



# NPTHA's Quarterly Newsletter

March 2009  
1st Quarter

## Riverview & Sundown Heights Will Be Receiving Playground Areas

“NPTHA Receives Grants to Help Build Playgrounds!”

The NPTHA received two grants in all. One awarded was the Fighting Obesity Through Play Grant in the amount of \$23,271. The other was from the Potlatch Fund in the amount of \$1000. There will be one playground in both the Lapwai and Kamiah communities.

A spot designated as the “park area” up in the Sundown Heights Sub-division will be home to the Lapwai playground. Construction of the new playground will begin after the completion of the new 15 homes currently under construction.

The playground for Kamiah will be located in our Riverview Housing Project. Construction for that playground will begin this spring. Once each playground is constructed, the NPTHA will be planning a “Grand Opening/ Bar-b-que”.

The pictures to the right shows the actual constructed playground; and to accommodate the older kids, we will also be putting in a half court basketball court in each of the playground communities.

The playground equipment was purchased from Game Time. Both playgrounds will consist of two slides, three different climbers, a swing n’sway, a chinning bar, step up platforms, and an arch bridge. It will hold 45 children with recommended ages of 5-12, which is ideal for both communities.

We are very excited for the construction of these playgrounds. This will provide a safe place for children to play throughout the year. If you have any questions or are interested in helping with the construction of the playgrounds, please contact Michelle Penney at 843-2229.



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# Amerind Poster Contest



It's that time of the year again! The Nez Perce Tribal Housing Authority will be conducting Amerind's 2009 Fire and Home Safety poster contest. The contest is open to children kindergarten thru 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Participants can submit a poster anytime prior to April 3, 2009. We will also conduct 2 workshops one at the Kamiah Office on March 24 and one March 31<sup>st</sup> at the Lapwai Office. We will provide the participants with materials, hot dogs, and drinks. All participants will receive a t-shirt for their participation. The winners (must be NPTHA residents) will receive a gift card and their posters will be forwarded to the regional contest.

## FIRE & SAFETY TIPS

- Install smoke alarms on each level of your home & test them monthly.
- Make sure there are two clear exits from each room & everyone knows the escape route.
- Never leave cooking food unattended. Keep cooking area clean & clear of combustibles.
- Use all space heaters with care. Keep them at least 36" away from combustibles.
- Have your wood stove, chimney & central heating system maintained, cleaned regularly & inspected annually.
- Plug only one heat-producing appliance into an electrical outlet. Avoid running extension cords across doorways or under carpets.
- Store matches & lighters up high out of sight, out of reach of little hands/children. Use only child-resistant lighters.
- Never use or store gasoline inside your home.
- Store paints, thinners, and other flammable liquids in their original containers, well away from heat, sparks or flame.
- Keep papers neatly stacked & bundled, or in boxes.
- Identify your house with large address numbers that the fire department can see easily.

# MARCH/APRIL 2009

Monday 30	Tuesday 31	Wednesday 1	Thursday 2	Friday 3
<b>MOLD CLASS</b> 12p - 1p	<b>WEED CONTROL CLASS</b> 12p - 1p	<b>HOMEOWNERSHIP/ RENTAL INSURANCE</b> 12p - 1p	<b>TRIBALLAND ISSUES</b> 12p - 1p 5p - 6p	
*Lunch will be provided and door prizes will be drawn at each class.	Classes will be held at the NPTHA's Lapwai Homeownership Center.			
		<b>SPRING CLEAN-UP</b> Kamiah & Orofino - All Day	<b>SPRING CLEAN-UP</b> Lapwai - All Day	<b>SPRING CLEAN-UP</b> Lapwai - All Day

**INVITATION TO ALL  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS  
AND NPTHA RESIDENTS**

## Information for Clean-Up Week

Do you have unwanted items cluttering up your yard, appliances that no longer work or maybe you have spring fever and just want to get rid of unwanted items? NPTHA has scheduled their annual clean-up. Dumpsters will be available **Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> thru Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>** as designated below. We will place a dumpster in each cluster site for residents to dispose of any unwanted items as follows:

March 23rd - March 29th  
Domebo Flats  
Agency Road  
Whitebird  
Kamiah/Orofino (one at each site)

March 30th - April 5th  
Joseph Street  
Over the Hill Drive  
Whitebird  
Sundown Heights

NPTHA will assist in picking up furniture, appliances, hardware, and any larger items on the following days:

Kamiah/Orofino - Wednesday, April 1st  
Lapwai - Thursday April 2nd & Friday April 3rd

To sign up, contact the NPTHA office. For Kamiah/Orofino contact Danice Oatman Tom at (208)935-2144 or Roxanne Axtell for the Lapwai area at (208)843-2229. In addition on **EARTH DAY April 22<sup>nd</sup>**, NPTHA will partner with water resources to coordinate a large unwanted item pick up day. For more information call water resources @ 208-843-7368.

