

Smoke Signals

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UMPQUA ■ MOLALLA ■ ROGUE RIVER ■ KALAPUYA ■ CHASTA

Harvey, Pearsall and Giffen elected to Tribal Council

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

The sixth time was a charm for Denise Harvey, former Tribal Mentorship and Workforce Development coordinator, as she received the most votes during the 2013 Tribal Council election.

Harvey, who also has served as chair of the Grand Ronde Gaming Commission for nine years, received 444 votes (13.89 percent of votes cast).

Tribal voters also returned former Tribal Council member Ed Pearsall to office. He received 412 votes (12.89 percent) and will serve his first term on Tribal Council since leaving the council in September 2003 after nine years of service.

And incumbent Tribal Council member Jack Giffen Jr. was elected to his fourth term, receiving 359 votes (11.23 percent).

The other nine candidates were Brenda Tuomi, 320 votes; incumbent Steve Bobb Sr., 309; Brent Merrill, 258; Kevin Simmons, 252; Mark Mercier, 222; Ed Larsen, 212; Kalene Contreras, 160; Lonnie Leno, 139; and Cory Meneley, 110.

Bobb, who served two consecutive three-year terms on Tribal Council, said he will not run again and will concentrate on other projects.

Incumbent Tribal Council member Chris Mercier, who served three consecutive three-year terms on Tribal Council, did not seek re-election, instead opting to attend law school at Michigan State University.

Harvey said during a break at the Sept. 8 General Council meeting that she was surprised to be the top vote-getter in the 2013 field.

"I'm always surprised," Harvey said. "You never know with the Tribal Council elections how it is going to turn out. You can feel pretty

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Photo by Michelle Alaimo

From left, former Education Department Manager April Campbell, Adult Education Coordinator Trinity Minahan and Cultural Education and Outreach Program Manager Kathy Cole created a Grand Ronde Tribal History curriculum that will be taught for the first time this year to fourth-graders at Willamina Elementary School.

General Council briefed on history curriculum

Pilot project will teach Willamina fourth-graders about the Tribe

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

Willamina Elementary School fourth-graders will receive instruction in Grand Ronde Tribal history this school year when a curriculum created by the Tribe is taught for the first time.

The pilot project includes 15 40-minute les-

sons that will teach Willamina youth about Grand Ronde Tribal history from time immemorial through Termination in the 1950s, Restoration in the 1980s and today's status as a sovereign nation.

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Tribe celebrates anniversary of Table Rocks MOU

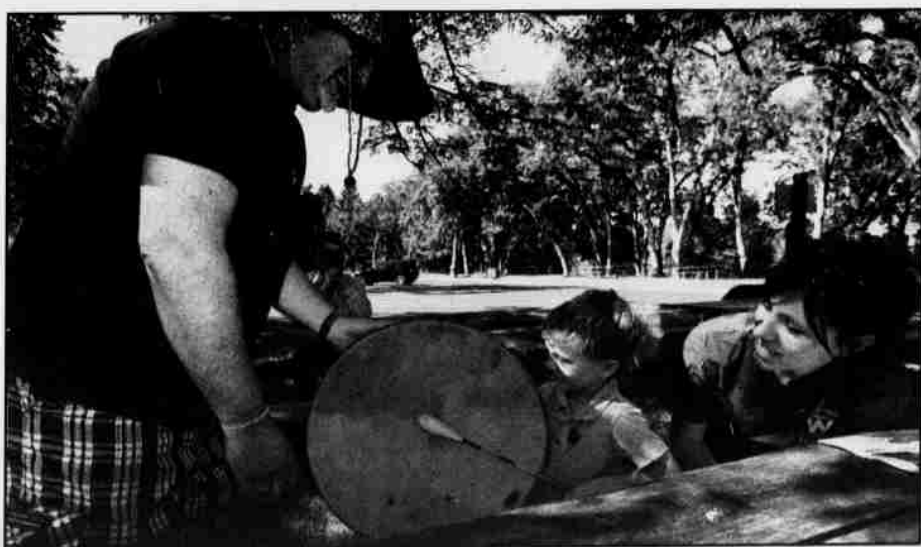


Photo by Michelle Alaimo

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

MEDFORD — This year's celebration at Table Rocks marked the third anniversary of an agreement that made the Tribe a partner in maintaining the

Tribal Council member Jon A. George holds a drum so Hayden Wilfong, 3, can try it out during the Tribal encampment at TouVelle State Recreation Site in Central Point on Saturday, Sept. 7. Hayden lives in Medford and visited the encampment with his family, including his mother Sarah Wilfong, right.

historic mesas in conjunction with The Nature Conservancy and Bureau of Land Management.

Upper and Lower Table Rocks are located just outside of Medford and within the Tribe's ceded lands.

The agreement came to life because of the Tribe's commitment to finding common ground with governmental and non-governmental agencies.

"We're a Tribe that values relationships," Tribal Public Affairs Director Siobhan Taylor said.

"For us, it's an intimate history of

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