



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

**Delphian School student Lochlan Scharpf reads “The Incredibles” to Nicholas Thayer, a Mawich class member, in the Tribal Library in February 2014. Delphian students volunteer once a week to read to students from the Early Childhood Education classes as part of the Start Making A Reader Today program. This photo won first place in the Best Feature Photo category in the 2015 Native American Journalists Association Media Awards Contest.**

## Smoke Signals wins general excellence award from NAJA

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde’s bimonthly newsletter, *Smoke Signals*, won seven awards in the 2015 Native American Journalists Association Media Awards Contest, including the prestigious General Excellence Award for Native publications with a circulation between 4,000 and 8,000 copies.

“The General Excellence award is, for me, the most cherished because it honors the Tribe and the entire Publications staff for a consistent, all-around effort in putting out a professional publication twice a month for the membership,” said Publications Coordinator Dean Rhodes. “You never know from which months contest submissions will have to be submitted, so every issue has to be top-notch.

“Without the support and cooperation of our colleagues in almost every department throughout the Tribal government and at Spirit Mountain Casino, we could not accomplish such an honor for the Grand Ronde Tribe.”

Page Designer Justin Phillips, who is a Grand Ronde Tribal member, also won first place in the Professional Division for layout of *Smoke Signals*.

In the Associate category for nonTribal members who work for Native publications, photographer Michelle Alaimo won three awards – first place in Best Feature Photo for her photograph of the Tribal SMART Program, and second places in Best Sports Photo (Spirit Mountain Stampede) and Best News Photo (Tilikum Crossing).

Also in the Associate category, Rhodes won second place for Best Coverage of Native Americans for his story “Native students face many hurdles.”

Former *Smoke Signals* staff writer Ron Karten won third place in Best News Story for “Portland bridge receives Native name.”

This year’s entries were judged by the University of Omaha-Nebraska, the Society of Professional Journalists, Society of Environmental Journalists, The Circle, The Oklahoman, the University of Idaho, Western Kentucky University and the University of Oklahoma Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication.

Awards will be handed out during the association’s annual awards banquet on Saturday, July 11, in Washington, D.C. ■

Save the Date!

MC - Nick Sixkiller  
 Arena Director - Carlos Calica  
 Host Drum - Red Hoop  
 Head Man/Head Woman: Deitz & Rose Peters

July 10-12

**MARCELLUS NORWEST MEMORIAL VETERANS POWWOW**

In Grand Ronde, OR @ Uyxat Powwow Grounds  
 9390 Highway 22  
 Grand Ronde, OR 97347

Tribal vendors contact:  
 Reina Nelson 503-879-2313 or [reina.nelson@grandronde.org](mailto:reina.nelson@grandronde.org)  
 for application and more information

Ad created by George Valdez

### PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE GENERAL COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL EVENT BOARD ORDINANCE OPEN FOR COMMENT

The Tribal Council is considering adoption of amendments to the General Committee and Special Event Board Ordinance. The proposed amendments were given a First Reading at the May 20, 2015, Tribal Council meeting.

The proposed amendment would allow Committees and Special Event Boards to make donations if authorized by Tribal Council in accordance with Tribal Council policy by amending Subsection (p)(5) as follows (added language underlined):

Committees/boards are prohibited from making donations of any kind from committee/board funds, except as authorized by Tribal Council in accordance with Tribal Council policy. Committees/boards may accept sponsorships, donations and engage in fundraising activities in accordance with the policy established by the Tribe’s Finance Officer. Such policy shall include provisions regarding approval of fundraising activities, accountability and placement of funds, and carryover procedures.

Tribal Council invites comment on the proposed amendments to the General Committee and Special Event Board Ordinance. For a copy of the proposed amendment, please contact the Tribal Attorney’s Office at 503-879-4664. Please send your comments to the Tribal Attorney’s Office, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347 or by e-mail to [legal@grandronde.org](mailto:legal@grandronde.org).

Comments must be received by July 15, 2015. ■

## Yamhill County Cultural Coalition offers grants

The Yamhill County Cultural Coalition, along with 44 county and Tribal cultural coalitions throughout the state, receives funds from the Oregon Cultural Trust for re-granting to arts, culture and heritage programs within the county.

“The coalition’s mission is to increase cultural opportunities, awareness and participation in our county,” said grant Chair Eve Silverman. “Our priorities are for new applicants and new projects, and we are trying to provide extra outreach to those who have not participated geographically as well as to underserved populations.”

The Cultural Coalition can fund as much as 50 percent of a project’s cost up to \$2,500. Deadline for applications is Sept. 30 for projects beginning in 2016. For more information and grant instructions and applications, visit [www.yamhillcountyculture.org](http://www.yamhillcountyculture.org). ■

### OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR 2015-2016



## CHINUK KINDERGARTEN IMMERSION

As of May 18th, 2015 we will be accepting registration applications for interested incoming Kindergarteners. We are a half day immersion program offering instruction in Chinuk through our culture and place-based curriculum. Our students attend half day in our program and must be enrolled in Willamina Elementary School as well. No prior language experience required, however we do have language and tribal preference once we are at capacity.

Applications are available at Youth Education and can be turned in starting May 18th

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Esther Stewart  
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*We enroll families, not just students. It is our belief that the only way for the language to live and flourish is for it to be learned and used in the home by the whole family.*