

Smoke Signals

A Publication of the Grand Ronde Tribe

www.grandronde.org

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UMPQUA ■ MOLALLA ■ ROGUE RIVER ■ KALAPUYA ■ CHASTA

Tribe buys stake in SAM

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

WILSONVILLE – The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde officially became a minority owner of SAM Medical Products on Monday, Feb. 11, after Tribal Chairman Reyn Leno and company Chief Executive Officer Sam Scheinberg and his wife, Cherrie, signed the documents before about 50 Tribal representatives, employees and other dignitaries.

Also signing the document were Tribal Director of Economic Development Titu Asghar and SAM Medical Products President Adrian Polliack.

As part of the agreement, the Tribe also provided a five-year term loan and revolving loan to SAM Medical, which will allow the company

to quickly expand its product line, Polliack said after the signing ceremony.

"It's a five-year plan, but the first year is focused on getting out three new products within the next 12 months," Polliack said. "So those

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Tribal Council Chairman Reyn Leno, left, shakes hands with Sam Scheinberg, SAM Medical Products chief executive officer and founder, after they signed a document that officially made the Tribe a minority owner in the Wilsonville company on Monday, Feb. 11. Looking on is SAM Medical Products President Adrian Polliack, who also signed the document.



With summer coming, Tribe seeking firefighters

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

If you have it in you to tramp up and down through burning mountain forests, digging fire lines ...

If you can sleep on the ground far from the comforts of home for weeks at a time ...

If you are willing to come running at the drop of a hat, and repeat the whole process all summer long ...

Then the Grand Ronde Tribe's Wildland Firefighters, working through the Natural Resources Department, want you.

The physical test is walking three miles in 45 minutes with a 45-pound pack on your back and passing a physical exam.

"Firefighting is no easy task," said Michele Volz, senior administrative assistant at the Natural Resources Department. "Wake up early. Work all day in hot, dry, dirty temperatures. Sleep on the ground, just to get up and do it again, knowing you will not see your family or friends for weeks on end, and will miss those special moments."

During the 2012 fire season, Colby Drake, a veteran wildland firefighter and Tribal Silviculture and Fire Protection Program supervisor, was fighting a fire in Nevada

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Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Grand Ronde Canoe Family member Bobby Mercier watches playback of footage during the filming of a new commercial for Spirit Mountain Community Fund in the Tribal plankhouse on Saturday, Dec. 8.

Forging an identity

Community Fund starts airing four new ads

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

Spirit Mountain Community Fund has developed four new 30-second identity ads that are currently airing on four local television stations

in Portland through March and without a time limit on YouTube at www.youtube.com/user/SMCFGrandRonde?feature=watch and the Tribal Web site at www.grandronde.org.

Tribal Council and the Spirit

Mountain Community Fund Board of Directors both have supported the fund's ongoing efforts to let the Oregon public

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