

PREVENTION CORNER

Hello Community!

When we talk about prevention, Risk and Protective Factors are a guiding theory.

Risk Factors are “shown to increase the likelihood of adolescent substance abuse, teenage pregnancy, school drop-out, youth violence and delinquency.”

Protective Factors counter Risk Factors and the more Protective Factors that are present, the less the risk.

Risk and Protective Factors fall into four areas: Community, Family, School and Individual/Peer.

These are some examples:

Risk Factors

Early Aggressive Behavior
Lack of Parental Supervision
Substance Abuse
Drug Availability
Poverty

Protective Factor

Self-Control (Coping skills)
Parental Involvement
School Success
Anti-Drug Use Policies
Strong Community
Attachment



As a prevention program, we aim at increasing the Protective Factors to decrease the Risk Factors through culture, community/employee trainings, education, community events and promotion of mental health.

For more information or to get your youth involved, contact Lisa Leno at 503-879-1471, Amber Mercier at 503-879-2162, Shannon Stanton at 503-879-1489 or Cristina Lara at 503-879-2040.

We also have a Facebook page — Grand Ronde Youth Prevention — with information and upcoming events. ■

Giving thanks



Photo by Dean Rhodes

Tribal Council presented former Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife Northwest Region Manager Chris Wheaton with a certificate of appreciation and a sacred paddle used during last year’s Canoe Journey at the Feb. 2 General Council meeting held in Grand Ronde. Tribal Council Chairman Reyn Leno said that Wheaton was instrumental in helping the Tribe regain some of its sovereignty, including ceremonial hunting rights and helping with the First Fish ceremonies held locally and in West Linn on the Willamette River. From left are Tribal Council members Jon A. George, June Sherer, Secretary Toby McClary, Ed Pearsall, Denise Harvey, Cheryl A. Kenney, Leno, Wheaton, Vice Chair Jack Giffen Jr. and Kathleen Tom. “He’s been a special friend to the Tribe,” Leno said.

Important notice to full-time students

All full-time students must submit verification that they have applied to a scholarship outside the Tribe before funding will be released for the term/semester.

Verification can include a scholarship award or denial letter, e-mail verification that an application was submitted, a copy of the application or the financial aid award letter that lists an outside scholarship.

Please contact Education at 1-800-422-0232, ext. 2275, if you have any questions. ■

College Placement Testing offered

College Placement Testing offered on-site at the Adult Education Building for Chemeketa Community College, Linn-Benton Community College and Mount Hood Community College. The Placement Test is one of the first steps to beginning college classes. Call 503-879-2282 to sign up for your placement test – allow about one week for scheduling purposes. ■

TERO became effective on Nov. 27

MEETING continued from front page

the Tribal Community Center.

“We’re making progress on getting the program established and mainly putting together the pieces that will be the infrastructure for TERO to move forward,” Azure said at the beginning of his presentation.

The Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance was enacted by Tribal Council on Nov. 6 and became effective Nov. 27. Azure was hired away from state government to oversee the ordinance’s implementation in September.

The Grand Ronde Tribe joined more than 300 other Native Tribes and Alaskan Native villages that have TERO-like ordinances and became the second Oregon Tribe after the Umatilla to enact that type of legislation. Nationally, the first TERO law was passed in 1977, he added.

“TERO is to ensure that Indian people can participate in economic opportunities on and near the Grand Ronde Reservation,” he said.

The TERO office was created to enforce the laws and rules governing employment and contracting preference for Native Americans, Azure said.

TERO’s responsibilities are varied, Azure said, and include ensuring Tribal and Indian preference regarding employment and con-

tracting in the Tribal government, at Spirit Mountain Casino and for all employers who are located or operating on the Grand Ronde Reservation.

TERO also affects businesses that contract or sub-contract to work on the Reservation and federally funded road construction projects that the Oregon Department of Transportation performs within a 60-mile radius of Grand Ronde. When the Tribe asserts Indian preference, contractors must hire from the TERO Skills Bank if manpower is required beyond a core crew, he said.

Under TERO, Indian-owned businesses – those that are at least 51 percent owned by Native Americans – receive a 5 percent advantage over a low bid on projects, Azure said.

In addition, the new TERO office will be compiling quarterly data reports from employers in hiring Tribal members and providing monthly updates to Tribal Council regarding Tribal employment. It also will examine career advancement opportunities for Tribal member employees, including training, career development plans and promotion opportunities. TERO also will look into establishing a network of mentors for Tribal employees seeking career growth, he said.

For Tribal members seeking a job, TERO will assist with pre-employment support, such as tracking job

applicants, providing information on job opportunities, assisting with employment applications and providing pre-interview help, and identifying training needs for those who fail to get hired.

The TERO office already includes Career Development Program Manager David DeHart and Workforce Development Specialist Misty Carl, who previously worked in the Tribal Career Development Department at Spirit Mountain Casino.

Azure said that the TERO director can of his or her own initiative or based on a complaint of a violation of the ordinance take steps to rectify a violation, preferably with an informal settlement, but also with a written notice or issuance of a corrective order if necessary.

“There’s some teeth to the TERO code,” Azure said.

TERO will be overseen by a soon-to-be appointed five-member commission with members serving three-year terms.

The Tribe already has signed a memorandum of understanding with the state Department of Transportation that gives the Tribe the ability to assert Indian preference on federally funded highway projects within a 60-mile radius of the Reservation.

“TERO is designing the organization, building infrastructure and developing policies,” Azure said. “We’re building a network. TERO is here. We’re not just working in

a silo. We’re working across all Tribal departments and with the community.”

In response to a question, Azure agreed that getting Tribal members employed is important to the overall Tribe.

“Jobs mean a lot,” Azure said. “It does change a community.”

In other action, Social Services Committee Chair Jenny Sanchez said her committee will be placing a customer satisfaction survey to in an upcoming *Smoke Signals*. Gas vouchers will be raffled off to those who fill out the survey.

Rayauna Meneley won the \$100 door prize and Terry Gray, Samantha Dala and Dorothy Leno won the \$50 door prizes. Necklaces and earrings donated by Tribal Council member Jon A. George also were raffled off.

The next General Council meeting will be held at 11 a.m. Sunday, March 2, in the Tribal Community Center.

Tribal Council also honored former Oregon Fish and Wildlife Department Region Manager Chris Wheaton with a certificate of appreciation and a sacred paddle used by the Canoe Family during last year’s Canoe Journey.

Jan Looking Wolf Reibach, Jon A. George, Jade Unger, Eric Bernando and Savannah Ingram provided the drumming and singing during the cultural presentation to open the meeting. ■