



Submitted photo

Land and Culture Department Manager Jan Looking Wolf Reibach, right, and Administrative Assistant Reina Nelson, second from left, helped staff the department's table regarding the Chachalu Tribal Museum & Cultural Center during the Community Input meeting held Wednesday, June 11, in the Tribal gym. Filling out surveys were Tribal Elders, from left, Laura Gleason, Violet Folden and Kathryn Harrison.

65 attend Tribal Community Input meeting in Grand Ronde

Sixty-five people, including 20 assigned staff and Tribal Council members, attended the Tribe's 2014 Community Input meeting held Wednesday, June 11, in the Tribal gym.

Tribal Council members Reyn Leno, Jon A. George and Toby McClary attended.

George gave the blessing and Indian tacos were served for dinner, which was followed by a PowerPoint overview of Tribal projects and new programs from this past year, including Phase 1 of the Chachalu Museum & Cultural Center, the women's transition house, Tribal Employment Rights Office and emergency management, among others.

Planning & Grants Manager Kim Rogers requested comments and suggestions on the Tribe's Housing & Urban Development Indian Community Development block grant program and projects, as well as on the Tribe's Administration for Native Americans grants, which include the language immersion program.

The PowerPoint led into an open house session at 14 tables, including Emergency Management, the Police Department, Housing Authority apartments construction,

food bank construction, Natural Resources – Parks & Recreation, Education Department, Youth Council, public transit, Chachalu, Medicare, Skookum Health Plan, domestic and sexual violence prevention, TERO – Tribal Career Development, Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation and 477, and Children & Family Services – Foster Care.

Each table featured a color banner with photos or plan drawings and text. Visitors completed brief questionnaires that were converted to additional tickets for the door prizes.

The meeting ended early since many people arrived early and had already visited most of the tables before the meal. At the end of the meeting, drawings were held for four \$25 Shell gift certificates and for a Pendleton blanket, which was won by Joanne Brisbois.

Rogers said that police, TERO, domestic violence and Housing Authority staff mentioned that they had received good participation, comments and suggestions from Tribal members who attended.

Rogers said the written comments from the several dozen completed survey forms will be summarized and provided to Tribal administration and Tribal Council, as well as to the programs involved. ■

Smoke Signals receives 10 NAJA awards

Smoke Signals received 10 awards, including four first-place honors, in the 2013 Native Media Awards competition conducted by the Native American Journalists Association.

Publications Coordinator Dean Rhodes and staff writer Ron Karten swept two writing categories in the Associate Member division.

Karten received a first-place award in the Feature Story category for his story about Tribal employees helping to ground survey the cemetery at Chemawa Indian School. Rhodes took second place in the same category for a story about archaeological work conducted at Fort Yamhill State Park that discovered a significant female presence and Karten took third place for his story about a lost ring that was found when modular buildings were dismantled on the Tribal campus.

In the News Story category, Karten took first place for his story about active shooter training that was held at the former Willamina Middle School building – now Chachalu – in early 2013. Rhodes took second and third place, respectively, for stories about a Tribal member who barely avoided being involved in the Boston Marathon bombing and for his story about the farewell ceremony for beloved Tribal Elder Mike Larsen.

Tribal photographer Michelle Alaimo won first place in the News Photo category for a series of three photos.

Karten also took first place in the Best Coverage of Native Americans category for his story about the Grand Ronde Tribe protesting a re-organization at the University of Oregon that affected Native students and faculty. He bested two reporters from the much larger *Navajo Times* in the category.

Karten also received a third-place award for Best Environmental Story for a piece on the electric car charging stations that opened at Grand Ronde Station in early 2013.

Tribal page designer Justin Phillips also received a third-place award for Best Design.

"Sweeping so many award categories is a testament to the hard work, dedication and professionalism of the Public Affairs/Publications team," said Public Affairs Director Siobhan Taylor. "Our focus is telling the story of the Tribe and promoting our culture, history, leadership and human interest through thorough and respectful writing, photography and design. I am not only proud of our winners, but also proud of the entire team that supports their work effort."

The awards will be handed out at the National Native Media Awards banquet being held July 12 in Santa Clara, Calif.

The contest was judged by members of the University of Omaha-Nebraska, Society of Professional Journalists, Society of Environmental Journalists, Asian American Journalists Association and Center for Investigative Reporting. ■

CTGR Higher Education Program deadlines set

There are now only two Higher Education programs depending on whether you are full-time or part-time. The deadline for the Full-Time College program is at least 30 days before the start of classes. The deadline for the Part-Time College program is at least 10 days before the start of class.

Visit the Tribal website for more program information and an application. www.grandronde.org/departments/education/higher-education/ ■

West Valley district seeking Fire Explorers

The West Valley Fire District, which covers Grand Ronde, Willamina and Sheridan, is seeking youths for its Fire Explorer Program.

Young men and women age 14 to 20 will become familiar with career opportunities in the fire service through classroom instruction, hands-on training and volunteer work.

The program encourages and promotes accountability, safety, communication, teamwork, fitness and leadership.

Participants must attend weekly drills from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Saturdays, adhere to dress and conduct codes, perform weekly physical fitness and training specific to firefighting skills, and demonstrate a willingness to make improvements and show self-motivation.

For more information, contact Fire Explorer Post 908 adviser Seth Bellarts at 503-437-2046. ■

Phagan Beauty School Visit

WHEN: Thursday, July 17

LEAVING Youth Education by 9:45AM

RETURNING to Youth Education by 3:00PM

Visit Salem Phagan Beauty school, audit a class, visit a real life salon

CONTACT Kendra Steele for permission slips and sign ups

kendra.steele@grandronde.org;
503-879-1921