

## Yamhill County starts new Veterans Recognition Program

By Dean Rhodes

*Smoke Signals editor*

MCMINNVILLE — It saves to be a veteran in Yamhill County.

County Clerk Brian Van Bergen has teamed up with the county's Veterans' Services Office and local businesses to offer discounts and free upgrades to veterans.

The program was launched on Tuesday, April 7.

Yamhill County veterans will no longer have to carry around copies of their discharge papers to prove they are an honorably discharged veteran to receive benefits. When an honorably discharged veteran records their discharge papers with Van Bergen's office, they will be offered an official and free photo identification card.

Veterans can then visit the Yamhill County Veterans' Services website to see a list of merchants who will accept the ID card for

discounts, free upgrades or other benefits.

Yamhill County merchants who want to offer a veterans' discount should visit [www.co.yamhill.or.us/clerk](http://www.co.yamhill.or.us/clerk) and fill out a business application on the home page.

"We believe there are many people throughout the region who will show their appreciation to veterans in a tangible way, especially if they have an easily recognizable way to confirm that a veteran is who they say they are," Van Bergen said in a press release announcing the start of the program. "All we've been lacking up until now is the connection between veterans and those who want to recognize them for their service."

"Proud participant" merchants also will receive a poster to display at their business announcing that they are involved in the program. ■

## Means honored



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal Council Secretary Toby McClary, left, and Tribal Council member Jon A. George, right, gift Lee Honoré Means, executive director at Yamhill Community Action Partnership, a Tribal Pendleton blanket during a meet and greet with YCAP board members in Tribal Council's conference room on Tuesday, March 31. The blanket is in honor of her retirement, after eight years with YCAP, on June 30.

## Fee assistance

Enrolled Tribal members can request assistance with test fees (i.e. GRE, SAT, LSAT, ACT) and admissions application fees. Contact Higher Education for more information at 1-800-422-0232, ext. 2275. ■

## STORIES OF GRAND RONDE ROYALTY PAST AND CURRENT



The Land and Culture Department launched a new Oral History project on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015. This project highlights the stories of our past and current royalty contestants and facilitators. We encourage any Tribal Members who have participated in Royalty to share their experiences so they will be available for future generations by becoming part of the Tribe's archives here at Chachalu. What we accomplish today becomes tomorrow's history.

Please contact Stacey Runningbird at 503-879-2381 to set up a time to share your story.

Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde  
Land and Culture Department  
Chachalu: Tribal Museum and Cultural Center  
8720 Grand Ronde Road  
Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347  
Phone: 503-879-2226  
Fax: 503-879-2126  
E-mail: [landandculture@grandronde.org](mailto:landandculture@grandronde.org)

k<sup>h</sup>anawi ntsayka-ixt-tilixam ntsayka  
We are all one family.

