



Elder's feature:
Chuck Williams
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UMPQUA ■ MOLALLA ■ ROGUE RIVER ■ KALAPUYA ■ CHASTA



Photos by Michelle Alaimo

Grand Ronde Canoe Family members Travis Mercier, left, and Brian Krehbiel warm their drums before performing in the opening ceremony of the 29th Restoration Celebration at Achfa-Hammi, the Tribal plankhouse, on Sunday, Nov. 18.



Red Sky Clawson, 3, dances during an intertribal dance during the 29th Restoration Celebration Powwow at the Tribal gym on Sunday, Nov. 18.

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29th
Restoration
Celebration

Tribe swears in police chief

Redmond Police veteran Alvin LaChance Jr. to lead Grand Ronde force

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

During what Tribal Council Vice Chair Jack Giffen Jr. called "a monumental day for Tribal self-governance," Alvin LaChance Jr. was sworn in as chief of the Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department on Friday, Nov. 16. LaChance, 60, is a longtime vet-

eran of the Redmond Police Department and he joins Jake McKnight, who also was sworn in on Friday as a sergeant, as the first two official members of the Tribal police force.

"We have two outstanding Tribal members to start this new program," Giffen said.

"This is a historic day for this

Tribe," said Tribal Council member Kathleen Tom, "to have its own police officers on its own land. And to have two longtime Tribal families to represent us is such an honor. It's just another blessing for this Tribe."

LaChance and McKnight were sworn in by Tribal Court Chief Judge Suzanne Ojibway Townsend.

They both received badges from their respective wives, Susan LaChance and Tamara McKnight.

Sitting in the audience were three of LaChance's former colleagues from the Redmond Police Department — Bob Duff, Brad McMurrian and Dex Dixon.

"I remember a time when law enforcement did not want to come

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