

Willamette hosts 'Vital Signs' exhibit

Hallie Ford Museum at Willamette University in Salem will host "Joe Feddersen: Vital Signs" beginning Saturday, Jan. 30.

This major retrospective includes workshops with the artist, weekly gallery talks and a teachers' workshop.

The installation is the end of a regional tour drawn from public and private collections throughout the United States, including the Hallie Ford Museum of Art, the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art and the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian.

The exhibition explores Feddersen's interest in the interrelationships between urban place markers and indigenous landscapes through combinations of contemporary media and Native iconography. It features a selection of his later work in prints, weaving and glass. The exhibition includes more than 60 works created since 1996.

The exhibition runs through March 28.

For more information and to register for a basket weaving workshop, call 503-370-6855.

"Joe Feddersen: Vital Signs" is supported in part by Spirit Mountain Community Fund, the philanthropic arm of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. ■

Gangs have been in Grand Ronde for the last two years

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ing the person," the policy states. "When in doubt, seek a second opinion and don't hesitate to err on the side of giving the person the benefit of the doubt that they are not representing gang affiliation."

The policy suggests event organizers "pick their battles wisely," avoid confrontation and not escalate a negative contact.

"If a person simply refuses to comply, walk away from the situation. However, if a person's behavior rises to the level of being disruptive or illegal, recognize when to call security or law enforcement."

Tribal member and Director of Operations John Mercier suggested that Tribal community event organizers document suspected gang behavior and report it to their supervisor if they do not feel comfortable approaching someone at an event.

Focusing on possible gang behavior in Grand Ronde comes in the wake of Travis Calvin Clawson's death in Keizer. Dustin Michael Freeman, 22, of Medford, and Miguel Aispuro, 18, were arrested in connection with the shooting.

Clawson's last known address was in Grand Ronde Tribal housing, according to the Oregon Judicial Information Network.

Tribal Council member Wink Soderberg told Tribal managers that he has been aware that gangs are operating in Grand Ronde for the last two years. Soderberg is a member of the local Community Action Team, which addresses issues, such as gang activity, facing the Grand Ronde area.

"A sense of urgency is here," Tribal Council member Toby McClary said. "You will get buy-in from here on out."

Tribal Social Services Department Manager David Fullerton said the fatal Keizer incident raised the potential for violence in Grand Ronde and Salem between rival gang members.

"It's about the behavior they bring to a community that we're concerned with," Fullerton said. "It's not about the individual."

Leno said that signs of gang activity in Grand Ronde have occasionally

been visible, such as recent tagging of signs and road construction equipment on Grand Ronde Road.

He encouraged Tribal community event organizers to concentrate on refocusing youth behavior away from gang activity so that the Tribe does not exclude anyone from events.

"Express appreciation for compliance," the Tribe's policy states. "Always find an opportunity to express your appreciation to those who comply with the policy."

Tribal member and Education Division Manager April Campbell said she was worried that the Tribe would lose people if the Tribe, as a whole, doesn't stand up and say that gang activity is not acceptable.

"This is very important," Leno said. "From now on, it will be a very important issue to keep in the forefront."

"You have support from Tribal Council," McClary said when asked by Tribal member and Public Works Department Manager Lewis Younger if Tribal Council will support Tribal security personnel if they have to evict someone from an event for gang behavior. "My answer is yes."

Soderberg said he would like to see the Tribe break the generational connection for young Tribal members growing up in a gang environment by starting a Boys & Girls Club in Grand Ronde.

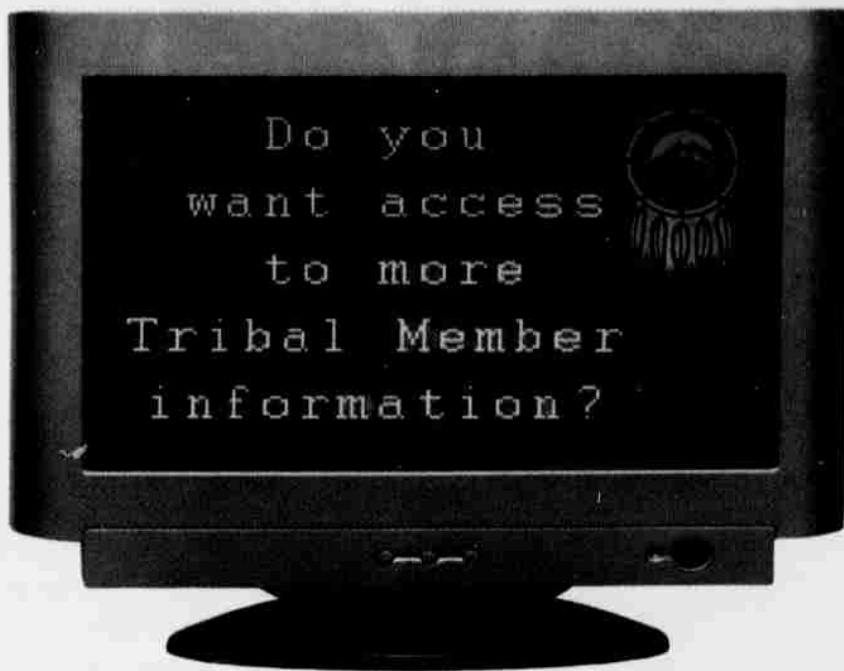
Tribal Council Vice Chair Reyn Leno said that the Tribe should reach out and talk to suspected gang members.

"We need to tell them that we are not going to tolerate it here," Reyn Leno said. "But just because someone wears red doesn't mean they are bad people."

He added that the Tribe needs to create and post effective anti-gang posters on the Tribal campus and throughout the community, including in the schools.

Fullerton added the Tribe is not trying to create a fashion police or harass community members who wear red, but instead wants to stifle violent and destructive behaviors often associated with gang activity.

Tribal Council was briefed about local gang issues at its Dec. 22 meeting and an all-staff training is scheduled on the subject for early February. ■



Graphic by George Valdez

In an effort to more efficiently and more rapidly communicate with Tribal members, the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde is asking Tribal members to register at the Tribal Web site and allow the Tribe to electronically send them news updates, e-zines and PDFs of *Smoke Signals*, among other news and informational items.

To register, go to www.grandronde.org.

Click on the "Log in here" link in the upper right-hand corner.

Enter your user name and password, and click the "login" button, or if you are not registered, click the link below the login button to register with the Web site.

If you have registered with the site before and have forgotten your login information, you can click the link to recover it by providing the e-mail address that you verified when you registered with the site.

If you have not registered before, you will need to do so to view the Tribal member-only section of grandronde.org.

First-time users will need to fill in the required fields and click the register button at the bottom of the form.

After you click the "register" button, you will need to check the e-mail address that you provided and click on the link in the e-mail that our system sent to you. The e-mail should arrive moments after you click the register button. If you do not see an e-mail you will want to check your junk mail folder/spam filter. Clicking the link will verify that the e-mail address you provided is correct and active, and you will be able to log on to the Tribal member section of the Web site. ■

Elder Foster Program

"A Place To Call Home"



The Tribe's Elder Foster Care lodges are committed to offering quality care to our Elders and helping them remain as independent as possible, while providing the personalized assistance they need. At our lodges, a wide range of services is available in a comfortable setting where privacy is respected and maximum independence is supported. For information, contact the Elder Foster Program director at 503-879-1694.