

Tribe welcomes concept of sharing, connection

WACHENO continued
from front page

Tribal Council Chairman Reyn Leno are direct descendants of the Wachenos.

The 21,000-square-foot building will house most of the college's student services and its name will honor Dan, who signed the treaty that ceded a sizable swath of the northern Willamette Valley to the federal government and was later removed to the Grand Ronde Reservation, as well as his family, which included his son, John.

During the dedication event, Kennedy gave opening remarks and welcomed attendees to the Tribe's homelands.

"I am the great-great-great granddaughter of (Dan) Wacheno, who this facility is named for," she said. "We lived here since time immemorial and fished the waters, dug the roots and gathered the materials. ... This is a sacred place to us. Thank you for the work you've done here in a good and respectful way."

Tribal Council member Jon A. George led the invocation.

"Thank you for this honor and I also have the honor to work alongside Cheryle and know the caring heart she has for our people," George said.

Afterward, he joined Tribal member Tynan George and Cultural Policy Analyst Greg Archuleta as they led a drum song.

The ceremony also included remarks from several Clackamas Community College officials, in-



Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez

A Clackamas Community College student walks past the recently dedicated Wacheno Welcome Center on the Oregon City campus on Thursday, Nov. 4.

cluding President Tim Cook.

"When we began planning this center, we wanted it to have a name that was easily identifiable for students as a place to get started and one that also demonstrated inclusivity," he said. "A well-supported suggestion that came up was to name it after Chief Dan Wacheno."

Representatives from Clackamas Community College, which included Cook, met with the Grand Ronde Tribal Council with the proposal and received support. The Tribe has a long history with the college, including being involved in its Environmental Learning Center and collaborating on art projects.

At the ceremony, Cook read aloud a letter written by Grand Ronde Cultural Resources Manager David Harrelson.

"Naming the Welcome Center after the Wacheno family not only honors the first people of the land that Clackamas Community College sits on. It also follows the traditional cultural customs of the Clackamas as the Indigenous people of this place. These customs include the obligations of the people of a place to be good hosts by welcoming and caring for their guests.

"Naming the Welcome Center after the Wacheno family allows for this cultural teaching to be represented on the college campus named after the people and customs it will honor."

Kennedy said that if the intent of the 19th century policies for Indigenous people was fully carried out, she would not be standing there.

"I am happy today that we are

a people who survived," she said. "We believe in the Creator and through his help we are able to be here today."

Archuleta gave a brief overview of the Wacheno family name and history of the Clackamas people.

"It's a great honor to be here today," he said. "We are grateful you are able to name this building after one of our ancestors and it is representative of that welcoming concept of sharing and the connection we have."

Cook closed the ceremony by reading a land acknowledgment.

"We acknowledge that the Clackamas Community College campuses reside on the traditional homelands of the Clackamas, Cascades and Tumwater bands of Chinooks, as well as the Tualatin and Pudding River bands of Kalapuya and the Northern Molalla people," he said. "It is important that we acknowledge the ancestors of this place and to recognize that we are here because of the sacrifices they endured. Without them, we would not have access to this gathering and to this dialogue. Please join us in taking this opportunity to thank and honor the original caretakers of this land, their lives and their descendants still caring for the land today."

Construction of the Wacheno Welcome Center is part of a \$90 million bond approved by voters in 2014 and an \$8 million state matching grant. The college, at 19600 Molalla Ave., had 5,187 undergraduate students enrolled in 2018-19. ■

Christmas Parade set for Friday, Dec. 10

The annual Grand Ronde Christmas Parade will be held at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 10, organizer Veronica Gaston announced.

Lineup will begin at 5:30 p.m. The parade will loop through Elder housing and then down Tyee Road and around the Wind River apartments before going around Raven Loop and Tilixam Circle and finally heading to Grand Meadows.

The Grand Ronde Police Department will lead the parade and be followed by Fire Department personnel and vehicles. They will be followed by decorated cars and the Christmas truck with Santa will be last.

For more information, contact Gaston at mawich69@gmail.com. ■

Moderna booster dose can be administered to eligible individuals

SCHEDULE continued
from front page

COVID-19 booster doses of the Moderna vaccine to eligible individuals, Health Services Executive Director Kelly Rowe announced on Tuesday, Oct. 26.

To be eligible, people must be 65 or older, 18 to 64 years old with underlying medical conditions, 18 or older in a long-term care situation or 18 to 64 and older at increased risk of exposure or transmission because of their occupational setting.

The center will provide boosters to Tribal members and their spouses, other Native Americans and their spouses and families, Tribal employees and their families and established patients.

The Moderna booster dose can be administered to eligible individuals who are six months past their second vaccine dose. To make an appointment, call 503-879-2032 to schedule a booster dose.

People also can use the COVID vaccine finder to find another vaccination site at www.vaccines.gov/search/. ■

ENROLLMENT ORDINANCE OPEN FOR COMMENT

The Tribal Council is considering amendments to the Enrollment Ordinance. The proposed amendments were given a First Reading at the Oct. 13, 2021, Tribal Council meeting.

The proposed amendments will (1) add the ability to use genetic testing of other family members if a parent is unable to be located or refuses to provide DNA; (2) removes the requirement for affidavits when other genetic testing is used; (3) makes DNA results confidential; and (4) may include other minor and technical changes.

Tribal Council invites comments on the proposed amendments to the Enrollment Ordinance. For a copy of the proposed amendments, please contact the Tribal Attorney's Office at 503-879-4664. Please send your comments to the Tribal Attorney's Office, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347, or by e-mail to legal@grandronde.org.

Comments must be received by Monday, Nov. 15, 2021. ■



Veterans

Food Box Drive-Through Event

November 18, 2021 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. (or, as supplies last)

At the Quenelle House on the CTGR Campus
(Yellow House behind the Employment Services Building)

