

DEQ discussion



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Kevin Masterson, right, toxics coordinator with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, fills Tribal Council in on DEQ's toxics reduction strategy during his visit to Grand Ronde on Thursday, Dec. 16. Christine Svetkovich, liaison to Tribal nations with DEQ, accompanied Masterson. Tribal Council members in attendance at the meeting were, from left, Toby McClary, Jack Giffen Jr., Steve Bobb Sr., Wink Soderberg and Chris Mercier. Also present from the Tribe's Natural Resources Department was department Manager and Tribal member Mike Wilson, Environmental Resources Specialist Brandy Humphreys and Ceded Lands Coordinator Mike Karnosh.



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

A new Welcome Center is located on the roadway into the Tribal Family Housing development in Grand Ronde. The center will serve to welcome people to the community, give information, directions, be a presence for assistance to residents and to monitor suspicious activity to deter criminals from causing trouble in the community.

Center will have cameras

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ed community," says Joani Dugger, executive assistant at the Housing Authority.

The Welcome Center cameras, Kistler says, "will be high resolution and clearly record drivers and vehicles."

Two to three staffers can work in the building, which also includes a fully accessible Adult With Disabilities Act bathroom.

As the Housing Authority continues to work on staffing specifics, Kistler says that the department already has patrol coverage of the housing areas through the Tribe's contract with ProStar Security.

"We're working on developing a sticker for cars that will allow easy pass-through," says Dugger.

The facility was primarily funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development with about 10 percent of the \$50,000 price tag coming from the Tribe for the information technology connections, Kistler says.

With other HUD funding efforts for crime prevention, the Tribal Housing Authority has long been involved in a variety of activities, including the

annual Family Night Out, movie nights, the Red Ribbon rallies, all intended to reduce crime in and around the Housing Authority units.

The Housing Authority also has contributed to the Tribal gymnasium's need for equipment, like a recently purchased treadmill, and supported low-income Tribal youth with summer jobs funding and other educational opportunities.

"I don't see it as a guard shack," says Tribal Council member Steve Bobb Sr., who is involved in the effort to stem gang activity in the area. "It's just a way to provide for our people. And maybe it's just one of a few ways we have to keep our people safe."

"If we don't do something about (crime), it accelerates and accelerates. People are just trying to live regular lives here, and they don't need to be subjected to tire slashings or being afraid to let their kids go outside. That's nuts. That's not what we're about."

"We may not be able to change people's behaviors, but we can do these kind of things to make sure they do what they do elsewhere."

"Anything we can do to improve safety for our people, we're probably going to do that." ■

Cultural Education receives Cultural Freedom Award

By Kathy Cole

Interim Coordinator of the Cultural Education Department

The Tribe, which began revitalizing the indigenous Chinuk wawa language beginning in 1977, was cited for its efforts with the Cultural Freedom Award presented at the 41st National Indian Education Association Convention held in October in San Diego.

The award came with presentation of a painted feather and a Pendleton blanket. Both are on display in the hallway of the Cultural Resources Department.

Chinuk wawa language teachers were initially trained by a core group including Chinuk wawa-speaking Elders, staff and consultants. These included linguist Henry Zenk, former Cultural Education coordinator Tony Johnson (Chinook), Jackie Whisler, an Elder of the Tribe who walked on in 2007, and Bobby Mercier, also a member of the Tribe, as well as Tribal Language and Cultural specialist.

Today, the Tribe offers an immersion preschool class that began in 2001, along with an immersion kindergarten class and a K-5 after-school language maintenance program, both of which started in 2004.

Some 117 children have gone through these programs, plus more who have attended the middle school program and adult classes.

Youth enrolled in the program have achieved age-appropriate Chinuk wawa fluency and are the first to be fluent in the Tribe's indigenous language in many years.

The Tribe has developed assessments as a means to earn an American Indian Languages Teaching License and meet existing high school graduation and college entrance requirements.

Back in the Tribe's education records, a statement that probably came from local teacher Eula Petite reads: "K^hanamakwst ntsayka munk-skukum chinuk-wawa (Together, we make our chinuk language strong)." Petite was an Elder of the Tribe who walked on in 1989. ■

Reibach to appear on radio show Jan. 13

Grand Ronde Tribal member Jan Michael Looking Wolf Reibach will appear live on KBOO community radio station's Native American music show "Tillicum Wawa: Voices of the People" from 6 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13.

Hosts Redwillow, Eugene Johnson and Shusli Baseler will interview Reibach about his passion for Native American flute and Reibach and guitarist Nathan Myers will perform music.

The Native American Music Awards named Reibach Flutist of the Year in 2008, Artist of the Year in 2009 and honored him with Record of the Year in 2010.

KBOO can be heard at 100.7 FM in Corvallis, 91.9 FM in Hood River and 90.7 FM in Portland, or can be streamed over the Internet at kboo.fm. ■

Tribal timber sale

The "Westside Thin Logging Unit", located in N ¼ Section 3, and N ¼ and SE ¼ Section 7, SE ¼ Section 11, N ¼ Section 14, Township 5S, Range 8W, Willamette Meridian, on the Grand Ronde Indian Reservation in Yamhill County, Oregon will be open for public bid. This logging unit contains approximately 130.675 acres to be commercially thinned. The timber consists of an estimated volume of 775,000 board feet of Douglas-fir and Other Conifers – Peeler and Sawmill Grade Logs to be auctioned at a minimum bid rate of \$69.63 per thousand board feet net scale. Red Alder and Other Hardwoods – Peeler and Sawmill Grade Logs may be sold at the predetermined rate of \$210.39 per thousand board feet net scale; All Conifer Species – Wood Logs and Other Wood Products may be sold at the predetermined rate of \$27.87 per thousand board feet gross scale or \$4.29 per ton, as applicable; All Hardwood Species – Wood Logs and Other Wood Products may be sold at the predetermined rate of \$10.32 per thousand board feet gross scale or \$1.59 per ton, as applicable. The stated volumes for the above timber sale are estimates and are not guaranteed. Opening of sealed bids will take place at the Grand Ronde Natural Resources Office located at 47010 S.W. Hebo Road, Grand Ronde, Oregon, at 2:00 p.m., Local Time, on Tuesday, Jan. 11, 2011. Full information concerning the timber, sample timber sale contract, conditions of the sale, and submission of bids should be obtained from the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Natural Resources Division, 47010 S.W. Hebo Road, P.O. Box 10, Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347, telephone 503-879-2424. ■