

Contest Powwow to be held Aug. 15-17



Photo by Dean Rhodes

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

The Grand Ronde Tribe's first Contest Powwow to be held at the new powwow grounds on the east side of state Highway 22, one mile north of Highway 18, will be held Friday through Sunday, Aug. 15-17.

The powwow also will be filmed by a Travel Europe crew for the 15-part series "Oregon Uncovered," set to be broadcast in January in several western European countries.

Powwow host drums will include Black Lodge from Washington state and Perfect Storm and Red Bull, both from Canada.

Specials will feature a \$800 first-place prizes for Women's Traditional and Men's Traditional dances.

Jerry Meninick (Yakama) will be the master of ceremonies and head judge will be Patricia Ike (Yakama). Arena director will be Freddie Ike Jr. (Yakama/Rock Creek Wasco).

Registration begins at 5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 15, followed by Grand Entry and Royalty Coronation at 7 p.m.

On Saturday, Aug. 16, the schedule includes Parade and cash prizes

at 10 a.m., Grand Entry at 1 p.m., dancer registration deadline at 2 p.m. and Grand Entry at 7 p.m.

On Sunday, Aug. 17, Grand Entry is scheduled for 1 p.m.

Free camping is available at the new powwow grounds and a \$1 and/or canned food donation is requested for parking.

No canopies or umbrellas are permitted in the area. Also, pets, drugs and alcohol are not permitted.

A shuttle will be available from Spirit Mountain Casino to the new powwow grounds for those staying at the Lodge.

The public, as well as all dancers and drummers, are welcome.

The Travel Europe film crew is scheduled to arrive in Grand Ronde on Friday, Aug. 15, and film that day and Saturday, Aug. 16.

Among their film segments will be meeting Tribal Elder and former Tribal Chairwoman Kathryn Harrison at the Tribal Cemetery, filming current Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy at the Governance Center, Grand Entry on Saturday and a traditional salmon bake at Natural Resources. ■

Tribal member Peter Nelson danced at the 2007 Contest Powwow. Nelson was among more than 30 Grand Ronde Tribal members who participated last year.

Tribe helps create display

Unveiling slated for Aug. 13 of new interpretive site at Mill Creek

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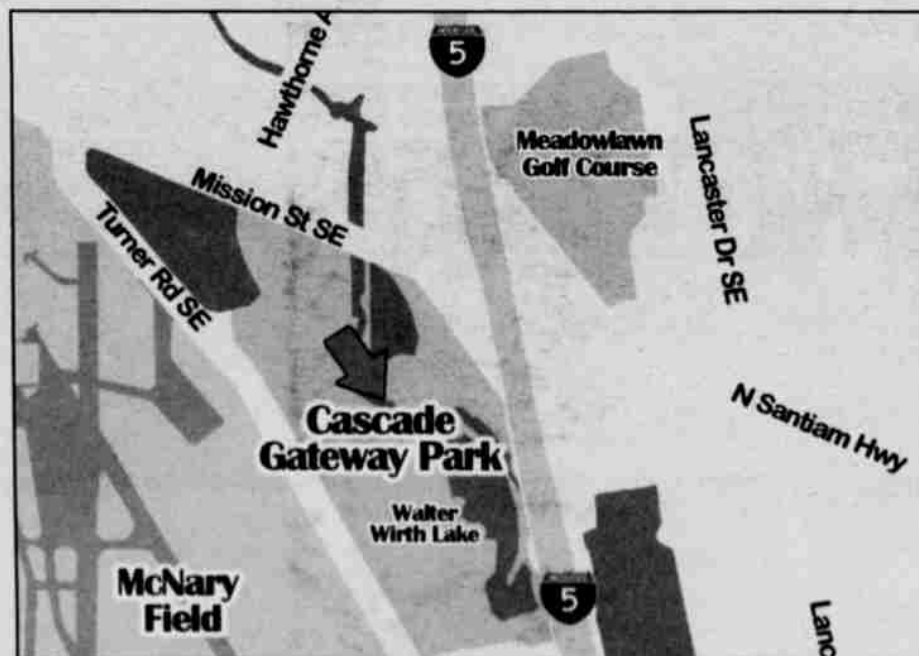
An interpretive display discussing the Kalapuya people and created in collaboration with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde will be unveiled at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 13.

In addition to discussing the Kalapuyans, the display at Cascades Gateway Park explains the historical significance of Mill Creek, describes the traditional process of baking camas and provides information on the results of archaeological field work conducted along Mill Creek and Interstate 5 between 1997 and 2003.

The display is a collaboration between the Tribe, city of Salem, Oregon State Museum of Anthropology and the state Department of Transportation.

Tribal Cultural Resources Department employees Khani Schultz, Lindy Trolan and Don Day were involved in reviewing the interpretive panels and excavations at the site.

"Cultural Resources was very proactive in this project, as it is central to the Santiam homelands," said Tribal Cultural Resources Manager David Lewis, "and was able to convey the Tribal



Map created by George Valdez

members' feelings that something should be done to bring Tribal members into the process of destroying part of this huge village complex."

The display's entry regarding the Kalapuyan people explains that Chief Alquema also was known as Joseph Hutchins and Hudson. He signed the Willamette Valley Treaty for the Santiam band of Calapooia in 1855.

"The people of the Willamette Valley were the Kalapuya," the

display says, "a name that refers to a family of languages not a single tribe. There were three different Kalapuya languages, and a dozen or more dialects, which shows there were many separate Kalapuya bands.

"Each lived in a different river basin, and some of the valley's rivers bear the names of the bands that once lived there: Santiam, Luckiamute, Tualatin, Yamhill, and Calapooia, among others. Today,

most Kalapuya descendants are members of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon."

The display also explains the traditional baking of camas, a spring-blooming lily with an edible starchy bulb, and uses Tribal photos to explain the process.

The display, in addition, explains that the Native cultural record along Mill Creek dates to at least 6,000 years ago, beginning about when Mill Creek became established on its present course.

"Between about 6,000 and 2,500 years ago, people came to the area in the spring and summer to harvest camas, and in the fall to collect acorns and hazelnuts," the display says.

For 2,300 years, from 2,500 to 200 years ago, Native peoples built permanent homes along Mill Creek, leaving behind arrowheads and other stone tools, stone bowls and hammers, and other artifacts.

Recent changes to the Interstate 5 freeway required a series of archaeological studies along Mill Creek between 1997 and 2003, which helped assist in preserving some of the Native American history it contained. ■