

Membership briefed
on Community Fund
— pg. 3



T36 P3
OR NEWSPAPER PROJ. UO LIBRARY SYSTEM PRE
1299 UNIVERSITY OF OREGON
EUGENE OR 97403-1205

PRESORTED
FIRST-CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SALEM, OR
PERMIT NO. 178

Smoke Signals

A Publication of the Grand Ronde Tribe

JANUARY 15, 2012

www.grandronde.org

UMPQUA ■ MOLALLA ■ ROGUE RIVER ■ KALAPUYA ■ CHASTA

Casino site back on the market

Port lets agreement at Cascade Locks with Warm Springs Tribe lapse

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

An option agreement between the Port of Cascade Locks and the Warm Springs Tribe concerning 60 acres of industrially zoned land that would have been home to a proposed off-reservation casino lapsed as of Jan. 5.

Chuck Daughtry, general manager of the Port of Cascade Locks, said commissioners decided to take no action about renewing the option agreement after holding four meetings to discuss the issue in December.

By not acting, Daughtry said, the commissioners effectively let the agreement end.

"We could sit down and renegotiate it, but right now there is no agreement in place," Daughtry said.

Daughtry said that the Port of Cascade Locks had twice extended the agreement, which was originally scheduled to end in 2011, and three new commissioners elected in June participated

"It means that off-reservation gaming in Oregon is off the table. We understand the need for the Port of Cascade Locks to look at all their economic development options."

~ Justin Martin
Tribal member and lobbyist

See SITE
continued on page 10

Gathering of Oregon's First Nations Powwow returns Jan. 28

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

Oregon's five federally recognized western Tribes have again come together to host the fourth annual Gathering of Oregon's First Nations Powwow, held again this year on Saturday, Jan. 28, at the Salem Pavilion at the Oregon State Fairgrounds in Salem.

The five western Tribes are the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians, Coquille Indian Tribe, Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua Tribe of Indians, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians.

"We would like to welcome everyone to the Gathering of Oregon's First Nations," said Nick Sixkiller (Siletz), master of ceremony of the event. "All the public is invited to enjoy our culture and our heritage. This is a good place to learn about

See POWWOW
continued on page 5

If you go

Fourth annual Gathering of Oregon's First Nations

When: Doors open at noon Saturday, Jan. 28. Activities continue until 9 p.m.

Where: Oregon State Fair & Expo Center Salem Pavilion, 2330 17th St. N.E., Salem

Cost: Powwow is free; parking is \$3.

More information: 503-879-1418.

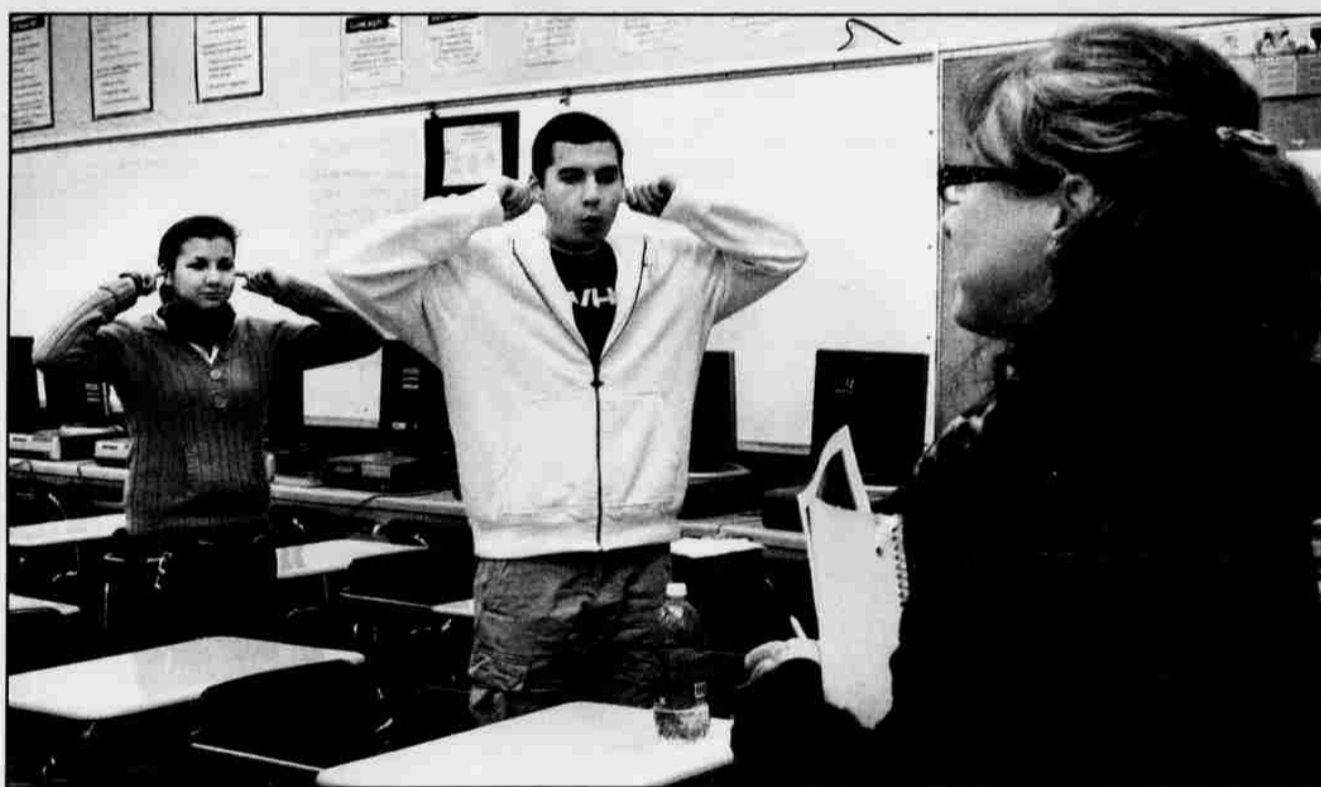


Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal members Braden Ebensteiner, middle, and Chyanne Schlappie, left, point to their ears as they play a game of "Simon Says" during their Chinuk Wawa class at Willamina High School in Willamina on Thursday, Jan. 5. Kathy Cole, right, Cultural Resources Department program manager and Tribal member, teaches the class and she was giving the students instructions in Chinuk Wawa.

Cultural conversations

Chinuk Wawa class debuts at Willamina High School

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

At Willamina High School, Chinuk Wawa, the Northwest Native American trade language, is being taught this year alongside other foreign language staples, such as Spanish.

"I took one year of Spanish and then heard about this class," said Tribal member and high school junior Braden Eb-

ensteiner. "I switched because I want to learn about my Native American culture."

"It's our culture," said Tribal member and high school junior Jade Colton, who took Spanish last year and is now taking Chinuk Wawa. "I'd rather learn about our culture."

It took some schedule shifting and paperwork to enable seven Tribal high school students to take the course this year, ow-

ing to the late scheduling of the class, but it is well under way, says Tribal member and Cultural Resources Program Manager Kathy Cole, who teaches the class.

Cole learned the language through a Tribal program.

The results already have been "impressive," she said.

Before Christmas vacation, for instance, Cole assigned students

See WAWA
continued on page 7