DECEMBER 1, 2014 Smoke Signals 13

Heritage night

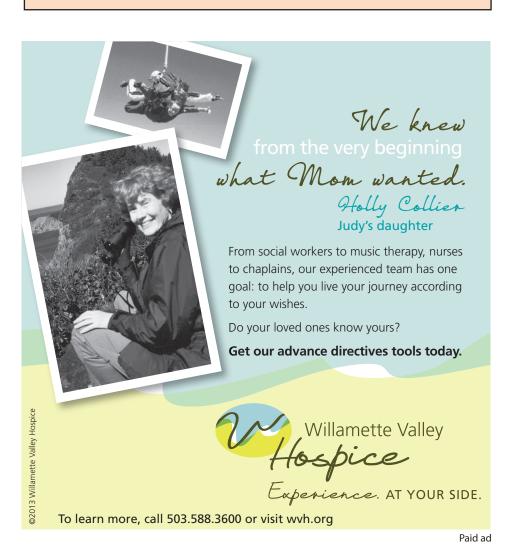


Photos by Michelle Alaimo

Andrea Grijalva performs a paddle dance as the Grand Ronde Canoe Family performs during halftime of Oregon State University's basketball game against Rice University at Gill Coliseum in Corvallis on Friday, Nov. 14. November is National Native American Heritage Month and it was Native American Heritage Night at the game. Before the game, Jocelyn Huffman, Spirit Mountain Casino sponsorship administrator, accepted, on behalf of the Tribe and casino, a game ball signed by Beavers coach Wayne Tinkle.



Part of the Native American Heritage Night activities included Tribal Council member Denise Harvey, left, and Spirit Mountain Community Fund Director Kathleen George, second from right, presenting Children's Cancer Association Director of Programs Andy Frezza, second from left, a check for \$25,000 during Oregon State University's basketball game vs. Rice at Gill Coliseum in Corvallis on Friday, Nov. 14. Also with them is Benny the Beaver, Oregon State's mascot.



Are you pregnant or plan on getting pregnant?

If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant and are eligible for the Skookum Health Assistance Program (SHAP), this is important information for you. If you do not have primary health insurance coverage and are pregnant, you will need to apply for coverage through your state's assistance program and provide documentation about your eligibility before claims will be paid by SHAP. Most states have special programs for pregnant women and children. Please contact Loretta Meneley, Certified Application Assister, for application assistance at 503-879-1359, or Tresa Mercier, Business Office manager, at 503-879-2008 or 800-775-0095. ■

Elders Bazaar scheduled

An Elders Bazaar will be held at Spirit Mountain Casino on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 12-13. Hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday.

Tables cost \$20 per day per table.

To sign up for a table or tables, contact Elder Activity Assistant Dan Ham at the Elders Activity Center at 503-879-2233. ■

Hospice seeking Native jewelry

The nonprofit Willamette Valley Hospice in Salem is planning a used jewelry sale in the spring as a fundraiser and is seeking donations from talented Native jewelry makers. Those who would like to donate can contact Hospice board member Steve Bobb Sr. at 503-876-3118. ■

Tribal Council Christmas Party set

The annual Tribal Council Christmas Party will start at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, in the Tribal gym with a visit from Santa Claus.

Tribal Council Chairman Reyn Leno will be the master of ceremonies and Tribal Librarian Marion Mercier will read Christmas stories to children. Tribal Royalty will perform "The Lord's Prayer" at 12:15 p.m. and Tribal Council member Cheryle A. Kennedy will give the invocation before lunch is served and door prizes are awarded.

Tribal children will sing Christmas songs beginning at 2:30 p.m. For more information, contact Community Health Manager Kari Culp at 503-879-2016 or kari.culp@grandronde.org. ■

Archival information being transferred to Tribe

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Archival information long held by non-Natives and interpreted by non-Natives rightfully belongs with Indians to be interpreted by Indians, she said. She described the history of Tribal efforts in that direction.

One of the projects she is involved with at the University of Oregon is called "The Decolonization of Tribal Archives."

Rebecca Dobkins, archaeology professor at Willamette University, talked about a student project in cooperation with the Tribe. Her classes are cataloging and archiving the large Charles Holmes collection of documents and photographs from Chemawa Indian School that were donated to the Tribe.

A Restoration panel was interpreted through the lens of the Tribe's Ceded Lands programs, intergenerational trauma and Tribal Elder recollections of that time.

Ceded Lands Program Manager Michael Karnosh introduced the session and the speakers, featuring Amanda Mercier, who wrote her master's thesis at Portland State University on historical trauma. She described the effect it has had in Native communities. Elders Kathryn Harrison and Margaret Provost recalled their participation and memories of the Tribe's Restoration effort in the 1970s and early 1980s.

Many conference participants stayed until the close at 5:30 p.m. and took a tour of the exhibit and museum facilities.

The Grand Ronde drum group included Jon A. George, Brian Krehbiel, Bobby Mercier, Travis Mercier, Jordan Mercier, David Harrelson and David Lewis.

All Land and Culture Department staff had a hand in organizing and coordinating the conference, including Brandy Humphreys, Teresa Clay, Andrea Verduzco, Holly Partridge and Veronica Montano.

Oral history staff Sequoia Raya and Alan Ham operated the two video cameras with video and audio assistance by Information Systems Technician Wendell Olson.

To prepare for the conference, Julie Brown and Brad Leno installed a new exhibit in the Chachalu exhibit gallery.

The conference also raised \$1,100 for Chachalu's second phase of development. ■