

Health care scholarship seeking applications

SALEM – West Valley Hospital Foundation scholarship applications for students in medically related fields of study became available on Feb. 1 and must be returned by Friday, March 28.

Applicants must have a permanent residence in Polk County or be a West Valley Hospital employee or a family member of a West Valley Hospital employee, and must have applied to a college in their field of study before applying for the scholarship.

Visit www.salemhealth.org/scholarships and click on the West Valley Foundation Scholarship link for more information and to download an application. Call 503-831-3456 for more information. ■

Freedom Through Fitness begins Feb. 24

Freedom Through Fitness Forever, a 12-week fitness program, will begin Monday, Feb. 24, in the Tribal gym.

The program concentrates on cardio, strength and flexibility and costs \$40. It will meet from 5:15 to 6:30 p.m. Monday and Wednesday.

At least 40 people have to sign up to start the fitness group activity.

Nutrition planning may be available for an additional fee. There is a zero refund policy. ■

UofO names first Tribal Elder in residence

EUGENE — The University of Oregon’s Office of the Vice President for Equity and Inclusion will host Coquille Tribal Elder Don Ivy as its first Tribal Elder in residence in its inaugural Traditional Scholars Program.

Ivy recently retired as Cultural Resources Program coordinator and Tribal Historic Preservation Officer of the Coquille Tribe. He will meet with President Michael Gottfredson’s Executive Leadership Team, lecture in classes, meet with students, faculty and staff, and give a public address, “Native Activism, Law and Land Issues” on Wednesday, Feb. 19.

Ivy is a longtime expert on Tribal historic preservation and on the archaeology and history of southern Oregon. He served as vice chair of the Oregon Heritage Commission and received an Oregon Heritage Excellence Award in 2013.

The Traditional Scholars Program is meant to share the wisdom of Elders from Oregon’s nine federally recognized Tribes, as well as other communities in the state, with the University of Oregon campus and broader community. Ivy’s visit is geared toward enhancing the community’s understanding and knowledge of Native American traditions.

His visit will culminate with a celebratory event, “Convergence: Parting Counsel From Our Elder,” farewell potluck and honoring ceremony at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20, at the Many Nations Longhouse, 1630 Columbia St. ■

St. Patrick's Day POTLUCK
 @ the Portland area office
 4445 S.W. Barbur Blvd.
 Portland OR 97239
 March 17, 2014
 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

For questions call Lisa Archuleta 503-879-1880

Ad created by George Valdez

House Post blessing



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

From back, Travis Stewart, Bobby Mercier, Jan Looking Wolf Reibach and Jordan Mercier drum and sing a blessing song during a dedication ceremony for the carved salmon packer-shaped house post erected in the Governance Center Atrium on Thursday, Jan. 30. Stewart said a salmon packer was traditionally used to pulverize dried salmon so that it could be stored and eaten in the winter. Tribal youth Justin Fasana, right, helped carve the house post as an apprentice through Youth Education’s Summer Youth Employment Program last summer along with Stewart and a master carver. Work on the house post was paid for by an Administration for Native American’s grant to the Tribe and the log was donated by Willamette National Forest. “We had a lot of hands on this,” Stewart said. The dedication ceremony can be viewed on the Tribal Web site www.grandronde.org under the Video section.

Cover Oregon: Open for business and ready to serve you

Jan. 1 marks not just the beginning of a new year. For many Tribal members, it also marks the beginning of insurance coverage they can get through Cover Oregon, our state’s health insurance marketplace.

Cover Oregon is the place for Tribal communities and others to find health insurance and get financial help to pay for it.

Even if you receive services from your Tribal or urban Indian clinic, Cover Oregon will work for you.

This is because health insurance helps cover the cost of services received *outside* your Tribal or urban Indian clinic, like emergency room visits, hospital stays or specialty care.

Despite challenges in the marketplace’s early months, thousands of Oregonians are now covered by plans they signed up for through Cover Oregon.

Many choices are available through Cover Oregon, including private plans, Oregon Health Plan and Healthy Kids.

If you are an enrolled member of a federally recognized Tribe and sign up for insurance through Cover Oregon, you can expect:

- **To help your Tribal community.** Getting health insurance helps fund Tribal or urban Indian clinics.
- **Consistent care.** You can continue to see your doctor at your Tribal or urban Indian clinic.
- **No cost for doctor visits.** You won’t pay for any service you receive from a Tribal or urban Indian clinic. Also, you might qualify for no-cost or low-cost health coverage at any doctor or provider if you meet certain income requirements.
- **Flexible enrollment.** Special enrollment periods allow you to sign up or change plans every month.

For more information on benefits to you and your Tribal community, contact Loretta Meneley at 503-879-1359 or 800-775-0095 at the Grand Ronde Health and Wellness Center.

We are ready to help answer your questions and help you sign up. Assistance is free.

You can also contact Cover Oregon by calling 1-855-CoverOR (1-855-268-3767) or visit CoverOregon.com. ■