

Artifacts discussion



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Led by Father Albert Krueger, Indian missionary for the Western Oregon Diocese of the Episcopal Church, a group of four visited Tribal Council on Wednesday, Jan. 21, to continue the church's effort at reconciliation and cooperation in gaining the return of the Summers Collection of Grand Ronde artifacts from the British Museum. The group will serve on a task force in conjunction with Grand Ronde Cultural staff in preparation for a national resolution to be offered at the church's summer convention scheduled for July. The hope is that the resolution will encourage the Church of England to use its moral and spiritual authority in gaining release of the Grand Ronde artifacts to the Grand Ronde Tribe. Participants in the meeting are, front row, from left, the Rev. Albert Krueger, Tribal Council members Steve Bobb Sr., June Sell-Sherer and Wink Soderberg, Cultural Collections Coordinator Lindy Trolan and Tribal Council member Kathleen Tom. In the back row, from left, are Tribal Council member Valorie Sheker, Donald Amundson, Margaret Harris, Bonnie Kahn and Tribal Council Secretary Jack Giffen Jr.

Hanson named to board

Tribal member Shelley Hanson, who works for the Tribe as director of Spirit Mountain Community Fund, was elected to serve as secretary of the Salem Area Mass Transit District Board of Directors on Jan. 22.

Hanson replaces Eric Jacobsen, who resigned at the end of 2008.

Hanson started serving on the Transit Board in August 2007, representing northeast Salem. ■

Winter gathering



Photo by Siobhan Taylor

Grand Ronde Tribal members, family and friends attended the annual Chinook Winter Gathering at the Cathlapootle Plankhouse on the Ridgefield, Wash., Wildlife Refuge on Saturday, Jan. 17. Tribal Council members Chris Mercier and Wink Soderberg represented Tribal Council at the all-day event. This year's event featured drumming, singing, dancing and storytelling, as well as a community potluck.

Over-the-Counter Medication Reimbursement Policy

Effective 1/15/09

Purpose: To provide partial reimbursement for over-the-counter medications not covered by other health plans and for which a licensed medical provider feels will benefit the health and wellness of the Tribal member Elder.


Policy: Grand Ronde Tribal member Elders (age 55+) will be reimbursed for eligible over-the-counter medications at a rate of 50 percent of the amount paid.

Procedure: The following procedures will need to be followed in order to be eligible for reimbursement under this policy.

1. Tribal member must purchase the over-the-counter medication themselves and then request reimbursement of 50 percent of the purchase price.
2. Requests for reimbursement must be presented, or mailed, to the Health and Wellness Center Administrative Offices and be accompanied by a written prescription from the health care provider and the original detailed register receipt. If mailing, please include the necessary information and send to Grand Ronde H&WC, 9605 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde OR 97347, Attention: OTC Reimbursement.
3. The H&WC Administrative Offices will process a check request for eligible expenses and submit the request to Finance within 24 hours.
4. Finance will process the check request as an emergency. In most cases reimbursement will take less than seven days, excluding mailing time.


Exclusions: The following categories of over-the-counter medications are not eligible for reimbursement under the policy;

1. Any medication that is not prescribed by a licensed medical provider.
2. Feminine Hygiene Products. Urinary Incontinence Pads are available from the Grand Ronde Health and Wellness Center with a valid prescription.
3. Cosmetic and daily living products (deodorant, toothpaste, etc).
4. Batteries (hearing aid, diabetic testing machines, etc).
5. Sunscreen, unless accompanied with documentation of skin cancer.
6. Any over-the-counter medications available under the CTGR Health Benefit at the Grand Ronde Health and Wellness Center Pharmacy. Please direct questions regarding eligibility to Mark Johnston at 503-879-4638 or Allyson Lecatsas at 503-879-1359.



FACING STATEHOOD

- AN EXHIBITION



Courtesy of Ft. Vancouver Natl. Historic Site

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Support group starts

The Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Authority sponsors a Financial Wellness support group that meets weekly at 5:30 p.m. Thursdays in the Housing Authority conference room. The support group discusses, shares and learns ways to stretch dollars and protect the money participant's make. The group is informal and decides on the topic to be discussed and researched each week.

The Housing Authority has computers and worksheets to help people develop and track spending plans.

For more information, call Deborah Kroeker at 503-879-4522 or send her an e-mail at deborah.kroeker@grandronde.org. ■