

Tribe has two charging stations, other located at Grand Ronde Station

CHARGING continued from front page

As of presstime, 10 employees had submitted applications to use the new station, which has two plug-ins available. All employees must sign a charging policy prior to usage.

Tribal Audit Director Steve Harrop owns a 2019 Tesla Model 3. He commutes from Portland to Grand Ronde, and drove a convertible Mini Cooper when he first began working for the Tribe.

“It was getting tired and even at 30 miles per gallon, I didn’t like putting the emissions from four gallons of gas into the air every day,” he said. “I’d been a fan of Tesla and its technology since launch, and federal and state electric vehicle incentives brought the cost down to the level of the new Mini I was also considering.”

He said having a charging station onsite means peace of mind.

“My Tesla has enough range to make my round trip,” Harrop said. “However, in winter the lights and wipers use a lot of electricity so I charge nearly full (hard on the battery and not recommended) and

get home with 5 to 10 percent left. Now I can get lunch in Sheridan without worrying about getting home, and this winter I’ll be able to lower my charge level at home and top up here to extend the life of my battery.”

Webb said the charging station can be used as a power source in the event of an emergency.

“There are a lot of great benefits,” Webb said. “We’re easing ourselves into this and plan to provide more as more people go to electric vehicles in the future.”

The Tribe is applying for an Oregon Department of Transportation grant, which would provide five more solar charging stations and six traditional panel plug-in stations. Additionally, two electric vehicles would be added to the Tribe’s fleet.

The Tribe has one other electric vehicle charging station, located at Grand Ronde Station, which was installed in November 2012.

“I know lots of people want to have these at the Tribal campus but it’s a new thing so we’re trying to get up to speed, so would ask for patience during this time,” Webb said. ■

Exercise practice



Photos by Michelle Alaimo

Jeff Gilbert, Regional Emergency Coordinator for the Oregon Department of Human Services Office of Resilience and Emergency Management, registers Crystal Bigelow after she evacuated to Willamina High School during a full-scale evacuation and shelter training exercise held on Wednesday, July 12. The exercise tested the Tribe’s evacuation, reunification, sheltering and communications plans for emergency response and recovery efforts in a wildland fire scenario threatening the Tribal campus and community of Grand Ronde. Approximately 60 staff and local residents participated in the exercise. Bigelow is the Tribal Library aide.



After completing registration, Alisha Parks Shell, left, gets lunch from Grand Ronde Department of Emergency Services Administrative Services Lt. Mariah Prescott at Willamina High School during a full-scale evacuation and shelter training exercise held on Wednesday, July 12. Parks Shell is the Tribal Community/Public Health manager.

Tribal Library merges with Regional Library Service

The Tribal Library has merged with the Chemeketa Cooperative Regional Library Service, said Tribal Librarian Kathy Cole.

Tribal members can now get books from libraries in Polk, Yamhill and Marion counties, as well as access to many free programs.

Tribal Library patrons should visit the Tribal Library and update their information and obtain a new Regional Library Service card.

For more information, contact Cole at 503-879-1488. ■

Monday	Tuesday	Thursday
By scheduled appointment only	By scheduled appointment only	Walk-in claim appointments