



2014 Annual Contest  
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# Smoke Signals

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UMPQUA ■ MOLALLA ■ ROGUE RIVER ■ KALAPUYA ■ CHASTA

## Chachalu fundraising making progress



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

**Six grants bring in more than \$573,000 for Phase II work**

By Dean Rhodes

*Smoke Signals editor*

The Chachalu Tribal Museum & Cultural Center Phase II capital campaign recently received a \$60,000 grant from the Collins Foundation, bringing the number of grants received to six

and the value of those grants to \$573,484.

The Collins Foundation is an independent, private foundation based in Portland that was created in 1947 by Truman W. Collins Sr. and other members of the family of E.S. Collins. The foundation ex-

See CHACHALU  
continued on page 4

## Tribal Election Day is Sept. 6

*Nine vying for three open seats*

By Dean Rhodes

*Smoke Signals editor*

Time is quickly running out on Tribal members to vote in the 2014 Tribal Council election.

Election Day is Saturday, Sept. 6, and ballots will be counted at the Community Center that day and results will be posted that evening on the Community Center's front doors.

Nine Tribal members, including the three incumbents, are seeking three-year terms on Tribal Council. Incumbents are Tribal Council Chair Reyn Leno and current members Kathleen Tom and June Sherer. Challengers are Chris Mercier, Brenda Tuomi, Ann Lewis, Tonya Gleason-Shepek, Cory Meneley and Kevin Simons.

Tribal voters can vote for up to three candidates on their ballot.

As of the day of nominations for Tribal Council in late June, 3,996 Tribal members were eligible to vote in the election. Last year, 1,205 ballots were cast out of 3,924 Tribal members who were eligible to vote.

Eligible voters – those who will be 18 or older as of Sept. 6 – must be registered to vote with the Tribe. Tribal members can register up to and including on Election Day. Late registrants can bring their registration into the Community Center on Election Day or submit it to Member Services Manager Penny DeLoe in the Governance Center through Friday, Sept. 5.

The *Tilixam Wawa* with candidate statements was mailed first class to Tribal members in mid-July and ballots were mailed to voters with verified signatures on July 23. ■

## Vested canine



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

**Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department Officer Patrick McConnell puts a bulletproof vest on Tribal K-9 Officer Nixwa during a gathering at the Tribal Community Center on Friday, Aug. 15. Funds for the bulletproof vest were raised by Friends of Nixwa, a group organized by Tribal member Veronica Gaston to raise money for the vest. Any additional funds raised will be used for training or equipment Nixwa needs, McConnell said.**

## Report reviews efforts to preserve heritage

By Ron Karten

*Smoke Signals staff writer*

A lunchtime report presented on Tuesday, Aug. 26, signaled completion of a Spirit Mountain Community Fund grant and remaining funds from an earlier National Endowment for the Arts grant to help preserve the

Tribe's cultural heritage.

Specifically, the project aimed at providing tools to integrate Tribal language with basketry tradition, said Emily West Afanador, program manager for the Oregon Folklife Network based at the University of Oregon in Eugene.

The funding allowed ongoing

work on the traditional craft of weaving to continue to grow. Efforts included:

- With earlier grants, the Tribe published three children's books describing the process of weaving cedar materials into baskets. The Oregon Folklife Network published the books in a run of 100

copies each, as well as presentation as e-books.

- The grant enabled different tools to teach the practice, including the production of videos to show the process of traditional weaving.

See HERITAGE  
continued on page 13