# Homebuyer Education



The NPTHA's 2009 Home Buyer Education (HBE) classes are getting off to a great start. The first set of classes are scheduled for March 17-19, 2009 at the Lapwai NPTHA Homeownership Center. There was such a demand for the course that extra classes were added to the schedule! Tentatively we have 10 participants interested in attending the March 17th-19th HBE class. Food will be provided and several door prizes will be given away.

The HBE class is a great way to gain the necessary knowledge and insight needed to buy a home. Some of the topics the Homebuyer Educators will cover are: credit reports, how to improve credit, budgeting, land issues, the loan process, calculating affordability, maintenance, and much more. If you want to know how to buy a home, are currently looking for a new home, or feel that you would benefit from the knowledge then call the NPTHA to obtain the 2009 schedule of classes. If you have internet access, please see the article to the right regarding our new website. There you can obtain a schedule on-line. To sign up for class call Sonya Samuels or Travis Wilkerson at (208)843-2229.



## NEZ PERCE TRIBAL HOUSING AUTHORITY'S NEW WEB PAGE!

NPTHA has been working on a website and it is ready for use. Below we have provided the steps to get to the NPTHA web page. Please check it out. It contains a lot of useful information.

- In the search bar type "Nez Perce Tribe" or [www.nezperce.org](http://www.nezperce.org). This will bring you to the Nez Perce Tribe's website.
- Under "Affiliates" you will find Nez Perce Tribal Housing Authority. Click on it to go to the NPTHA home page.
- On the home page you will find the NPTHA programs; Tenant Policies; Quarterly Newsletters; Elder Home Repair; NPTHA's Home Fair; Contact information and so much more.

If you have any suggestions or comments regarding the NPTHA web page, contact Michelle Penney at the NPTHA office (208)843-2229.

## Office Closures

May 13th - National Indian Day

May 25th - Memorial Day

June 17th - Nez Perce War Memorial  
(Whitebird)

## Construction has begun!!



*The picture to the left is a view from one of the two-story three-bedroom homes being constructed in Sundown Heights subdivision.*

The Sundown Heights II-LIHTC #3 is underway.

Floor plans for each of the homes can be viewed at the NPTHA office. If you are on the rental waiting list for a three or four bedroom, please contact the Housing office to make sure your application is up-to-date. For more information contact Roxanne Axtell at the Housing office for more information. She can be reached at (208)843-2229.



## NPTHA's Account Technician I/Payroll Joni Roberts

Congratulations to Joni Roberts, NPTHA's new Account Technician I/Payroll. Joni began work December 18, 2008. She successfully completed her 90-day probationary period as of March 18, 2009. The NPTHA anticipates Joni becoming a solid fixture at the Housing. She brings enthusiasm and determination to this position. She is a great addition to the NPTHA team.



*"Hello, I am Joni Roberts. My parents are Tim & Rhonda Dickson and John Oatman, Sr. I was raised in Kamiah, where I still live with my husband Otis, and son Boaz.*

*I earned my Associates Degree at NWIC. I am currently working towards a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration at LCSC. Working at NPTHA in Payroll/Accounts Payable is a great opportunity. I plan to do my best.*

*I enjoy spending time with family, fishing, berry picking, gardening, quilting, swimming and camping."*

# 9th Annual

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Pi- Nee-Waus Community Center

Wednesday, June 10, 2009

10 a.m - 3 p.m.

Hosted by the Nez Perce Tribal Housing Authority

NPTHA

*An excellent opportunity  
to discover products and services  
in "One Stop"*

Home Repairs

Home Maintenance

Home Insurance

Home Financing

Home Safety

*For more information contact the NPTHA Counselors  
Anna Lawrence, Danice Oatman Tom, Sonya Samuels,  
Tia Hernandez or Travis Wilkerson @ (208)843-2229*

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