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UMPQUA ■ MOLALLA ■ ROGUE RIVER ■ KALAPUYA ■ CHASTA

Mark Johnston named Tribal general manager

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

As of Wednesday, Jan. 9, Mark Johnston dropped the word "interim" from his title as Tribal general manager.

Tribal Chairman Reyn Leno announced in a staff-wide e-mail on Thursday, Jan. 10, that Johnston accepted the position of general manager, a post he has filled since a senior administration reorganization occurred in October.



Mark Johnston

"I am pleased to announce that Mark Johnston has been chosen to serve as the Tribe's general manager," Leno said. "Tribal Council believes that Mr. Johnston will do an exemplary job and will provide our departments and staff with the support and guidance needed to create a sustainable future for our Tribe."

"I am very honored and appreciative of the confidence that the Tribal Council has shown to offer this role to me," Johnston said. "I fully recognize that this confidence is due to the work of so many dedicated, loyal and skilled staff."

"I look forward to the opportunity to lead our governmental services. Our promise to the membership is to never lose sight of our mission of providing efficient and effective services to Grand Ronde members."

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Doomsday prep



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department Sgt. Jake McKnight, front, makes his way through a hallway as he looks for a shooter during an active shooter training exercise at the former Grand Ronde Middle School on Wednesday, Jan. 2. The people on the ground volunteered to be role players, such as injured or scared bystanders, for the scenarios.

Tribe hosts police training for active shooter incident

By Ron Karten
Smoke Signals staff writer

Wednesday and Thursday, Jan. 2-3, would not have been good days to attempt a heist at the former Grand Ronde Middle School.

Some 30 police officers from

state, county and local departments were running through the building with 40 caliber pistols, shotguns and 223 ARs in hand.

The guns were simulated weapons, using soap-marking cartridges, but they looked realistic and fired like the real things. It was

police and shooters on steroids as law enforcement converged on the former school to practice effective responses in the event of an actual school shooting.

See TRAINING continued on page 6

General Council briefed on economic development



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

For the second time in three meetings, General Council was briefed about Tribal economic development efforts at the Jan. 6 meeting held in the Tribal Community Center.

Economic Development Director Titu Asghar and Commercial Real Estate Manager Ann

Lewis recapped the department's efforts during 2012 in a 21-minute presentation held in executive session.

Since the presentation was delivered in executive session, *Smoke Signals* cannot report

See MEETING continued on page 10

Tribal Economic Development Director Titu Asghar delivers a report to the general membership about his department's efforts in 2012 during the General Council meeting held in the Tribal Community Center on Sunday, Jan. 6. Behind him is Ann Lewis, Tribal Commercial Real Estate manager, who also gave an update on the Tribe's commercial property holdings.