

Earthquake is largest threat to Grand Ronde

RESPONSE continued
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disasters.

In addition to the trainings, Yamhill County CERT addresses church and youth groups, and has a booth at Tribal powwows, Lamb said. About 250 to 300 people receive information about CERT during each powwow.

The eighth class involved a drill that gave participants actual practice in responding to a mass casualty event affecting the area.

Previous classes dealt with preparedness, fire safety and suppression, disaster medical emergencies, terrorism, light search and rescue, CERT organization, disaster psychology and, finally, a review and exam held Tuesday, March 3.

The largest threat to Grand Ronde, Jamie Baxter, CERT coordinator for the Tribe, has said is an earthquake along the Cascadia Subduction Zone that runs along the Pacific Coast from British Columbia south to northern California.

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“It will be the worst catastrophe when it happens, but we don’t know when that will be,” said Lamb. “Meanwhile, there will also be snow storms, flooding and landslides in the area requiring CERT knowledge and experience.”

Trains and trucks transporting dangerous chemicals also are potential threats in the event of accidents and cargo leaks.

Tribal members attending the CERT training came from Salem, Dallas, Willamina, Sheridan and further afield, Lamb said.

The program comes from the Federal Emergency Management Agency with Yamhill County, for the last 10 years, facilitating the class.

“Basically,” Baxter has said, “it’s about how to keep us safe in a disaster.” ■



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal Elder Marion Mercier wraps Ken Nygren’s leg to stabilize it during the Tribe’s Community Emergency Response Team mass casualty drill at the Tribal Community Center on Saturday, Feb. 28. Nygren is assistant emergency manager for Yamhill County and played an injured victim in the drill.

New apartments



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal Council member Cheryle A. Kennedy checks out the kitchen in one of the new low-income apartments built in Tribal Housing as Tribal Council members took a tour on Thursday, Feb. 26. Tribal Council Chairman Reyn Leno and Tribal Council members Jon A. George and Tonya Gleason-Shepek were also on the tour. The 20 units, divided among five buildings, are nearing completion.

Veterans SEB slates Memorial Day event

The Tribe’s Veterans Special Event Board will hold the traditional Memorial Day event beginning at noon Monday, May 25, with a ceremonial meal in the Community Center.

At 1 p.m., the formal ceremony will begin with Veterans Special Event Board Chairman Steve Bobb Sr., a Vietnam-era Marine Corps veteran, giving the invocation and acting as master of ceremonies.

Tribal member Jolanda Catabay will sing the national anthem and Royalty will perform “The Lord’s Prayer.” The Grand Ronde Honor Guard will post the colors and Land and Culture Manager Jan Looking Wolf Reibach will perform a medley of taps and “Amazing Grace” on Native flute.

Speakers will include Tribal Council Chairman Reyn Leno, also a Vietnam-era Marine Corps veteran, veteran Gunny Brandon and Eric Belt, administrator of the Oregon Department of Veterans’ Affairs.

The names of veterans being added to the West Valley Veterans Memorial also will be read. ■

Health care scholarship seeking applications

West Valley Hospital Foundation scholarship applications for students in medically related fields of study became available on Feb. 1 and applications must be returned by March 27.

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

Visit www.salemhealth.org/scholarships and click on the West Valley Hospital scholarship link. Call 503-831-3456 for more information. ■



Come watch the best High School Senior Basketball players in the country entering college (Team USA), play against the best players from around the world (Team World).

For Who: 6-12 grade Tribal member youth

When: Saturday, April 11th

(Leaving CTGR 9:30am — Return approx. 4pm)

Meal: Lunch will be provided

Requirements: GPA 2.5 or higher & 2 unexcused absences or less (Proficiency grades requirements: Meeting or working toward)

How do you sign up? Turn in permission slip with your latest grade/attendance report at the Youth Education Department.

Limited Openings!

For more information, Contact Tiffany at 503-879-2101