

# Tribal field trip



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

**Willamina High School senior Mark Kirksey asks Tribal Council members about how the Tribe is working to improve water quality on the Reservation during a field trip to the Tribal campus on Tuesday, Dec. 17. Kirksey was among about 40 Willamina High School seniors who spent two hours watching Tribal Council's Legislative Action Committee held that day and then asking questions of the nine members in attendance. Tribal Court Administrator Angela Fasana, who is the Tribe's liaison on the Willamina School Board, said it was the first time Willamina High seniors had visited the Tribe on a field trip. "You are really part of history," Fasana told the students. Tribal Council members also fielded questions about the state fish consumption rate, how the Tribal budget is created, what their day-to-day routines are like and why they decided to run for Tribal Council. The field trip complements several other Tribal efforts to teach Willamina School District students about the Grand Ronde Tribe, including development of a fourth-grade curriculum that teaches Tribal history and is being instituted this school year. About a third of the students attending Willamina schools are Tribal youth.**

# Elder Bingo moved

Elder Bingo will be held at 12:30 p.m. the second and fourth Saturday of the month at the Elders' Activity Center. For more information, contact Elder Activity Assistant Daniel Ham at 503-879-2233. ■

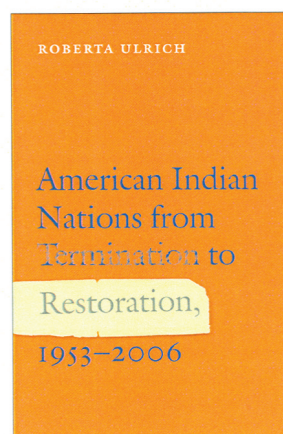
## American Indian Nations from Termination to Restoration, 1953-2006

Roberta Ulrich

When the U.S. government ended its relationship with dozens of Native American tribes and bands between 1953 and 1966, it was engaging in a massive social experiment. Congress enacted the program, known as termination, in the name of "freeing" the Indians from government restrictions and improving their quality of life. However, removing the federal status of more than nine dozen tribes across the country plunged many of their nearly 13,000 members into deeper levels of poverty and eroded the tribal people's sense of Native identity. Beginning in 1973 and extending over a twenty-year period, the terminated tribes, one by one, persuaded Congress to restore their ties to the federal government. Nonetheless, so much damage had been done that even today the restored tribes struggle to overcome the problems created by those terminations a half century ago.

Roberta Ulrich provides a concise overview of all the terminations and restorations of Native American tribes from 1953 to 2006 and explores the enduring policy implications for Native peoples. This is the first book to consider all the terminations and restorations in the twentieth century as part of continuing policy while detailing some of the individual tribal differences. Drawing from Congressional records, interviews with tribal members, and other primary sources, Ulrich delves into the causes and effects of termination and restoration from both sides.

Roberta Ulrich is a retired newspaper reporter. She is the author of *Empty Nets: Indians, Dams, and the Columbia River*.



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## Veterans Benefit session slated

Jerry Wilson, Yamhill County Veterans Service Officer, will be on hand from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 16, in the Tribal Community Center to answer questions for veterans seeking to access military benefits.

He will answer questions about what benefits are available, what the eligibility requirements are, and help with claim forms and the documentation needed to file claims for benefits.

All services will be provided free of charge and veterans need to bring their DD214 (military certificate of discharge).

Veterans should check in with Social Services receptionist Rhonda Leno at 503-879-2034. For more information, contact Wilson at 503-434-7503. ■

# Help wanted

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde's 477 Employment and Training Program and Land and Culture Department have resources that can be utilized along with community members who have a passion for gardening or want to learn the art of agriculture.

If you are a Grand Ronde Tribal or community member and want to be a part of the planning, preparation and cultivation of the Tribal garden and orchard site for next year's planting season, contact Barbara Gibbons at 800-242-8196, ext. 2135, or e-mail [barbara.gibbons@grandronde.org](mailto:barbara.gibbons@grandronde.org). ■

# EFFECTIVE NOW

For all income criteria programs, wage verification for past 60 days (wage stubs) will need to be submitted. If client has not worked for a period of time, client will need to submit a printout from their State Employment Office or printout from Oregon Self-Sufficiency Office as verification of income. Rental/deposit or utility assistance may be utilized only one time in a 24-month rolling calendar period and is not to exceed the maximum contribution of \$1,000 per household within any 24-month rolling calendar period.

### Medical Gas Vouchers

Social Services will not provide gas vouchers for medical appointments, counseling or drug & alcohol treatment. The only exception to this is for scheduled treatment plans (i.e.: radiation, chemotherapy, surgery, etc.) that have caused hardship on the family. Medical gas vouchers can be distributed to meet the need of the circumstances.

A copy of all scheduled treatment plans must be received before client is eligible to receive this service. Assistance will end on the date of the last treatment appointment.

For a complete copy of policy or questions, contact Tammy C. Garrison at 503-879-2077. ■

# 'Plans have a purpose'

### PLAN continued from front page

measure, said George. "It should be useful and it should lead to more predictable outcomes achieved more efficiently," he said.

Prioritizing department activities tied to performance measures allows Tribal Council to feel more comfortable about spending Tribal money, Johnston said.

All this will mean "doing things differently," George said. "Efficiency, cost controls, reaching goals and being effective all require better organization, teamwork and more focus on costs and benefits and the outcomes of the Tribe's work.

"Plans have a purpose," he said. "And one of the purposes is to make sure all employees know how they fit with the purposes of the Tribe's work focused on the same goals and objectives.

"The result is making life better for Elders, children, employees, all Tribal members and, likely, it is helping the broader community.



**Rick George**

"Those results are explicit outcomes of the 2010 Strategic Plan. Our job now is to make sure we get there and we do it as effectively and efficiently as possible."

The Tribe began its governmental strategic planning work with the release and completion of its Grand Ronde Reservation Plan in 1985. With that plan, the first elected governments of the Tribe implemented the requirement of the congressional requirements for Restoration of federal recognition – the negotiation for and establishment of new reservation lands.

A new vision statement in the first strategic plan created in 1995 came at a time when the Tribe was building itself from almost scratch – when Spirit Mountain Casino was a plan on paper and most of the Tribe's new revenues came from the commercial timber program. ■

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