

## Royalty holding Christmas Raffle

Grand Ronde Royalty girls are selling raffle tickets during the month of November to raise money to attend a powwow in Washington state next summer.

Prizes will include Pendleton items, jewelry, Christmas baskets and more.

Winners will be announced on Sunday, Dec. 2, at the Tribal Council Christmas Party. People do not have to be present to win.

Tickets, at \$1 for one or \$5 for six, can be purchased from Royalty queens and princesses — Kiana Leno, Kailiyah Krehbiel, Kaleigha Simi, Iyana Holmes, Elizabeth Watson-Croy, Makenzie Aaron, Madison Ross and Amelia and Amaryssa Mooney.

For more information or to contact one of the girls, contact Halona Butler at 503-580-9865. ■

# Volunteers make Restoration happen

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ter of ceremony and Deitrich Peters will be serving as Arena Director. Host drums include Johanaaiee, Geary Villa, West Coast Boyz, The Woodsmen and All Nations.

A light box supper also will be provided before the celebration ends.

A host of volunteers will make all this happen: Elders Bob and Julie Duncan, Sam Dala, Darlene Jones, Gladys Hobbs, Violet Folden, Darlene Aaron, Dee Anna Chamberlain, Claudia Leno, Kathryn Harrison, Linda LaChance, Louise Coulson, Georgene Gray and Val Grout all are pitching in. Lisa Archuleta and Jon A. George also are helping.

Special thanks go to Tribal Council, Spirit Mountain Casino, Nick Sixkiller, Deitrich Peters, Kendra Kurst, Kristen Ravia, Michelle Alaimo, George Valdez, Chelsea Clark, Kristy DeLoe and the Wellness staff, Jolanda Catabay, the

Grand Ronde Tribal Honor Guard, Natural Resources Committee, Facilities and Maintenance crews and the Culture Committee, whose help has been indispensable, said Public Affairs Director Siobhan Taylor, who is helping organize the event.

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, which was terminated in 1954 as a federally recognized Tribe by the Western Oregon Indian Termination Act, was restored to federal recognition on Nov. 22, 1983, when Reagan signed the Grand Ronde Restoration Act.

Reagan's signature occurred after almost a decade of Grand Ronde Tribal members working diligently to restore the Tribe. Tribal Elders Margaret Provost and Marvin Kimsey and the late Merle Holmes are credited with getting the ball rolling, but contributions from many Tribal members aided in the eventual restoration of the Tribe.

Nov. 22 has been called by current Tribal Council member Steve Bobb Sr. "the most important day in Grand Ronde Tribal history." ■

## Adult Foster Program

"A Place To Call Home"



The Tribe's Adult Foster Care lodges are committed to offering quality care to our Elders and helping them remain as independent as possible, while providing the personalized assistance they need. At our lodges, a wide range of services is available in a comfortable setting where privacy is respected and maximum independence is supported. For information, contact the Adult Foster Program Director Kari Culp at 503-879-1694. ■



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Tom Finegan, left, district conservationist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service, talks with Zach Haas, middle, a senior forester for the Tribe, and Michael Wilson, Tribal Natural Resources Department manager, during the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts awards banquet held at the Valley River Inn in Eugene on Thursday, Nov. 8. During the banquet, Natural Resources received the 2012 Cooperator of the Year for large acreage award. In August, the department was named the 2012 Polk County Large Conservationist of the Year by the Polk Soil and Water Conservation District, which made them nominees for the state award. Finegan originally nominated them for the county award.

## Natural Resources wins statewide award

By Dean Rhodes  
*Smoke Signals editor*

The Tribe's Natural Resources Department is on a winning streak.

After being named the 2012 Polk County Large Conservationist of the Year award winner on Aug. 23 by the Polk Soil and Water Conservation District, the department was nominated for an award at the state level.

On Nov. 2, Natural Resources Department Manager Michael Wilson was notified that his department was named 2012 Cooperator of the Year by the 46-member Oregon Association of Conservation Districts.

Wilson, Tribal Senior Forester Zach Haas and Tribal Council member Jon A. George accepted the award on Nov. 8 at the Valley River Inn in Eugene.

"This was a very nice event and a great award for the Tribe, especially as we get close to Restoration," Wilson said. "The Tribe has a strong interest in restoring both our land base and partnerships with other natural resource agencies. This award signifies progress in both areas."

"The new forest lands we acquire meet a strategic goal, but are often in need of maintenance work to bring them up to the Tribe's high standards. Working with the Natural Resources Conservation Service and Polk Soil and Water District

helped us to find additional funds and create some local jobs."

In August, the Natural Resources Department was praised for implementing large-scale conservation work during the past three years that is building "on a history of dedication with smaller projects."

The Tribe was cited for working with the Natural Resources Conservation Service and enlisting Tribal personnel to carry out timber stand inventory data collection and sharing that information with the Conservation Service and Polk County Soil and Water Conservation District.

The Tribe also was praised for starting large-scale restoration projects, including oak savanna and wetland habitat while cultivating culturally significant plants.

Wilson said the Natural Resources work is made possible through several Tribal Council resolutions approving the department to pursue cost-share grant funding from the Conservation Service.

The Tribe was nominated for the Polk County award by Tom Finegan, district conservationist with the Natural Resources Conservation Service. By winning that award, Natural Resources became eligible for the state honor. Now that the department has won the Oregon title, it is eligible for national honors that will be announced in 2013. ■

## Girls Lock-In set for Dec. 7

A Girls Lock-In for sixth- through 12-grade girls will be held from 5:30 a.m. Friday, Dec. 7, through 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 8, at the Tribal Youth Education facility.

Activities will include a pizza party, obstacle course, staff makeover, "Jeopardy" contest, 4-corners, talking circle, midnight campus walk, movie, breakfast and fire pit release ceremony.

For more information or to sign up, contact Youth Education at 503-879-2101. ■