

Tribal Council endorses Kalapuyan name for bridge

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

Tribal members driving Interstate 5 between Springfield and Eugene will soon be seeing another Kalapuyan name on their travels.

Tribal Council endorsed on Sept. 28 a proposal to name a new bridge "Whilamut Passage Bridge." Whilamut is a Kalapuyan word meaning, "Where the river ripples and runs fast."

Endorsement of the name by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde was the final step before the proposed name is taken to the Oregon Transportation Commission, where the Oregon Department of Transportation will state that it supports the name.

According to David Sonnichsen, a member of the Oregon Department of Transportation I-5/WRB Community Advisory Group, the name was proposed by Douglas Beauchamp of the Lane Arts Council.

The Whilamut Passage theme is intended to guide aesthetic enhancements related to the bridge, such as cultural and historical interpretation, naturescaping and art.

In May, the Oregon Department of Transportation said that three Native-themed works will be installed before bridge completion in late 2013. The works will be visible to motorists from the freeway.

Sonnichsen said the name refers to the "nexus of movement associated with the bridge area: vehicles on roadways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, the railroad, water and aquatic life in the river and riparian corridor, and the passage of time itself."

The name has been endorsed by the Eugene and Springfield city councils, the Lane County Commission, the Metropolitan Policy Committee of Lane County, Oregon Geographic Names Board, each state legislator representing Eugene and Springfield and Oregon Congressman Peter DeFazio.

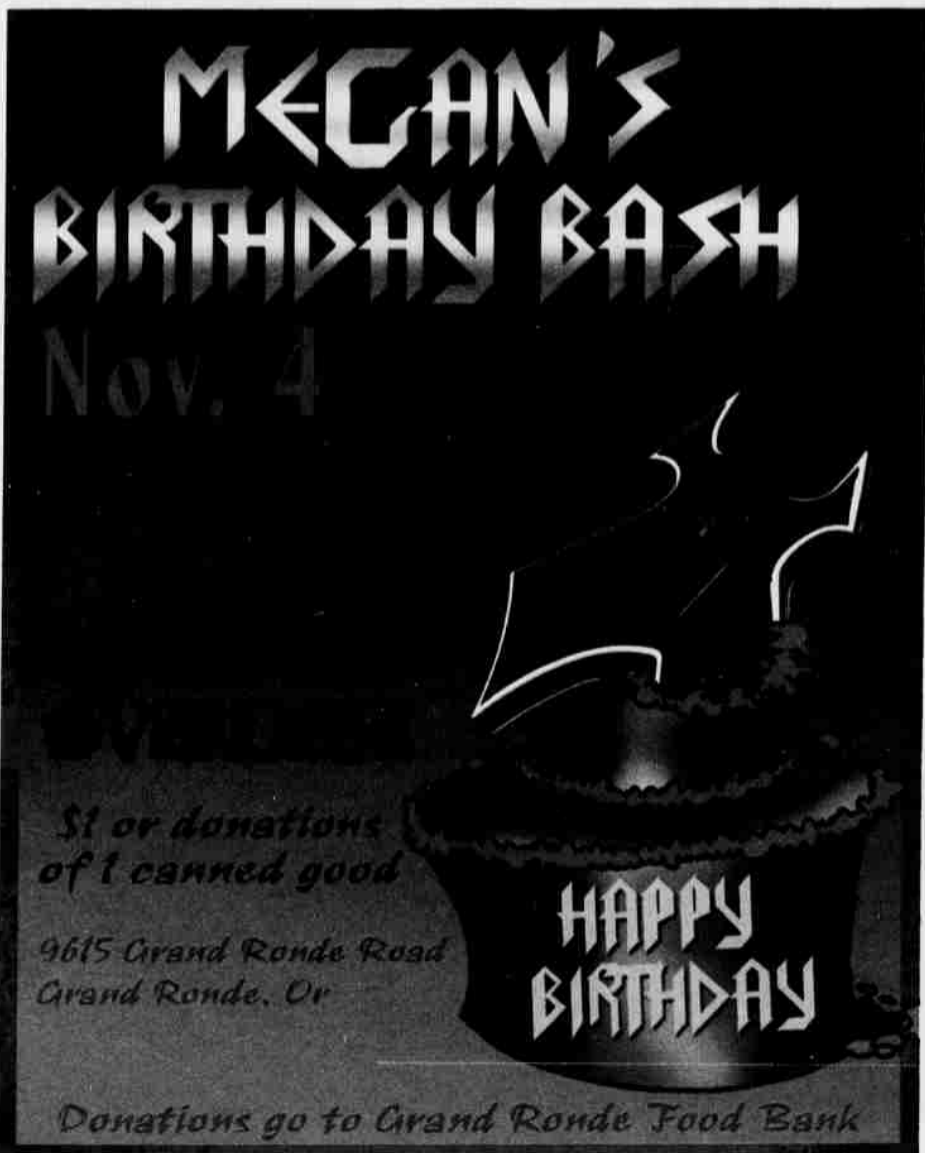
In August, Tribal Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy and Tribal member and Cultural Resources Manager David Lewis attended a public event on the bridge with DeFazio.

