

Tribe takes 97.38 acres into trust

Nicoll property located adjacent to powwow grounds, north of Fort Yamhill State Park

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde took 97.38 acres of forestland into trust near Fort Yamhill State Park in February, said Tribal member and Tribal Lands Manager Jan Michael Looking Wolf Reibach.

The Nicoll property is immediately east of the Tribal plankhouse and north of Fort Yamhill State Park.

"There is a possibility that the Tribe set a record with the transfer taking only four months and eight days from the time that our application was submitted," Reibach said.

"Our success in Tribal Realty is due to having such a great team here, including a Tribal Council

that is very astute on Indian land issues, an excellent working relationship with the state and county agencies, and some hard-working folks at the BIA and BLM."

In December, Reibach briefed the Tribal membership on Tribal lands, stating that the Tribe owned 12,513 acres at the time. With the taking of the Nicoll property into trust, the Tribe's Trust and Reservation lands now exceed 11,022 acres.

Reibach said in December that the Tribe will continue to purchase land locally that "makes sense." With the Nicoll property adjacent to other Tribal Trust lands, the policy continues.

The Tribe purchased the property on Jan. 22, 2010, for \$275,000 from the Nicoll family. ■



Committee & Special Event Board meeting days and times

Below is the most current information on the meeting days and times for Tribal Committees and Special Event Boards:

- **Ceremonial Hunt Board** meets as needed. Chair: Shonn Leno.
- **Cultural Trust Board** meets at 4 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month. Chair: Perri McDaniel.
- **Culture Committee** meets at 1 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month in Modular No. 3. Chair: TBD.
- **Education Committee** meets at 5:15 p.m. on the first Monday of the month in the Adult Education Building. Chair: Jon George.
- **Elders' Committee** meets at 10 a.m. the third Wednesday of the month in the Elders' Activity Center. Chair: Gladys Hobbs.
- **Enrollment Committee** meets quarterly in Room 204 of the Governance Building. Acting Chair: Robert Schmid.
- **Fish & Wildlife Committee** meets at 5:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at the Natural Resources Building. Chair: Harold Lyon.
- **Health Committee** meets at 10 a.m. the second Wednesday of the month in the Tribal Wellness Center. Acting Chair: Patti Tom-Martin.
- **Powwow Special Event Board** meets at 5 p.m. the first Thursday of the month at the Tribal Community Center. Chair: Dana Ainam.
- **Rodeo Special Event Board** meets at 6 p.m. the first Thursday of the month at the Tribal Rodeo Office. Chair: Harold Lyon.
- **Social Services Committee** meets at 4 p.m. the second Monday of the month in the Social Services Conference Room. Chair: Jenny Sanchez.
- **Timber Committee** meets at 5 p.m. the second Thursday of the month at the Natural Resources Building. Chair: Bob Mercier.
- **Veterans Special Event Board** meets at 4 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month in the Tribal Community Center. Chair: Dakota Whitecloud.

Entrepreneurship program seeks business mentors

MERIT, in conjunction with Chemeketa Community College and the Grand Ronde Education Department, is looking for experienced business professionals and owners to mentor aspiring entrepreneurs enrolled in the business start-up program called Indianpreneurship now being offered in Grand Ronde.

Volunteer business mentors will sit one-on-one with the entrepreneurs and provide valuable advice, insight and support from their own business experience. Business mentors are a proven factor to entrepreneurial success. They will not only be helping the individual entrepreneur achieve business success, but also will be contributing to the economic development of the community.

If you would like to participate, contact Mona Edwards at medwar44@chemeketa.edu. MERIT welcomes mentors from any background or industry. ■

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Books may be purchased from the Tribe's Cultural Resources Department located on the second floor of the Adult Education Building. To have an order mailed to you, please fill out the form and include an additional \$5.00 for shipping and handling costs.

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