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# Smoke Signals

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UMPQUA ■ MOLALLA ■ ROGUE RIVER ■ KALAPUYA ■ CHASTA

## Chachalu moving forward



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

The \$2 million first phase work on Chachalu, the Tribal museum and cultural center being constructed in the former Willamina Middle School building off Grand Ronde Road, will open Thursday, June 5.

The capital campaign to raise funds for the second phase of development has started.

**A Tribal logo was hand painted on the floor at the entrance of Chachalu, the Tribal museum and cultural center. Phase I of the center is near completion and fundraising has started for Phase II.**

Approximately \$2 million is needed to complete Phase II of the project. The second phase of work will include 4,500 square feet of additional exhibit space, areas for permanent museum features and rotating exhibits, exhibit preparation room, additional areas for proper collection processing, classrooms, a research room and conference room, offices for operations, areas for cultural demonstrations and space for a potential gift shop.

The completion of Phase II will support

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## Tougher GED requirements take effect

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

In the short run, the new, more difficult requirements for a GED certificate will not make life easier for Tribal and community members.

Although some 50 have started attending classes and working on their own, said Adult Education and College Advising Coordinator Kevin Simmons, only about 10 are still actively involved.



Kevin Simmons

Starting Jan. 2, new General Educational Development requirements bring math proficiency up from first year to second year algebra. In the language arts, students are

tested on reasoning through the language arts, as well as the old requirements for reading, writing and grammar.

"It's a big shift," Simmons said. "Today's requirements align with the state's common core (of learning requirements). Students used to take a month to study for the tests. Today, they are taking a year."

Since the program began, the Tribe has seen about 250 earn a GED certificate, although there have always been fewer who take classes and finish than those who

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## Lorenz named executive director of the Tribe's Health Services



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Jeffrey Lorenz is the Tribe's new Health Services executive director.

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

After a year without a Health Services executive director, the Tribe has chosen Jeffrey Lorenz, 56, to fill the vacancy.

Lorenz comes from a background that encourages and supports employees, patients and local communities.

As chief operating officer of Silverton Health, his most recent position, he used these strategies to

increase patient visits and income to the nearly bankrupt facility. The new money went to reinvestment in an upgrade to the old facility and to a host of new services.

He was invited to join Silverton Hospital's staff 22 years ago by Bill Winter, a preceptor for George Washington University's residency program.

Lorenz earned his master's of Health Administration degree at George Washington University in 1984. For 28 years, Lorenz worked

under Winter at both Tuality Community Hospital in Hillsboro and the facility in Silverton.

Starting as both chief financial officer and chief operating officer in Silverton, Lorenz orchestrated a remarkable turnaround.

Despite the shape of the place, he found a supportive staff and community. Early on, he "passed the hat" around the community

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