

## EPA Summit brings Tribal leaders to Grand Ronde

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

Approximately 250 federal and Tribal leaders and staff are expected for the Environmental Protection Agency's Region 10 Tribal Leaders' Summit, slated for Monday, April 30, through Friday, May 4, at Spirit Mountain Casino.

There are 271 federally-recognized Tribes in the Northwest region, which includes Alaska, Washington, Oregon and Idaho.

This is the first Tribal Leaders' Summit that the Grand Ronde Tribe has hosted, said Brandy Humphreys, Environmental Resources specialist for the Tribe's Ceded Lands program, and this year's summit coordinator.

"We have arranged this as a dual-conference," she said. "Monday and Tuesday will focus on leader-to-leader interaction, while later in the week presentations on technical subjects are scheduled. Some of the technical issues covered are pesticides and alternative energy, Tribal wetlands programs and Tribal marine debris projects."

Five topic areas for technical presentations are solid waste, toxics, sustainable growth and communities, building blocks of Tribal programs and hot topics.

"The purpose is to provide an opportunity for focused communication between EPA regional leaders and Tribal leaders regarding environmental issues that include human health issues related to the environment," said Humphreys.

"Brandy has been working with Tribal Council and many others to bring this together," said Tribal member and Natural Resources Department Manager Michael Wilson. "This event is important to build partnerships, but also for Grand Ronde to take a leadership role in protecting our environment."

Summit attendees will have the opportunity to see how Natural Resources staff member handle fish monitoring at the fish weir and habitat restoration throughout the Agency Creek watershed.

"This year," Humphreys added, "we have tried to boost the productivity of these discussions by including other federal agencies whose resource responsibilities overlap those of EPA and the Tribes."

"A purpose that was not originally part of the Tribal Leaders' Summit, but has evolved over time, is the opportunity for environmental staff to attend technical sessions for the purpose of education, training and networking." ■

## Chinuk Family Literacy Night set

A Chinuk Family Literacy Night will be held at 5 p.m. Wednesday, May 23, at the Tribal gym.

Dinner will be provided and each attending family will receive a translated Chinuk book and compact disc.

Everyone is welcome for a fun, family-friendly evening of Chinuk language-based activities.

RSVP to Esther Stewart at 503-879-1443 or e-mail [esther.stewart@grandronde.org](mailto:esther.stewart@grandronde.org). ■

## 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 Tuesday of each month in Modular No. 2. 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 and third Tuesday of the month in the Tribal Community Center. Chair: Dakota Whitecloud.

## 2012 Community Input meeting

The Tribe's annual Community Input meeting will be held in the gym after General Council on May 6 starting at approximately 1 p.m.

**Sunday, May 6, 2012**  
**10 a.m. General Council at**  
**the Community Center**  
**Noon — Lunch**  
**1 p.m. — Community Input**  
**Meeting at the Tribal Gym**

This year there will be an open house format with several topic tables in the gym including:

- 10-Year Reservation Plan
- Recreation
- Tribal Museum
- Women's Transition House
- Secondary Payer Transition (Skookum Health Plan)
- COPS
- Public Transit
- Other topics table

There also will be a drawing for door prizes (a Pendleton blanket and smaller gifts).

The annual Grand Ronde Community Input meeting is offered as an opportunity for members to provide comments and suggestions, which will be used in helping guide Tribal programs and in preparing grant applications, such as the HUD Indian Community Development Block Grant, the Administration for Native Americans, and others. Those unable to attend can submit written comments and suggestions to Kim Rogers, Planning & Grants Manager, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347. For additional information, please contact Rogers at 503-879-2250. ■

## Gala to benefit Native Arts and Cultures Foundation

"Keeping the Creative Spirit Alive," a fundraiser hosted by the Native Arts & Cultures Foundation, will be held at the Left Bank Annex, 101 N. Weidler St., Portland, at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, May 17.

The event is an opportunity to mingle with like-minded patrons and champions of Native arts and cultures. Guests will be treated to a Native-inspired dinner of Hawaiian, Alaskan and Native American cuisine.

The entertainment will include guitarist Garbiel Ayala (Yaqui) and singer Raiatea Helm (Hawaiian), and a visual arts auction featuring work by prominent Native artists.

To purchase tickets, visit <https://nacf.ejoinme.org/MyEvents/KeeptheCreativeSpiritAlive2012/tabid/350305/Default.aspx> on the Internet or call 360-314-2421. Tickets are \$150 per person. The Native Arts and Cultures Foundation has awarded \$904,000 in grants to 54 Native artists and organizations in 20 states in two years of granting. To find out more about the group, go to [www.nativeartsandcultures.org](http://www.nativeartsandcultures.org) on the Internet. ■



## Grand Ronde Dental Clinic

Eric Webster DMD Myron Peng DDS Erin Lange DDS

Mon, Tues, Wed and Fri

8 A.M. - 5 P.M.

Thursday 9:30 A.M. - 5 P.M.

Closed for lunch 12:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.

Emergency Hour: Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri 8 A.M. Thurs 9:30 A.M.



Please call for more information about Emergency times  
 We now offer Cleaning appointments 5 days a week

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