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Gorge Future Forum — pg. 3

Smoke Signals

A Publication of the Grand Ronde Tribe

NOVEMBER 15, 2007

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UMPQUA ■ MOLALLA ■ ROGUE RIVER ■ KALAPUYA ■ CHASTA

Restoration celebration set for Nov. 18

Event to honor 24th anniversary of Tribe regaining federal recognition



Photo by Toby McClary

Tribal Elder Dakota Whitecloud is co-planning this year's Restoration celebration, scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 18.

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

Nov. 22 — Thanksgiving Day — will mark the 24th anniversary of President Ronald Reagan signing HR 3885 and restoring the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde to federal recognition.

Four days earlier, the Tribe will celebrate that historic event and give its own thanks for the effort of Tribal ancestors in seeing Restoration through to fruition.

"Honoring our ancestors, that's what's important," said Tribal Elder Dakota Whitecloud, who, with Tribal Elder Jackie Provost, is co-planning this year's Restoration celebration, scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 18.

"It's about remembering the people who helped us get here."

As volunteers, Whitecloud and Provost have planned the last four

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Restoration celebrations.

The day will start at the Community Center from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. with food and fun, including gifts for Elders. Spirit Mountain Casino has provided the gifts in recent years.

Starting at 3 p.m., the pow-wow will begin in the gym, with Grand Entry scheduled near the start, maybe 3:30 p.m., Whitecloud said.

Although there is no host drum, all Tribal dancers and drummers are welcome. The Grand Ronde Color Guard and Royalty will be in attendance.

Matt Ruff (Siletz), son-in-law of Wayne Chulik (Tlinget), a member of the Grand Ronde Color Guard, will

be master of ceremonies. Introductions and remembrances will touch on Tribal members lost during the last year and those who helped with the Restoration effort.

Spirit Mountain Casino's graphics arts staff provided fliers for this year's event, and the celebration will again use a giant banner that the casino's graphic artists created four years ago, Whitecloud said.

The Tribe's federal recognition ended on Aug. 13, 1954, with passage of the Western Oregon Indian Termination Act.

In the early 1970s, Grand Ronde Tribal members started working on restoring the Tribe to federal recognition. After more than a decade of hard work, Tribal members succeeded in late 1983 when Reagan signed a bill restoring the Tribe and its then 2,200 members. ■

Getting ahead of the curve

15 students add up to full math class

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

Standard deviation?

Bell curves?!

Z-scores?!!

For many people, enrolling in a math class after they graduate from high school just doesn't add up.

But for 15 students, including eight Tribal members and four Tribal employees, John Harp's Tuesday night 3.5-hour "Math 105" class doesn't subtract from the enjoyment of their week.

Harp, who has a master's degree in mathematics and taught math for 10 years at Chemeketa Community College in Salem, said the four-credit Math 105 class is the last graduation-required math course for students not pursuing a science-related degree.

"This is not a feeder course for higher level classes," Harp, who is also the Tribe's Continuing Education Program coordinator, said.

"This is their last or next to last math class."

Recently, Math 105 students were delving into the world of statistics. Students also will learn about probability, environmental science and financial mathematics.

Every term, five or six classes are offered in Grand Ronde, but a minimum of 12 students is required for the class to be financially feasible for Chemeketa. This term, only the Math 105 and Native language Chinuk Wawa

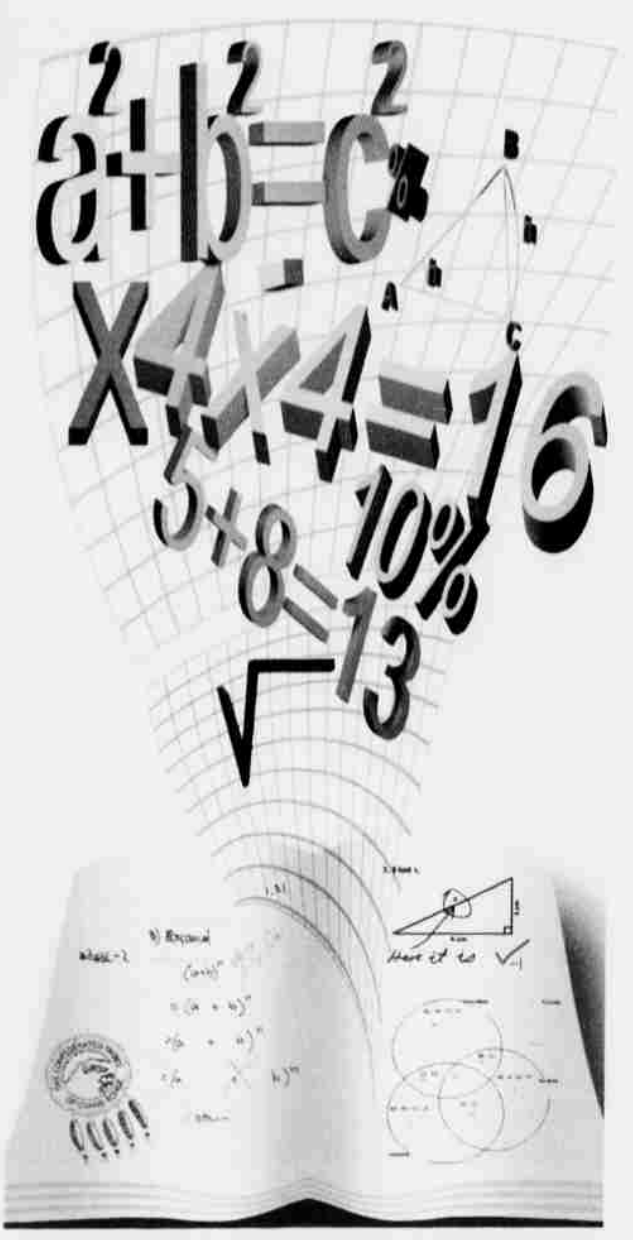


Illustration by George Valdez

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Knight picked for fellowship

Grand Ronde Tribal member heads to Washington, D.C.

By Angie Sears

Smoke Signals staff writer

Grand Ronde Tribal member Rebecca Knight has been selected as the 2007-08 Hatfield Fellow.

Knight, 22, is the ninth Fellow and fifth Grand Ronde Tribal member to enter in the program. She will begin her fellowship in Congresswoman Darlene Hooley's office in December following a monthlong orientation conducted by the American Political Science Association at John Hopkins University's Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies.

Hooley, a Democrat, represents Oregon's 5th Congressional District, which includes Benton, Clackamas, Lincoln, Marion, Multnomah, Polk and Tillamook counties.

The Fellowship will provide hands-on experience for Knight as she gains a better understanding of the legislative process by working side-by-side with congressional

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