



Tribal Elder  
Hubert Mercier  
walks on  
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# Smoke Signals

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UMPQUA ■ MOLALLA ■ ROGUE RIVER ■ KALAPUYA ■ CHASTA

## Tribe hires new finance officer

*Stan Arend brings significant experience to job*

By Ron Karten  
*Smoke Signals staff writer*

“I put a lot of stock in strategic planning,” says Stanley Arend, the Tribe’s new finance officer, from his new corner office on the ground floor of the Governance Building.

Starting on Sept. 8, Arend was charged with prioritizing Tribal

revenues and expenditures, and managing the Tribe’s many investment portfolios, each with its own objectives and time horizons. He also is working to make the Tribe’s computerized accounting system turn out reports that are more reader friendly.

“We have certain challenges in the reporting area,” Arend says.

“My goal is to provide good monthly budget-to-actual dollar figures with clear analysis. Not everybody speaks finance and accounting, so the reports should use nontechnical terms.”

Arend brings more than 25 years



Stan Arend

of executive financial experience to the job. He grew up on Martha’s Vineyard in Massachusetts with members of the nearby Wampanoag Tribe, “who were always part of the community,” he says.

His father ran a community Laundromat and his mother a bed and breakfast in their 1873 Victorian

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## Chankal celebration promises cultural opportunities for Tribe



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal Cultural Resources Protection Coordinator and Tribal member Eirik Thorsgard, right, talks to a group on Saturday, Sept. 20, during the Chankal Celebration about pieces of rock that were found on the property on Skyline Road in Salem. The rocks have been recognized as phallic representations used in fertility rites.

By Ron Karten  
*Smoke Signals staff writer*

More than 14,000 years ago, during the Missoula Floods when the rest of the Willamette Valley was under water and became seabed, land in south Salem stood 800 feet above current sea level.

It was the only place in the valley that remained dry.

Fertility artifacts found on this property indicate that it was likely used by the Kalapuya

peoples and by Tribes from across the Northwest through thousands of years of their history following the floods.

Eighty-three and a half acres of farmland, that includes the highest point, now sit above a mailbox on Skyline Road South. The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde purchased the parcel last year, and after an intensive cleanup job on the property (blackberries covered the house and had grown out 20 feet in every direction), opened it for a celebration on Saturday, Sept. 20.

From the peak, a group of more than 50 — Tribal Elders, Tribal members, Tribal staff and people from the community — could see some of the area’s important cultural sites, including Mary’s Peak west of Corvallis and Spirit Mountain above Grand Ronde. On a clear day, Mount Hood, the Cascade and Coast ranges, much of Polk County and as far as 40 miles south in the Willa-

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## Tribe aids lamprey research

By Dean Rhodes  
*Smoke Signals editor*

The Pacific lamprey may be an endangered species if only federal, state and Tribal biologists had a firm grasp on how many of the fish currently return to spawn in the Columbia and Willamette river systems.

Unlike salmon, definitive lamprey counts with long, trackable histories are nonexistent.

Anecdotally, however, the prognosis is not good.

Commercial harvest of lamprey at Willamette Falls has declined from an average of 218,000 pounds per year from 1943-52 to 13,000 pounds per year from 1969 to 2001.

Lamprey harvests at Willamette Falls near Oregon City, in the ceded lands of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, are currently restricted to two months annually by the state.

Bonneville Dam counts dipped from about 400,000 in the 1960s to 14,000 this year, a 96.5 percent decline in numbers on the Columbia River.

Lamprey populations in the upper reaches of the Columbia and its major tributary, the Snake, also are declining.

Counts at Winchester Dam on the North Umpqua River dropped from almost 47,000 in 1966 to an average of less than 50 annually since 1995.

“The numbers are very sketchy,” says Tribal Fish and Wildlife Coordinator Kelly Dirksen.

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