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UMPQUA ■ MOLALLA ■ ROGUE RIVER ■ KALAPUYA ■ CHASTA

Tribal member Clint Folden saddles up

New club aims to give youth a good way to horse around

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

Tribal member Clint Folden is starting a local Saddle Club that will turn his horses into service animals for the community.

"I'm trying to develop a program to address problems in the community," Folden said at a recent Elders luncheon as he enlisted the support of Tribal Elders in his plan. "I want to get kids plugged into a sober activity where they feel like they're doing something."

Folden currently boards seven horses, some donated, some his own for many years, across the bridge to the right of the Thompson house where the Grand Ronde Community Resource Center had, until last month, been located.

His plan is to offer several tiers of opportunity

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Tribal member Clint Folden helps Tribal member Kaylene Barry, 10, onto Mo, a Mustang, so she can ride him on Saturday, April 10.



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

BUNNYSTIOR



Under the cover of her umbrella, Tribal member Iyana Holmes puts away eggs that she collected in a bag during the 2010 Easter Egg Hunt at Tribal family housing on Saturday, April 3, in Grand Ronde.



Tribal member
Sydney West
helps her
daughter,
Tribal member
McKenzie West,
5, spell Easter
as she writes
"Happy Easter"
with chalk.

Tribal
descendant
Emily Anderson,
2, helps herself
to the Easter
Bunny's basket
of candy. Tribal
Council member
Steve Bobb
Sr. played the
Easter Bunny.



Passing of Wilma Mankiller stirs memories among Tribal members

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

ribal Elder Beryle Contreras and her five children stood with Wilma Mankiller (Cherokee) and her family, and with hundreds, ultimately thousands, in 1969 during the American Indian takeover of the island housing the abandoned federal prison known as Alcatraz in San Francisco Bay.

The 19 months that followed were among the great moments of American Indian resistance, ultimately leading to the repeal of the 1954 federal Termination policy.

It also was the time and place where Contreras began what is now more the memory of a friend than of the Cherokee icon of national Indian independent thought and action that Mankiller has become to her people, to Indian Country and beyond.

Mankiller, the first woman to serve as chief of the Cherokee Nation, succumbed to pancreatic cancer on Tuesday, April 6, at her home near Tahlequah, Okla. She was 64.

Here in Grand Ronde, as at Indian Nations across the country, the memories of Mankiller, and thanks for the contributions she made, are in the thoughts and prayers of many.

Tribal Elder and former Tribal Chairwoman Kathryn Harrison remembers inviting Mankiller to speak to an Indian Health Conference when Harrison was still on Tribal Council.

"She had just had a kidney transplant," Harrison said. "She spoke about the importance of Indian women taking care of themselves."

"I admired her strength," said Harrison. "Even though she was always in ill-health, she still had strength to

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