to take a careful look at our 2009 budgets and be creative and wise in how we utilize Tribal dollars," said Public Affairs Director Siobhan Taylor.

"After careful consideration, the Public Affairs team decided we could significantly help the Tribal budget with this minor change without adversely affecting service to Tribal members. Thinking outside the box is one thing our team does extremely well."

The change in mailing classification will reduce the Publications Department's postage expense by about 50 percent.

"After personnel costs, postage is the largest expenditure in the Publications Department's budget," Taylor said. "Switching to the standard rate will be a rather transparent reduction in costs for the Tribal membership."

Taylor said that Tribal members

will see little to no difference in how long it takes for *Smoke Signals* to arrive in their mailboxes.

"The only noticeable change to Tribal members will be a slight delay in getting their *Smoke Signals* and other publications in the mail," Taylor said.

The new standard rate also will be used when mailing out other Tribal publications, such as the annual report, calendar and *Tilixam Wawa*.

Publications will continue to distribute about 1,450 copies of *Smoke Signals* in the Grand Ronde area and at Spirit Mountain Casino, and content will continue to be posted at the Web site www.grandronde.org.

"Tribal members can still access the latest Tribal news through the Web site and special notices will always be immediately available on the Tribal member side of the Web site," Taylor said.

To facilitate the change in postage rates, the cover of *Smoke Signals* will undergo a slight change with the Jan. 1 issue.

The address block will move from the left side to the right side of the front page, allowing the Tribe to continue receiving less expensive automated postage rates. ■

'The Talk' 101 set for Dec. 18

Tribal Youth Education Supervisor Molly Matthews will host a night filled with information on teen communication, teen pregnancy prevention and other teen-parent communication information from 5:15 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18, in Adult Education Room 126.

"The Talk" 101 also will feature a panel of parents who have dealt with teen communication issues and medical professionals.

For more information, contact Matthews at 503-879-2102 or 503-435-7275. ■

University hosting winter solstice celebration

The University of Oregon Museum of Natural and Cultural History will host an annual winter solstice celebration from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19.

As part of the event, different cultures will be celebrated from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the Many Nations Longhouse, 1630 Columbia St., Eugene. There will be storytelling, craft presentations and a lecture.

Storyteller and history keeper Esther Stutzman will tell Kalapuyan and Coos stories and the Chinese American Benevolent Association's Lion Dancers and Eugene Taiko Drummers will perform.

For more information, visit <http://natural-history.uoregon.edu>. ■

Food Bank seeks help

The Grand Ronde Community Resource Center is seeking additional part-time volunteer help at the Food Bank in Grand Ronde.

Help is needed in various activities, such as unloading freight, stocking and labeling shelves, food distribution activities and clerical work.

Duties will be assigned based on volunteers' skills and abilities.

If you have the time and would like to volunteer a few hours per week, call the Resource Center on Monday or Friday at 503-879-5731 for more details or to obtain an application. ■

Tribal Council's Christmas Party Dec. 21, 2008 Tribal Gym

11 A.M. Visit with Santa -
Bring your own camera

Noon Lunch

1 P.M. Children attending invited to sing
Candy bags for the children
after the singing

For further information, call Stephanie at 503 879-2078.