



Tribe signs memorandum of understanding with UofO — pg. 6

MAY 15, 2017

Smoke Signals

A Publication of the Grand Ronde Tribe  www.grandronde.org

UMPQUA ■ MOLALLA ■ ROGUE RIVER ■ KALAPUYA ■ CHASTA

Grand Ronde opposes Siletz casino proposal

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

A surprise announcement by the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians on Tuesday, May 2, proposing an inter-Tribal casino near Salem will not be supported by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, says Tribal lobbyist Justin Martin and Tribal elected officials.

Martin, who usually acts as the Tribe's spokesperson on casino-related topics, told numerous media outlets that an inter-Tribal casino off Interstate 5 near Salem would be "devastating" to the Grand Ronde Tribe, which operates Spirit Mountain Casino, the closest Tribal gaming enterprise to the Salem market.

Instead, Martin said, the Grand Ronde Tribe supports a solution that works for all of Oregon's Tribes and for the state, and would also help the Tribes and state compete with the Cowlitz Tribe's new casino approximately 15 miles north of

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Honoring salmon



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal Elder Greg Archuleta places salmon by the fire for it to cook traditionally during the fifth annual First Salmon Ceremony held at the McLean House in West Linn on Friday, May 5. Salmon netted last June at Willamette Falls was used for the ceremony because river flows on the Willamette River were too high to safely fish on ceremony day. About 50 people attended the event. See more photos on page 15.

General Council briefed on numerous topics

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

General Council attendees not only had a full plate during lunch, which featured a taco salad, but also on the agenda.

Tribal Lands Manager Jan Looking Wolf Reibach, Tribal Council Chief of Staff Stacia Hernandez and three top executives from Spirit Mountain Casino discussed Tribal lands, the

former Multnomah Greyhound Park property in Wood Village and the gaming facility's plans to combat competition from Cowlitz's new Ilani casino, respectively, during the Sunday, May 7, meeting held in the Tribal Community Center.

Reibach was first with a PowerPoint slideshow that explained the mission of the Tribal Lands Department and its staff, and the history of Grand Ronde Tribal lands, which now include

more than 15,000 acres with 11,540 acres in Reservation status.

"We've worked every year very strategically to improve our land base and fulfill the needs of the community," Reibach said.

He also distributed maps that showed where

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Wink Soderberg has led an enterprising life



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal Elder Wink Soderberg at his home in Grand Ronde.

Tribal Elder staying involved on TERO Commission

By Brent Merrill
Smoke Signals staff writer

Tribal Elder and former Tribal Council member William Joseph "Wink" Soderberg spent his early childhood in Grand Ronde. In the mid to late 1930s, the Grand Ronde Indian Reservation was a much different place than it is today.

When Wink, 83, was a boy there was no running water in his Reservation home and the family's outhouse was a 50-yard sprint

in the middle of the night or winter cold.

"My mother always kept us involved with Indians," Wink says of his childhood. "When the federal government terminated us that didn't make any difference to her. She still kept every record she could get for my family and my brother's family."

Wink, who served six years on Tribal

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