Sonnichsen said the name will be considered by the Oregon Transportation Commission at a meeting later this year or in early 2012. ■

Elders Christmas Bazaar set for Nov. 18-19

The annual Elders Christmas Bazaar will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Nov. 18-19, in the Tribal gym. Forty tables are available for \$20 per table. In addition, there will be a snack bar and prizes.

For a vendor application, contact Elder Activity Assistant Daniel Ham at 503-879-2233 or Daniel.ham@grandronde.org. ■



MEGAN'S BIRTHDAY BASH
Nov. 4

1st or donations of 1 canned good

9615 Grand Ronde Road
Grand Ronde, Or

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Donations go to Grand Ronde Food Bank

Ad created by George Valdez

Adult Foster Program

"A Place To Call Home"



The Tribe's Adult 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 Adult Foster Program director at 503-879-1694. ■

Kennedy named to Hospital Foundation board in Dallas

Tribal Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy was named to the board of directors of West Valley Hospital Foundation. Kennedy, who served as Tribal Health Director for 15 years, lives in Dallas.

The Hospital Foundation is a charitable organization dedicated to raising, managing and distributing funds to help West Valley Hospital provide healthcare services to Polk County residents. In 2010, the foundation awarded \$49,000 in support to various projects, included the Connections van, college scholarships and mammograms for patients in need. ■

Notice of Grand Ronde Constitutional Election

The Bureau of Indian Affairs, Siletz Agency, will be conducting an election to amend the Constitution of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon. **THIS WILL BE A FEDERALLY CONDUCTED ELECTION, NOT A TRIBAL ELECTION.** A voter registration packet will be sent out to all Tribal members of voting age, who will have to register to vote in this federal election. If you do not register specifically for this election, you will not be eligible to vote. A voter registration form will be included in the voter registration packet. This notice is to inform you of the federal election, the dates set for conducting the election, and the importance of registering specially for this election. The following dates have been established for conducting the election:

September 16, 2011: Voter registration packet and registration forms sent to all Tribal members of voting age.

October 17, 2011: Registration forms must be postmarked or received by the BIA Siletz Agency on or before this date. Registration therefore closes at 4 p.m. on this date. If you do not register specially for this election, you will not be eligible to vote.

October 21, 2011: The official list of registered voters will be posted in alphabetical order on this date at various public locations for review.

October 26, 2011: Ballots sent to all eligible registered voters. These ballots must be returned to the BIA in the postage-paid return envelopes provided.

November 1, 2011: End of dispute period for names on official registered voters list.

November 15, 2011: Election Day. Ballots must be received by the BIA Siletz Agency Office no later than NOON on this day.

The election results will be posted on the front doors of the Grand Ronde Governance Center, Health and Wellness Center, Community Center, Education Building, Elders Activity Center, and the BIA Siletz Agency building immediately upon completion of the ballot count.

Details of how to register and due dates for the election are included in the voter registration packet.

NOTE: If you have changed your name or address and have not informed the Tribe, please notify the Tribal Enrollment Office. ■