

## Tribal Council OKs applying for \$50,000 museum grant

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

Tribal Council approved applying to the Institute for Museum and Library Services for a \$50,000 Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services grant at its Jan. 16 meeting.

Should the Tribe receive the grant, which would help transform the former Grand Ronde Middle School into a Tribal museum by buying shelving and archival cabinetry, the Tribe would need to provide \$25,000 in matching funds, \$5,000 of in-kind staff time and pay \$2,268 for supplies.

In other action, Tribal Council approved appointing Tribal Council member Chris Mercier as the Tribal delegate to the Mid-Willamette Valley Area Commission on Transportation with Tribal Council member Jon A. George as the alternate.

Tribal Council also adopted a resolution requesting that the Oregon Legislature re-appoint Tribal Council member Cheryle A. Kennedy to the Legislative Commission

on Indian Services. In addition, Tribal Council also nominated Vice Chair Jack Giffen Jr. to serve on the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Native American Policy Team.

In other action, Tribal Council:

- Approved resolutions approving two infants and one minor for enrollment in the Tribe;
- Held a first reading for proposed amendments to the Tribal Ethical Standards Ordinance. The proposed amendments would establish a new process for filing and handling complaints of wrongful conduct by Tribal officials, including mediation before cases are heard by Tribal Court.

The Jan. 16 Tribal Council packet also included two Authorizations to Proceed.

One authorization approved extension of the Natural Resources Department's 2003-12 Management Plan through Dec. 31, 2013, or until a new management plan is adopted. The plan expired on Dec. 31, 2012.

The extension included an inter-

im harvest schedule for 2013. According to Michael Wilson, Natural Resources Department manager, the extension allows harvesting of 9,368 million board feet of timber in 2013. The timber harvested will generate an estimated \$2.756 million for the Tribe.

The other authorization OK'd moving forward with a constitutional amendment vote to remove Secretary of the Interior oversight and approval of amendments to the Tribal Constitution.

Tribal Attorney Rob Greene said this will allow the Tribe to conduct

elections on its time schedule and not wait for the Bureau of Indian Affairs to schedule and fund an election.

"This is a question of Tribal sovereignty," Greene said. "The Tribe should not be required to wait on the bureau when the Tribal membership and the council want to make changes to their constitution, and certainly not wait on the bureau's timetable to do that."

"To have the Bureau of Indian Affairs telling us what we can and can't do is mind-boggling," Kennedy said. "For me, it's really about the Tribe being a sovereign." ■

## Tribe to host Veteran's Summit in July

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It will be difficult not to run into a veteran in Grand Ronde this July.

The Marcellus Northwest Memorial Veterans Powwow will be held Friday, July 12, through Sunday, July 14, at Uyxat Powwow Grounds off Hebo Road.

And three days before that – Tuesday, July 9, through Friday, July 12 – the Tribe will host a four-day "Veteran's Summit: A Gathering of Warriors" being put on by the Gresham-based Native Wellness Institute.

The free summit will bring anywhere from 500 to 1,000 veterans to Grand Ronde's Tribal powwow grounds for informational workshops, motivational keynote speakers, benefits coordination, a parade of color guards, a welcome home ceremony, traditional games, health care, talking circles, counseling and more.

"Our Native veterans are too often a forgotten population," said Charles Tail Feathers, a Native Wellness Institute board member and visionary of the gathering. "Some of our warriors from prior wars and conflicts still have unmet needs. The purpose of the Veteran's Summit is to honor them, provide direct services and sources, help them on their healing journey and provide a good time filled with food, laughter, culture and positive camaraderie."

Tribal Chair Reyn Leno, a Vietnam-era Marine Corps veteran, attended one of the first planning meetings for the summit in San Diego in late November. After re-

turning and talking with the rest of Tribal Council, he pledged the Grand Ronde Tribe's support as host.

Many of the Tribe's programs are involved in the planning process to host the Veteran's Summit. A meeting held Jan. 17 included staff and committee members, as well as volunteer Tribal veterans and Tribal Council members.

Veterans, their family members and those who serve veterans are invited to attend the summit. Meals will be provided along with limited travel scholarships and camping.

Tail Feathers said he envisions a village where veterans will camp and eat together, get free health care and haircuts, receive assistance with coordinating benefits, play traditional games, listen to traditional stories, participate in singing and dancing, participate in a parade of color guards, attend workshops and participate in activities to promote their personal healing.

"Healing is the spirit driving the Veteran's Summit," Tail Feathers said.

Although the Grand Ronde Tribe is hosting the event, the Native Wellness Institute is organizing it. The institute is accepting financial and other sponsorships for the gathering.

Anyone who would like to host a veteran or sponsor a meal, speaker or any other part of the gathering should contact William Penn, Native Wellness Institute Veterans Warrior's Gathering Coordinator, at 360-490-7463. ■

## Parents Night will present sexual health facts

Family Nurse Practitioner Tami Martin will present "Parents Night: Facts About Sexual Health" at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 20, in the Tribal Community Center.

She will discuss current sexual health information and contraception to help parents answer their children's inquiries. There will be a question-and-answer session.

The evening will include a light dinner and door prizes.

For more information, contact Amber Mercier at 503-879-2162 or [amber.mercier@grandronde.org](mailto:amber.mercier@grandronde.org). ■

## Committee seeks Elders' phone numbers

The Tribal Elders Committee is working on a volunteer phone list of Elders. If you would like to submit your phone number and address to be available to other Elders, send it to [elders.committee@grandronde.org](mailto:elders.committee@grandronde.org) or leave a message at 503-879-2231. ■

## 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: CeCe Kneeland.
- **Education Committee** meets at 5:15 p.m. on the first Monday of the month in the Adult Education Building. Chair: Tammy Cook.
- **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 Elders' Activity Center. Chair: Gene LaBonte.

## 2013 Tribal Marketplace dates

- Feb. 1-2, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Feb. 3, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- March 1-2, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; March 3, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- April 5-6, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; April 7, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- May 3-4, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; May 5, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- June 7-8, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; June 9, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- July 12-13, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; July 14, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- July 19-20, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Elder Honor Day)

*Dates subject to change due to conflicting Tribal or SMC events. Located across from Cedar Plank Buffet.*