

Sign placed at site of future Veterans' Memorial



Tribal Veterans and members of Tribal Council gather around a new sign placed at the site of the future Veterans' Memorial. The Memorial will be constructed between the Tribe's Governance Center and Community Center.

Photo by Brent Merrill

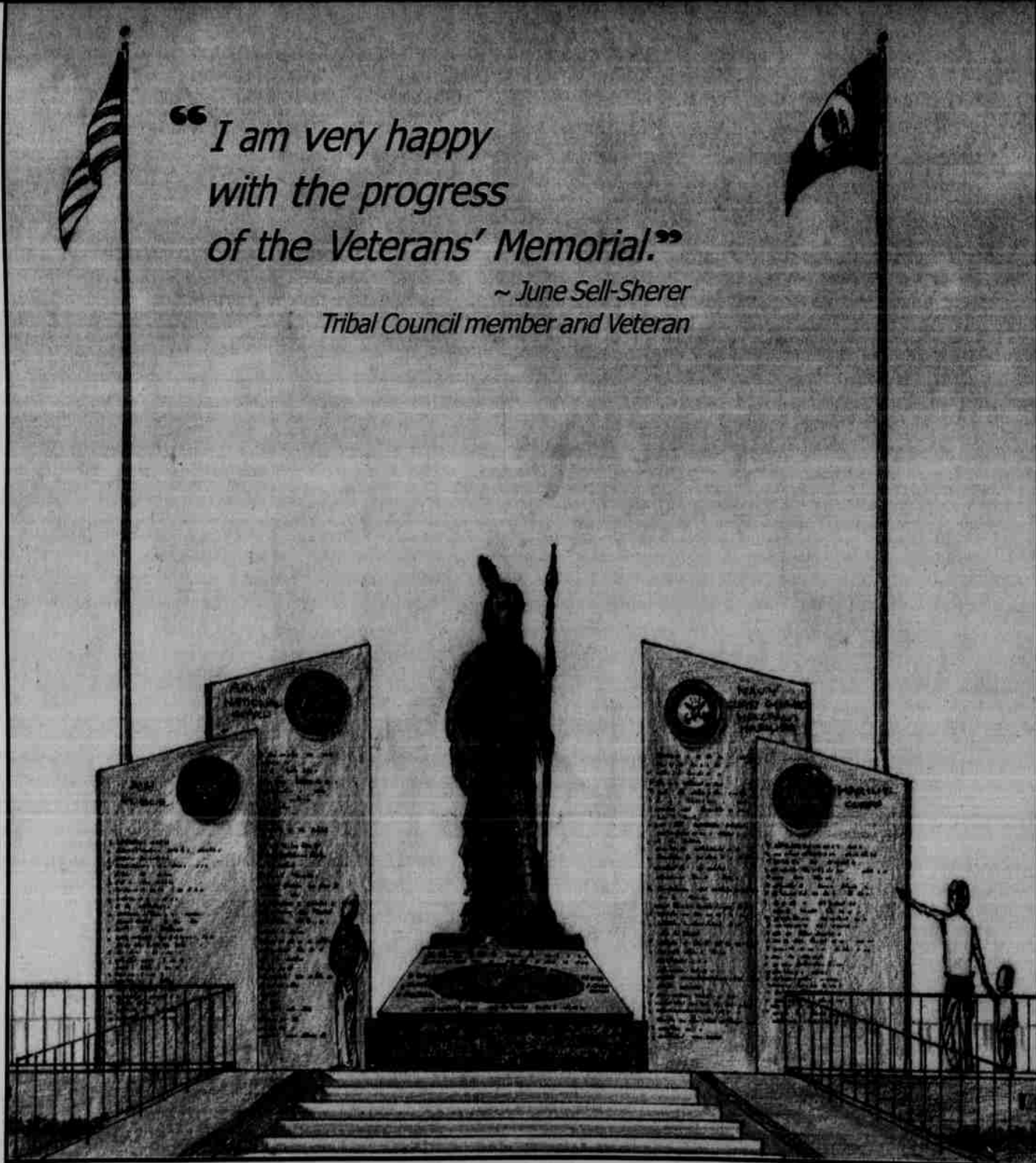
Veterans' Memorial needs your help

A Memorial is being built to honor all community veterans.

"Our tribal veterans have begun an effort of establishing a Veterans' Memorial to honor all veterans of the Grand Ronde, Willamina and Sheridan communities. We need all the help we can get to complete this worthwhile project," said Mike Larsen. If you are interested in helping, please contact Mike Larsen at (503) 879-2407.

"I am very happy with the progress of the Veterans' Memorial."

*~ June Sell-Sherer
Tribal Council member and Veteran*



This artist's rendering is what the Veterans' Memorial will look like upon completion.

Drawing by Steve Bobb

Tribe takes the lead in highway safety

"We're trying to improve people's lives."

~ Butch LaBonte

"This is only one example of how the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde have been tremendous partners with ODOT over the past few years."

~ Dave Bishop

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of sharing with the community and we believe this is an important issue," said Tribal Chair Kathryn Harrison. "We are also hoping that other groups will feel the same way we do and step up to the table with their own contributions. We are all concerned about safety throughout the corridor, from Salem to the coast.

"We have contributed to the community in many ways and the idea of improving the safety of the highway is just another important way for us to give back to the community," said Harrison.

"This is another example of how government-to-government relationships work," said Tribal Councilman Butch LaBonte. LaBonte, along with Tribal Councilman Ed Larsen sit on the Mid-Willamette Valley Area Commission on Transportation. "We're trying to improve people's lives."

Dave Bishop from ODOT received the check from the Tribal Council and said he is pleased with the Tribe's response to what he sees as an important issue.

"The Department of Transportation greatly appreciates the Tribe's contribution," said Bishop. "And, this is only one example of how the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde have been tremendous partners with ODOT over the past few years."

Bishop said the Tribes' contribution of \$10,000 would go a long way towards covering the total cost of the project, which is \$55,000.

"People don't have to contribute to this cause with money," said Larsen. "People can contribute by having some patience when traveling the highway."

The rumble strips are grooves that will be cut into the highway's surface from Valley Junction towards Salem to the Wallace Bridge. Wallace Bridge is the underpass from Highway 18 to Willamina, Sheridan, McMinnville and Salem.

"Because the Tribe is a large community, and part of a larger community, we want to find ways to include the general population of this area when we use our resources," said Larsen. "These rumble strips are just one of the ways we can make this area safe for everyone and we're happy to do it."