

# Grand Ronde hosting Indian education event

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde will host the Oregon Indian Education Association conference slated for Monday and Tuesday, April 2-3, at the Tribal Education Center and gymnasium.

The 37th annual conference, "Dig Deep: Revitalizing American Indian & Alaska Native Education," will include breakout sessions, as well as such housekeeping requirements as elections, resolutions, by-laws, budget and awards.

"These conference sessions include issues specific to education legislation, curriculum development and student support services," said Tribal member and Tribal Education Department Manager April Campbell. "Participants will choose among 40 presentations addressing issues facing Indian education today."

Breakout sessions for the two-day conference include:

- The Governor's "Oregon Learns" Education Compacts: Hope or Panacea for Indian Education? (Room 126A).
- Nixyaawii Community School: A Charter School on the Umatilla Reservation (Room 126B).
- Indian Mascots in Oregon, Part I: FAQ's and Summary of Research (gym).
- Stepping Out of "No Child Left Behind": Oregon's Next Generation of Educational Accountability (Room 126A).
- Healing Feathers Suicide Awareness & Wellness Project (Room 126B).
- Indian Mascots in Oregon, Part II: Neutralizing Pushback & Public Comments (gym).
- Changes in Federal & State Financial Aid and Advocating for Aid (Room 126A).
- The Need and Relevance of a Science Education for Native Youth (Room 126B).

- Feeding the Pipeline: Bridge of the Gods Summer Academy (gym).
- Preparing Native American Students with Disabilities for Transition After High School (Room 124).
- Oregon College Access Network; What Can This New Organization Do for You and Your Students? (Room 126A).
- Compassionate Classrooms (Room 126B).
- Developing Curriculum that Honors Tribal Legacies (gym).
- Student-led Indigenous Language Revitalization Initiative at Portland State University (Room 124).
- Beyond the Oregon Trail: Oregon's Untold History (Room 126A).
- Violence Prevention and Self-Esteem Support (Room 126B).
- Salmon is Everything Part I (gym).
- Gates Millennium Scholarship

Workshop (Room 124).

- IEP 101, How to Be an Advocate for Students Served by Special Education (Room 126A).
- The Big Picture is Amazing/Rekindling the Fire (Room 126B).
- Salmon is Everything Part II (gym).

"Join us on the final day," said Campbell, "as OIEA announces the results of their award nomination to select an Outstanding Indian Educator of the Year, Parent of the Year, Elder of the Year, Higher Education Student of the Year, Teacher of the Year, Student of the Year and Volunteer of the Year."

"For those interested in learning more about Indian Education, I encourage you to participate in the conference. The registration cost is minimal and attendees can register on site."

Further information can be found at the OIEA Web site: [www.oiea.org](http://www.oiea.org). ■

## First Foods Celebration set

The annual First Foods Celebration, organized by the Tribe's Culture Committee, will be held 10 a.m. Sunday, April 22, in the Tribal Community Center.

More information will appear in the April 15 *Smoke Signals*. ■

## ICW slates Fun Walk & Lunch

The Tribe's Indian Child Welfare Program is holding a Fun Walk & Lunch beginning at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 7, to be followed by an 11:30 a.m. lunch in the Tribal gym.

The Fun Walk will start in the parking lot next to the Community Center and end at the Tribal gym. T-shirts will be distributed to everyone who participates in the walk.

During lunch, there will be door prizes and informational booths.

Lunch will be followed by a showing of the Easter-themed movie "Hop."

The event is being held in conjunction with Support Child Abuse Prevention Month.

