



SMOKE SIGNALS

"The events of today — the history of tomorrow."

Tribe to host ATNI Common Ground Conference

June 18, 19 and 20
Spirit Mountain Casino

This conference is where the Tribes of the Northwest discuss cultural issues which effect all the Tribes. The theme of the conference will be "Honor Your Ancestors — Honor Yourself," and is sponsored by the Grand Ronde Kwelth Tahlkie Culture and Heritage Society Board of Directors.

Opening Ceremonies will be Wednesday, June 18 at 8:45 a.m. in the Bingo Hall of Spirit Mountain Casino. Master of Ceremonies is Wilson Wewa, Sr., and will be followed by a welcome from the Grand Ronde Tribal Council and the Kwelth Tahlkie Culture and Heritage Society members.

At 10:30 a.m., a special Elders' Panel will be held where Grand Ronde tribal members will discuss the effects of termination on the Tribe and its members. The Elders' Panel will include Ila Dowd, Nora Kimsey, Mabel Gaston, Leon "Chip" Tom, and Gene LaBonte.

Presentations will be made from the Cultural Resource Protection Specialists of the Grand Ronde Tribe and the Siletz Tribe. There will be presentations on Thursday, including another panel in which the topic will be "Oregon Terminated Tribes" at 10:30 a.m., and "Western Washington Tribes," at 1:30 p.m. in the Bingo Hall. Lunch will be provided on both days.

There will be a pow-wow at the Grand Ronde Pow-wow Grounds on Thursday evening. Presenters on Friday include Tribal Council Chair Kathryn Harrison.

There will be door prizes every day and plenty of fun things to do. Please join the Grand Ronde Tribe and Kwelth Tahlkie Culture and Heritage Society in celebrating and honoring our past.

MINI POW-WOW

Thursday, June 19

6 to 9:30 p.m.

Grand Ronde Pow-wow Grounds

Tribal member M.D. speaks at Education dinner

The Education Division sponsored its annual Honor and Recognition Dinner for tribal member students and program graduates on May 29. Almost two-thirds of award recipients attended, and more and more of our tribal youth are doing well in school, and choosing to pursue college and training after high school.



Dean Azule, Education Division Manager, and Darlene Aaron, Education Committee Chair, give Kristi Seidel gifts of appreciation and honor.

Keynote speaker for the dinner was tribal member Kristi Seidel, who recently completed her M.D. at the University of Kansas medical school. Kristi is now doing her residency at the University of Kansas Medical Center, where she works in the family practice, and in the Emergency Room. Kristi said that a typical work week for a doctor is 96 hours.

Kristi graduated from the University of Oregon in 1992 with her undergraduate degree, and applied to a lot of medical schools before deciding on Kansas.

"I love the family practice part of my job," said Kristi. "I love pediatrics and obstetrics. I never get tired of delivering babies!" Kristi is married, and her husband, Scott, is a nurse. They met when they were students in Eugene.

As many students know, college can be a very expensive investment, especially for an out of state student, but Kristi thanks the Tribe for its help in cutting down the costs of her education in medicine. "The Education Trust Fund Scholarship I received covered almost half of my tuition. This contribution is something I am very grateful for."

Kristi said that after her residency, she would like to one day come to work for the Tribe.

A complete list of graduates, scholarship awards, and Honor Recognition recipients will be published in the next *Smoke Signals*. Watch for it!

Tribe's Casino float wins top honor for 2nd year

Jackie Provost, Emma Leno, and Miranda Provost represented the Tribe while riding on the Grand Ronde Tribe/Spirit Mountain Casino float in the Grand Floral Parade in Portland on June 7. The judges' top prize — the Sweepstakes Award — was given to the Tribe's float for the second year in a row. The theme of the Portland Rose Festival this year was "Having Fun," and the Tribe's float showed a bobcat playing with a butterfly. It was entitled "Mountain Joy."

