



**2004** — A double move saw the Tribe's Cultural Resources Department move to the Education Building and the Wellness Department move to the Community Center offices previously occupied by Cultural Resources. "Some of the staff for Culture's language division were already in the Education Building," Tribal General Manager Cliff Adams said. "We wanted to put the group back together."

**1999** — The three-day second annual Chinook Jargon Conference was held in Grand Ronde. Drawing an even distribution of Tribal members and outside academics, the conference explored the language from many perspectives. Tribal members attending included 6-year-old Kim Contreras and Tribal Chairwoman Kathryn Harrison.

**1994** — Kristen Wheeler was crowned Miss Grand Ronde for 1994-95 while Amanda Mercier was crowned Tiny Miss Grand Ronde during the Grand Ronde Powwow.

**1989** — Royalty Court candidates included Jolene Poole, Stephanie Mercier, Tara Leno, Molly Rimer and E'Lisha Lane.

**1984** — The Health Committee discussed an upcoming health needs assessment survey and an announcement was made that the Grand Ronde Community Restoration Celebration Powwow was scheduled for Oct. 6 at a location to be announced.

*Yesteryears is a look back at Tribal history in five-year increments through the pages of Smoke Signals.*

## Cultural Resources seeks plankhouse giveaway items

In anticipation of an early fall opening of the Grand Ronde plankhouse, the Tribe's Cultural Resources Department is seeking donations of giveaway items for the planned blessing ceremony.

Giveaway items can be about almost anything, including beads and blankets, but not alcohol or drugs.

The items are intended to recognize people from outside the Grand Ronde community who will come for the blessing ceremony.

"By having people from outside the community, they are helping to strengthen our house," said Tribal member and Cultural Resources Protection Coordinator Eirik Thorsgard.

Giveaway items can be dropped off at the Cultural Resources Department in Grand Ronde or at the Tribal satellite offices in Eugene and Portland.

For more information or to check on the appropriateness of possible giveaway items, call Thorsgard at 503-879-1630 or Language & Culture Specialist Bobby Mercier at 503-879-2076.

An article on proper plankhouse protocol written by Cultural Resources Department staff will appear in *Smoke Signals* closer to the blessing ceremony. ■

## Transportation to Grand Ronde

The Portland satellite office has a transportation day to Grand Ronde once a month for medical or dental appointments or enrollment cards. A minimum of three people must sign up. Call Lisa at 503-235-4230. You must be an enrolled Grand Ronde Tribal member.

The vehicle will leave the Portland office at 8 a.m.

Please call in advance for the scheduled monthly date. ■

## CULTURAL GATHERINGS

- SEPT. 3-7: **SPOKANE TRIBAL LABOR DAY CELEBRATION.** Wellpinit Powwow Grounds, BIA Highway 183. **WELLPINIT, WA.** 509-258-7205.
- SEPT. 11-13: **END OF SUMMER ENCAMPMENT AT EAGLE CREEK.** 32131 S.E. Wildcat Mountain Drive. **EAGLE CREEK, OR.** 503-637-3296.
- SEPT. 19-20: **AGNESS ILLAHE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE.** Foster Bar Campground and Boating Facility. **AGNESS, OR.** 541-439-4285 or belvabell@hotmail.com.
- SEPT. 25: **4TH ANNUAL DANCING IN THE SQUARE POWWOW.** Pioneer Courthouse Square, S.W. Broadway & S.W. Yamhill. **PORTLAND, OR.** 503-228-4185.
- OCT. 16-17: **GIVING BACK TO THE CIRCLE ANNIVERSARY POWWOW.** Arlee Powwow Grounds, Powwow Road. **ARLEE, MT.** 406-781-5470 or i-candace@hotmail.com.

If you or anyone you know has information on cultural events happening, *Smoke Signals* would be glad to list it in our Cultural Gatherings. Please e-mail [news@grandronde.org](mailto:news@grandronde.org) or write to *Smoke Signals*, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347.

## Tribe giving away leftover wood

The Tribe has leftover wood available from the construction of the new Tribal plankhouse, according to Tribal Director of Development Peter Wakeland.

Most of the pieces are butt ends of logs varying in length and diameter, and have been de-barked.

The wood is suitable for crafts and carving, as well as firewood.

The Tribe will make the wood available to interested Tribal members at no cost beginning Monday, Aug. 31. Operation of chainsaws on the plankhouse site will be restricted according to the fire precaution level set by the Tribe and the state.

For more information, contact the Tribe's Natural Resources Department at 503-879-2376. ■

## Tribe hosting self-governance session

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde will host a national Self-Governance Strategy Session at Spirit Mountain Casino on Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 9-10.

About 225 representatives from national Native groups and Tribes are expected to attend.

"We are delighted and proud to be the host for this national event," said Tribal Grants Developer Robert McElderry. "Native representatives from coast to coast and border to border, including Alaska, will be in attendance for this planning and strategy session on Tribal self-governance."

"As the host Tribe, and representative of the Northwest, we want to demonstrate Grand Ronde hospitality and achievements."

McElderry said the casino is planning special events for the attendees, including a tour of the Governance Center and reservation. Cultural Resources and Education staff members will participate in the welcoming ceremony. ■

## Fundraiser benefits Resource Center

A fundraising dinner and auction will benefit the Grand Ronde Community Resource Center starting at 5 p.m. Friday, Sept. 18.

Events will begin in the Tribal Community Center at 5 p.m. with viewing of auction items followed by dinner at 6 and the auction at 7.

Auction items will include weekend getaways, Native American artwork, gift baskets, handcrafted quilts, tickets to a Seattle Seahawks football game and other items.

Proceeds will support the Grand Ronde Food Bank, Community Garden Project, Senior and Disabled Meals on Wheels, canning and nutrition classes, and other services provided by the Resource Center.

Cost is \$12.50. To order tickets, contact Patrice at 503-879-5731 or [GR-CRC@hotmail.com](mailto:GR-CRC@hotmail.com). ■

## Youth Canoe Club

Every Wednesday 4- 5 p.m.  
Youth Education Building

Contact Lisa Leno at 503-879-1471 or Travis Mercier at 503-879-2143 for more information.

Available Now!

\$5.00

Available at the reception desk in the Governance Building

9615 Grand Ronde Road  
Grand Ronde, OR 97347

postage and handling extra

503-879-5911