

History With Computers Leads To Job With Tribe

■ Darin Riggs is the OIS Department's newest Help Desk Technician.

By Toby McClary

Help Desk Technician Darin Riggs is helping the Information Systems Department in becoming a faster and more efficient department.

Riggs' main responsibility is to fulfill requests concerning computer technicalities that are put in by the many departments at the Tribe.

Riggs' history in working with computers goes back several years. In the late 1980's, Riggs was hired at Standard Insurance in Salem. He was the product supply person and also ran quotes for the insurance agents. After a two-year stretch with Standard Insurance, Riggs was hired on at Complete Software Solutions (C.S.S.), also in Salem. He was the first employee to ever be hired with C.S.S. He

worked a total of five years with them beginning as a Technician and progressing to Information Technician Manager. In 1998, Riggs was hired on with First American Title in Portland. He worked five-and-a-half years as the Senior Systems Engineer and some of his job duties included desktop support, network administration and he also took care of the regional accounting services.

Riggs then took some time off before getting a job at Melvin Mark in Portland. He worked for Melvin Mark for about seven months before wanting to land a serious, more rewarding career. He had heard rumors of an opening at the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.



Photo by Toby McClary

Help Desk Technician
Darin Riggs

"Some people I know that work for the casino said that the Tribe was a good place to work," said Riggs, "so I put in an application.

From what I understand, I scored highest of all the other applicants. They called me the very next day and offered me the position."

Riggs has been working for the Tribe since March of 2005.

"This job is a lot less stressful than most that I have worked for," said Riggs. "I've had to adapt to the laid-back atmosphere."

Riggs grew up in Salem and attended South Salem High School. He graduated in 1984 before attending college at Chemeketa Community College. He spent four years at Chemeketa studying general studies, automotive tech. and management.

Although spelled the same, Riggs is not related to the Tribal Riggs family. ■

Northwest Indian Storytellers Gathering and Apprenticeship Workshop

Grand Ronde Tribal Member Brent Merrill is one of the featured storytellers

January 5-7, 2006

Portland State University in downtown Portland, Oregon

Native American Student and Community Center
(Corner of SW Broadway Avenue and Jackson Street)

We are putting out a call for Tribal storytellers, apprentices and others interested in attending this weekend gathering. Events include a one-day storyteller conference, one-day apprenticeship workshop, and three public storytelling events hosted by Portland-area Tribal and educational organizations. Events will be held at the Native American Student and Community Center at Portland State University and other venues. A special \$59.00 rate for lodging is being provided January 5-8 to out of town participants by the Mark Spencer Hotel. More info coming soon.

NISA is sponsored by National Endowment for the Arts, Multnomah County Cultural Coalition, Umpqua Bank, the Native American Student and Community Center and United Indian Students in Higher Education at Portland State University, Wisdom of the Elders, Inc., the Mark Spencer Hotel, and others.

Call Elaine at NISA (503) 777-7140
liasion@wisdomoftheelders.org
www.turtleislandstorytellers.net



Portland Area Tribal Office Classes

■ GED Tutoring offered every Thursday
— 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. —

RESCHEDULED

Portland Satellite Office Bake Sale

& Native American Arts Day

Friday, January 20, 2006 — 2-8 p.m.

For more information, call
Lisa Archuleta at 503-235-4230.

All classes held at the Portland Area Tribal offices,
3312 S.W. Kelly Ave., Portland, Oregon.
Call 503-235-4230 or 1-800-422-0232 ext. 2282.

Election Board Alternate Vacancy

The Election Board is seeking a Tribal member to fill a vacant alternate position on the Election Board for a term expiring in April of 2007. Alternates are appointed by Tribal Council and serve in lieu of board members who are disqualified from serving or unable to serve in an election. Alternates may also observe election functions and perform incidental tasks at the request of the board. If you are interested in being an alternate and you or an immediate family member are not planning on being a candidate in the 2006 Tribal Council Election, please send a letter of interest to Claudia Leno, Election Board Chair, P.O. Box 99, Grand Ronde, OR 97347, by January 15, 2006.

Health Awareness Day

January 5, 2006

12-1 p.m.
All Tribal Employees
Nike representative presenting
at the Governance Center
Lunch Provided

4-5 p.m.
Youth 11-18 Years Old
Nike representative presenting
at the Health & Wellness Center

5:30-6:30 p.m.
All Community Members Welcome
Nike representative presenting
at the Tribal Gymnasium
Dinner Provided



Social Services, Health & Wellness, and Housing will be sponsoring a Health Awareness Day on the first Thursday of every month.

Family Fitness will be the topic for January.

Please contact Haanah Mike at 503-879-2038 for more information.