

State heritage award
honors Tribe — pg. 5



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Smoke Signals

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UMPQUA ■ MOLALLA ■ ROGUE RIVER ■ KALAPUYA ■ CHASTA

Seeking stimulus

Membership learns how federal funds could help the Tribe

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

Tribal Planning and Grants Manager Kim Rogers gave a PowerPoint presentation describing Tribal efforts to secure federal stimulus dollars as they become available at the April 5 General Council meeting held at the Tribal Community Center in Grand Ronde.

Rogers said that Tribal Council priorities included six building projects, six road projects and seven infrastructure projects. (See sidebar on page 3)

All, as required by the American Recovery Reinvestment Act — the federal stimulus package — are shovel ready and can be completed by 2010.

This potential windfall was made

possible, said Tribal Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy, because Native Americans across the country pulled together.

"The Tribes were not included to participate" initially, Kennedy said of the stimulus package. "It took considerable lobbying and Tribes coming forward from across the country."

Now included, Tribes see funding

coming "mostly through existing programs," Rogers said. Some are allocated by formula. Some are competitions against other Tribes or local governments. And while most are grants, loan programs also are available as part of the stimulus, Rogers said.

See MEETING
continued on page 3



Above, being held by his grandmother Liz Leno, Tribal member Bryson Leno, 2, takes a piece of candy from the Easter Bunny, played Tribal Council member Steve Bobb Sr., during the Easter Egg Hunt at Tribal family housing on Saturday, April, 11.



At left, Tribal descendant Bonnie Baker, 10 months, enjoys a Kit Kat after her first Easter Egg Hunt. Right, children collect eggs.

Photos by Michelle Alaimo
Graphic created by George Valdez



New voter signatures needed

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

Grand Ronde voters soon will be receiving new signature verification forms in the mail as the Election Board starts the process of following a new Election Ordinance amendment.

The new Election Ordinance amendment adopted by Tribal Council requires mailing of a new signature verification form to each voter "who has a signature verification form on file with the Board which is five years old or more in order to obtain an updated signature."

The form must be signed and requires voters have it notarized or that they provide a legible copy of a valid Tribal identification card, driver's license, state-issued identification card or passport that bears the voter's signature.

The signature verification form also gives voters the option of opting out of having their name, city and state listed on the voters list provided to Tribal Council candidates, as well as having their complete address provided to a mailing service that Tribal Council candidates can use to send out campaign material.

Unlike previous years, the Election Board will distribute a copy of the voters list and official campaign mailing instructions to all Tribal Council candidates at the June meeting at which nominations are accepted.

Voters must have a signature verification form on file to receive an absentee ballot. ■