

## Tribal Life

### Tribal Announcements New Arrival

Congratulations to Kenney and Debbie Martin on the birth of their son, Rylan Jacob Martin on July 26, 1994. He weighed 8 pounds, 12 ounces, and was 20 inches long. Rylan joins his two sisters Stacia, 9 and Kylea, 2. We love and miss you all---Grandpa, Auntie Sue, Auntie Cindy, Uncle Lee, Halona Rae, and Lee Jr.

### Sangretta Reunion

Saturday, September 10 the Sangretta family reunion will be held at the Grand Ronde Community Center from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

There will be a raffle, door prizes, games, t-shirt orders, and a potluck barbecue. Please bring a dish to share. Also bring any family photos or stories you would like to share. It will be held outside so bring appropriate clothing. If you would like more information or to volunteer to help, please call Shawn or Linda at 879-5608.

### Salmon Distribution

The Fish and Wildlife Department will be holding a second salmon distribution only for those people who did not pick it up the first time. In order to pick up fish for a family member, you must have their I.D. card. No exceptions. Salmon will be distributed the following days:

- Friday, September 16  
9 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1 p.m.-4 p.m.
- Saturday, September 17  
10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Salmon distribution is located at the Tribal Forestry offices along Highway 18.

## Youth van destroyed in early morning fire

A tribal-owned van used to transport the Youth Crew around the reservation was set on fire early last month.

The vehicle, now nothing more than a metal shell, was discovered on a Monday morning at the Natural Resources offices, along Highway 18.

Connie Holmes, administrative assistant for the department, called the police, who are currently investigating the incident.

There were many beer bottles near the vehicle's remains. Apparently someone was attempting to siphon the gas from the van's tank, and got careless with a cigarette or a match.

In any event, the attempt to siphon the gas backfired, and the entire van went up in flames. Willamina Fire Department was called to the scene.



Karen Larsen inspects the ruined Youth Crew van.

## Grand Ronde firefighters honored for battling blazes

The Yakama Nation recently recognized the Grand Ronde Fire Crew for their diligent assistance in helping contain several forest fires on and near the reservation in Washington.

This summer, wildfires in eastern Washington have been the priority fires in the nation, threatening homes, neighborhoods, and businesses. The state of

Washington has received help from the U.S. Army National Guard, and various firefighters across the nation.

Grand Ronde fire crew members Michael Reibach, Frank Hostler, Butch LaBonte, Ralph Jim, Bryan Mercier, and Randy Butler, Jr. battled flames of 150 feet and at times worked 15-21 hour shifts. No injuries were sustained.



Grand Ronde firefighting crew.

## Tribe helps save threatened plant

The Grand Ronde Tribe has been working closely with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and U.S. Fish and Wildlife experts to preserve and enhance a population of a threatened species of plants growing within the construction site of the Tribe's gaming facility.

The plants, known as Nelson's checker-mallow, are one of a number of native checker-mallow species found in western Oregon. They are listed on federal and state threatened-species lists. More than 500 plants growing on-site and nearby are covered under the agreement between the Tribe and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

"We can't say enough about the

Service's responsiveness and willingness to find a good solution," said Bruce Thomas, General Manager of Spirit Mountain Development Corporation. "Working in tandem with federal scientists and administrators, we were able to move rapidly, but with full consideration. It was a very positive experience."

Spirit Mountain Development Corporation is an entity of the Tribe.

The Nelson's checker-mallow population on the site was first identified by the Tribe in June, and confirmed in several joint field visits with federal wildlife

specialists.

Working closely with federal administrators, the Tribe created a plan that enhances the area's checker-mallow population in several areas. At the resort site, existing plants are being incorporated into a nature walk and educational experience on the area's native prairie grasslands.

Across the South Yamhill River, the Tribe is encouraging natural expansion of another checker-mallow population by controlling brush and noxious weeds. Also, plants from the resort site are being moved to establish a new population along the Rogue River on the Grand Ronde reservation.

### Rob Greene:

## Virginian named staffer to Tribe's legal department

Rob Greene is the newest staff member to the Tribe. He is an attorney who will be working closely with program managers and Tribal Council.

Currently a candidate for an LL.M. (Masters of Law) in environmental and natural resources at Lewis and Clark College, Rob's educational background also includes a B.A. in Economics from Old Dominion and an M.A. from Columbia University. He received his law degree from the University of

Virginia.

Rob practiced law for four years with a firm in North Carolina, where he was sent to Saudi Arabia as a corporate and natural resources liaison for clients in that country.

"That was an interesting and memorable experience," he said. "Especially since I was there during the war in the Persian Gulf."

Rob will be using his experience with natural resources in helping the Tribe's Public Works Division confront water and sewer legal issues.

Currently he is working with tribal attorney Michael Mason, and familiarizing himself with the Tribal Constitution, laws, and ordinances.

"The fascinating thing about Indian law is the Tribe's relationship with the state and its economic self-sufficiency," he said.

Rob will also assist the Tribal Family Action Program with some of its Indian Child Welfare cases and do some general contract work.

"Basically, I'm here to work where I am needed," he said.

Rob and his wife currently live in Portland, but they plan to relocate as soon as he graduates from Lewis and Clark.



Rob Greene

## Players enjoyed softball tournament

The Third Annual Grand Ronde Pow-wow Softball Tournament was another exciting day of competition this year.

First place went to the Bombers, coached by "Carolina" (Jim Holmes). Second place went to the Mariners, coached by Maria Halverson. Third place went to Doug's Team, coached by Doug Colton. And fourth place was

taken by the NARA staff.

First and second place was decided in the bottom of the seventh inning with the score tied and each team losing a game apiece, making this a true double elimination softball tournament.

There were some terrific and talented players, and everyone showed a great deal of sportsmanship throughout the day. (See photos on pages 6 & 7.)