



Photos by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal member CeCe Kneeland dances in traditional regalia during an intertribal dance of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde 2011 Contest Powwow at Uyxat Powwow Grounds on Saturday, Aug. 20.

'This brings back all my dad's stories about living here'

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ciation of the Northwest sponsored a tent hosting AA and NA meetings during the powwow.

The Indian Child Welfare program staffed a booth, as did B Beautiful Children's Foundation for Ethnic Hair and Skin.

Charlene McManis, the only Grand Ronde Tribal member living in Vermont, returned to where her father, former Tribal Elder Charles Sid Willing, grew up.

"This brings back all my dad's stories about living here," she said.

McManis was born in Grand Ronde, but moved to Los Angeles when federal funding became avail-

able in the 1950s for Tribal members mainstreaming in the cities.

"At the old age of 57," she said, she just earned her bachelor's degree in Cultural Studies from Union Institute in Montpelier, Vt. "I'm so proud of myself after all these years."

In the interim, however, McManis has been busy. She drew a comic strip, "Umpqua County," that ran in Indian Country Today and currently serves on the Vermont Commission on Native American Affairs.

Tribal Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy honored her aunt, Tribal Elder Nora Kimsey, who is 102, as she does every year. Kimsey is the oldest living Grand Ronde Tribal member.

Tribal Vice Chairman Reyn Leno honored Steve Bobb Sr., also a member of the Tribal Council, who has been ill of late battling leukemia. He also honored the late Sen. Mark Hatfield, longtime friend of the Tribe, who walked on Aug. 7.

Tribal member Anthony Cook won a 19-inch flat screen television with a built-in DVD for selling the most raffle tickets — 290, said his mother, Tammy Cook.

"I told Tom last night, I don't feel like it's been 50 years," said Charlene LaChance, wife of Tribal Elder Tom LaChance. Daughter

Toni LaChance-Stahl, also a Tribal member, planned their 50th wedding anniversary party at the Tribal Community Center on Saturday, the day after their actual wedding date.

The lasagna was top-notch, and Tom said he felt "the same as the first day I was married."

On Sunday, Tribal Elder Sharon Herron married Larry Wattier in a traditional ceremony in front of Tribal member Deitz Peters' tipi.

"We wanted our moms to be there," said Herron, noting that both are growing frail. Herron also spoke of "our love for each other" and her thanks to "a lot of people. We pulled this off without a hitch."

Juan Paul Landazuri and family from Costa Rica stopped by on Sunday.

"Very distinctive," he said in Spanish. "It's quite a surprise to know that this still happens in the U.S. I wasn't expecting this. I love the clothes, the regalia and the dancing." They bought a dream-catcher and a drum to take home.

This year's Color Guard had Wayne Chulik (Tlinget) carrying



Junior Veterans Queen Isabelle Grout dances during an intertribal dance of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde 2011 Contest Powwow at Uyxat Powwow Grounds on Saturday, Aug. 20.

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