For more information, contact Tribal Foster Care Recruitment Specialist Amanda Mercier at 503-879-2039 or [Amanda.mercier@grandronde.org](mailto:Amanda.mercier@grandronde.org). ■

## Committee & Special Event Board meeting days and times

Below is the most current information on the meeting days and times for Tribal Committees and Special Event Boards:

- **Ceremonial Hunt Board** meets as needed. Chair: Shonn Leno.
- **Cultural Trust Board** meets at 4 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in Modular No. 2. Chair: Perri McDaniel.
- **Culture Committee** meets at 1 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month in Modular No. 3. Chair: TBD.
- **Education Committee** meets at 5:15 p.m. on the first Monday of the month in the Adult Education Building. Chair: Jon George.
- **Elders' Committee** meets at 10 a.m. the third Wednesday of the month in the Elders' Activity Center. Chair: Gladys Hobbs.
- **Enrollment Committee** meets quarterly in Room 204 of the Governance Building. Acting Chair: Robert Schmid.
- **Fish & Wildlife Committee** meets at 5:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at the Natural Resources Building. Chair: Harold Lyon.
- **Health Committee** meets at 10 a.m. the second Wednesday of the month in the Tribal Wellness Center. Acting Chair: Patti Tom-Martin.
- **Powwow Special Event Board** meets at 5 p.m. the first Thursday of the month at the Tribal Community Center. Chair: Dana Ainam.
- **Rodeo Special Event Board** meets at 6 p.m. the first Thursday of the month at the Tribal Rodeo Office. Chair: Harold Lyon.
- **Social Services Committee** meets at 4 p.m. the second Monday of the month in the Social Services Conference Room. Chair: Jenny Sanchez.
- **Timber Committee** meets at 5 p.m. the second Thursday of the month at the Natural Resources Building. Chair: Bob Mercier.
- **Veterans Special Event Board** meets at 4 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month in the Tribal Community Center. Chair: Dakota Whitecloud.

## Nutrition class offered in Eugene

The Tribe's Eugene satellite office has been offered a seven-week series focusing on nutrition on a budget to be held at the Oregon State University Land Extension Services office, 783 Grant St., Eugene.

During the class, participants will learn about each food group and some healthy family meals. They also will sample recipes and receive a small gift at the end of each class.

Children are welcome.

Contact Amber Castle at the Eugene office at 541-484-7085 or [amber.castle@grandronde.org](mailto:amber.castle@grandronde.org). Five participants are required to start the class and days and times depend on participants. ■

## Chinuk Wawa classes offered

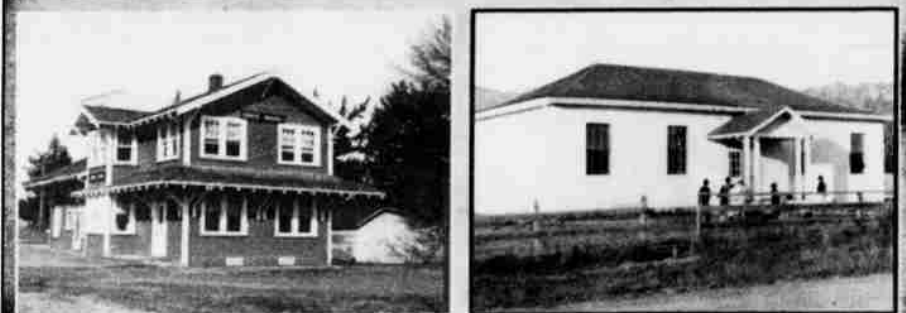
The Tribe's Cultural Education Department offers adult Chinuk Wawa language classes from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Monday and Wednesday in Room 207 of the Tribal Education Building.

Language classes can be taken for college credit or for fun.

For more information, call 503-879-2249 or 503-437-4599. ■

## Historic Building Information

# WANTED



**WHERE:** Grand Ronde, OR.

**Specifically the Depot and Old School**

**WHAT:** Community uses, family memories, significant events and photos

**HOW:** Contact:

**David Harrelson**

**Cultural Protection Specialist**

**Cultural Resources Department**

**Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde**

**503-879-2320**

**[David.Harrelson@grandronde.org](mailto:David.Harrelson@grandronde.org)**