

Bike helmets available

The Tribe's Social Services Department has bicycle helmets available for distribution. Those needing a helmet need to visit the department and sign a helmet application, as well as get fitted. For more information, contact Social Services at 503-879-2034. ■

Salem Health Foundation announces scholarships

SALEM – The Salem Health West Valley Foundation announced that beginning Feb. 1 scholarship applications are available for students in medically related fields of study.

To receive a scholarship application packet, visit www.salemhealth.org/scholarships and click on the Salem Health West Valley Foundation link.

Completed application packets must be received in the administrative office, 525 S.E. Washington St., Dallas, by 4 p.m. Friday, March 24, or postmarked by Wednesday, March 22. Applications also can be e-mailed to wvfoundation@salemhealth.org.

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

Final selections will be announced by May 2. For more information, contact Salem Health West Valley Foundation at 503-831-3456. ■

Attention 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. ■

Goodnight Grand Ronde Order Form



Name: _____ Please mail this form to:
 Address: _____ CTGR Education Dept.
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ 9615 Grand Ronde Rd
 Number of books x \$7.00/ea. \$ _____ Grand Ronde, OR 97347
 Shipping \$1.00/ea \$ _____
 Total \$ _____

*Checks only

Tribal Council approves agreement with Scappoose regarding its mascot

By Bethany Bea

Smoke Signals Intern

Following in the footsteps of its Jan. 25 decision regarding the Banks School District's mascot, the Grand Ronde Tribal Council approved a memorandum of agreement regarding the Scappoose School District's mascot, the Indians.

The agreement, approved on Wednesday, Feb. 8, makes the Scappoose School District the second to reach an agreement with the Grand Ronde Tribe regarding its use of a Native mascot.

Although the Oregon Board of Education initially banned the use of Native mascots in public schools, an exception to the ban was approved in 2016 and school districts are now allowed to work with any of Oregon's nine federally recognized Tribes toward keeping or modifying their mascots into something more culturally appropriate.

Scappoose School District will retain the use of the "Indians" mascot name and will work with the Tribe to modify its mascot image, currently a spear and feather, to ensure cultural appropriateness.

As part of the agreement, the school district will adopt the Tribe's fourth- and eighth-grade history curriculums and sponsor a Native Club for sixth through 12 graders.

The most significant difference between the Banks agreement and that with Scappoose is that the latter is for eight years vs. five years with Banks.

In other Native mascot-related news, the *Eugene Register-Guard* reported on Saturday, Feb. 11, that the Marcola School District will do away with its longtime mascot, also an Indian. In a 52 percent to 48 percent vote by district residents, the School Board was urged to establish a new mascot.

Superintendent Bill Watkins said the district will be adopting the Grand Ronde Tribe's fourth- and eighth-grade curriculums in its schools in the fall of 2017.

In other action, Tribal Council:

- Approved the sale of the Mushy Logging Unit to Round Valley. The harvest of 7.8 million board feet is estimated to bring in approximately \$2.9 million to the



Contributed image

The current mascot image for the Scappoose High School Indians is a spear and feather. The school district will work with the Grand Ronde Tribe on a more culturally appropriate mascot image under the terms of a recently approved memorandum of agreement.

Tribe after fees. The logging unit is named after Richard "Mushy" Ray, who walked on in April 2016;

- Approved the East Gopher Valley Timber Harvest of approximately 1.41 million board feet, which is estimated to bring in almost \$495,000 to the Tribe after fees;
 - Appointed Tribal Council member Denise Harvey as the Tribal delegate to the National Indian Gaming Association with a term ending January 2018.
 - Approved two applications to the Oregon Department of Transportation that would continue to fund the Tribe's agreements with Cherriots, Yamhill Transit and Tillamook County Transportation District to ensure adequate public transportation is available to Tribal members;
 - Appointed five Tribal members to the Tribal Employment Rights Commission: Tribal Elders Wink Soderberg, Russell Wilkinson and Diana George and Tribal members Camille Mercier and Sarah Harvey. The appointments have staggered term limits ranging from March 2018 to March 2020;
 - Appointed Shayla Myrick-Meyer to the Culture Committee with a term ending March 2019;
 - And appointed Richard Van Atta to the Veterans Special Event Board with a term ending March 2019.
- Lands Department Manager Jan Looking Wolf Reibach performed the cultural drumming and singing to open the meeting.
- The meeting, in its entirety, can be viewed on the Tribal website, www.grandronde.org, by clicking on the News tab and then Video. ■

Ad created by George Valdez