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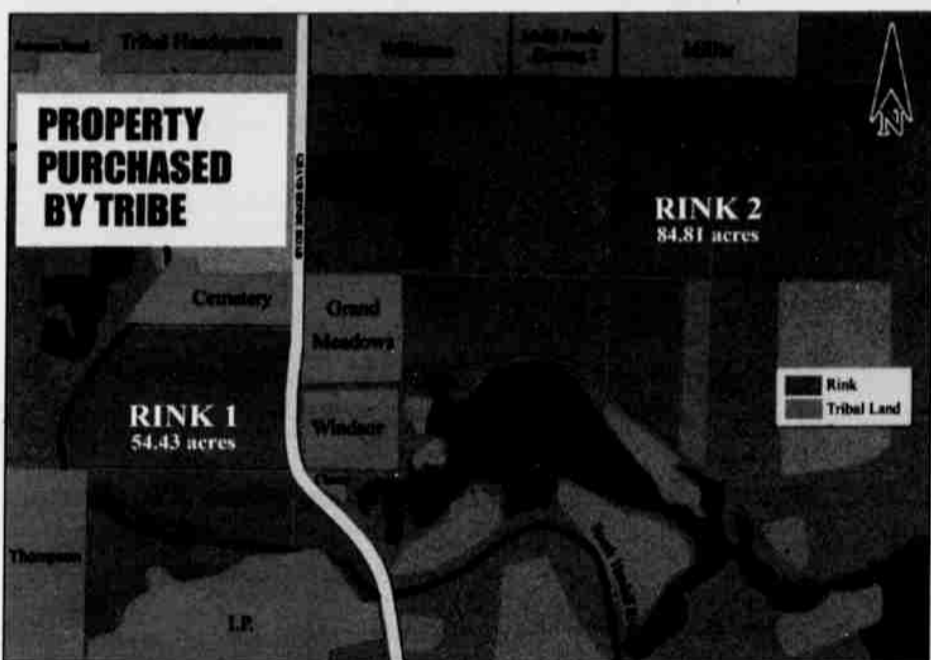
Smoke Signals

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UMPQUA ■ MOLALLA ■ ROGUE RIVER ■ KALAPUYA ■ CHASTA

Tribe buys 139 acres of original reservation



Map created by George Valdez

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde has regained ownership of more than 139 acres of the original reservation by purchasing eight tax lots owned by the Rink family.

“This is a big one,” said Tribal member and Tribal Lands Manager Jan Michael Reibach. “The Rink family purchased this property after the Termination of the Tribe and now the Tribe has purchased it back.”

The purchase, which closed Feb. 28, was the culmination of a dozen years of discussions between the Tribe and Rink family, Reibach said.

“The Tribe tries to maintain a focus of acquiring land at a good,

fair market value price,” Reibach said. “In the end, the Rink family was very gracious and fair to the Tribe.”

The properties are just south of the Tribal Cemetery on the west side of Grand Ronde Road and immediately east and northeast of the Grand Meadows development on the east side of Grand Ronde Road.

Reibach said the Tribe has already executed a 2011 hay license agreement on more than 80 acres of the property to the east of Grand Ronde Road and is receiving rent from the existing tenant of a house located on the property immediately south of the Tribal Cemetery

See RESERVATION continued on page 3

Greene card

Tribal Elder recalls life full of taking care of people

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

These days, Tribal Elder Dorothy “Dottie” Greene, 92, has the color of spring about her. She talks about her “Honeybun,” an admirer from McMinnville.

“He’s the best thing to come into my life,” Dottie says in her living room in the Tribal Elder Housing development.

They were on the phone the night before, and Dottie said, “I told him everything I did (during the day) and he told me everything that he did. He trusts me and I trust him. And he can because I wouldn’t do anything in the world to hurt him.”

“I feel like I’m very fortunate that I’m the one he chose.

“Sometimes I’m feeling sad about things, and he can get me to laughing.” Like the one about the frog legs. “He’s really good to be around.”

It wasn’t always that way for Dottie.

See ELDER FEATURE continued on pages 8-9



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal Elder Dorothy “Dottie” Greene, 92, is seen in her home in Tribal Elder Housing in Grand Ronde on Monday, March 14.