



2006 — Tribal offices were closed for parts or all of at least three days as rain, wind, snow and freezing temperatures affected Highway 18 and the Grand Ronde area in late November. A skeleton crew operated at the Tribal Health Clinic and at Public Works, which kept the heat on and the on-campus roadways clear.

2001 — Tribal member David Harrelson participated in an Outward Bound challenge in the North Cascades Mountains of Washington state. He said he appreciated home more now after three weeks spent in the wilderness, learning how to survive.

1996 — More than 200 Tribal members attended the 13th celebration of Tribal Restoration held at Grand Ronde Elementary School. Powwow Committee Chairman Merle Leno asked Tribal Council Chairwoman Kathryn Harrison to talk about Restoration. She said Tribal Council did not invite any guests to speak so that Tribal members could have an opportunity to talk about what Restoration meant to them. "You all are the real special guests," Harrison said.

1991 — Rebecca Crocker, granddaughter of Wilson Bobb Sr., was selected as the new Adult & Family Services coordinator for the JOBS Program, which assists Tribal members who are recipients of assistance and reside in the six-county service area.

1986 — The annual Christmas Party was scheduled for Dec. 20 at Grand Ronde Elementary School. The Tribe was soliciting donations of money, gifts for door prizes, candy, nuts and fruit. A potluck was set for 1 p.m. while Santa Claus was scheduled to make an appearance at 3:30 p.m.

Yesteryears is a look back at Tribal history in five-year increments through the pages of Smoke Signals.

Per capita distribution set for Friday, Dec. 9

Per capita check distribution will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9, in the Tribal Community Center. If checks are not picked up before 4 p.m., they will be mailed out at 4:30 p.m. that day.

If you are picking up a check for another Tribal member, you will need a notarized note to do so. For more information, call Tribal Member Services at 503-879-2490. ■

First Fish Ceremony set for Dec. 16

The Tribe will celebrate its first First Fish Ceremony from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16.

The event is being planned by the Tribal Culture Committee, Cultural Resources Department and Natural Resources with assistance from the Public Affairs staff.

Tribal members are encouraged to attend.

The ceremony will start at 10 a.m. at the Tribal Fish Weir on Agency Creek and be followed by a community meal at the Tribal Community Center. Representatives of the state Department of Fish & Wildlife will be special guests. For more information, call the Public Affairs Department at 503-879-1418. ■

Critics objected to the bundled approach

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quota set by Tribal Council on how many new Tribal members could be enrolled.

Supporters were optimistic of attaining the Tribal Constitution's benchmark of two-thirds approval since several of the proposed changes were supported by a majority of Tribal voters in early 2008.

However, critics objected to the bundled approach, wanting to vote on each proposal separately. They also did not support the new vote on the five-year relinquishment period, which was the only proposal to garner two-thirds approval in 2008, the redefinition of Grand Ronde blood and the annual quota.

The only Tribal consensus appeared to be support in eliminating the parent on the roll requirements, but since it was incorporated into an "all-or-nothing" approach, support was not enough to overcome concerns that many Tribal members had about other aspects of the bundle.

Slightly more than 38 percent of Tribal members who could have registered to vote in the Nov. 15 election did so. Of those who registered to vote in the special election, 71 percent cast ballots, which was a decrease from the 78 percent turnout in 2008 constitutional election.

"There is still a lot of work to do with regard to enrollment," said Tribal Council member Toby McClary, who opposed the bundled approach. "Individual views of this most recent election will probably vary. However, my view is that there are a lot of people who belong on our rolls who are currently being denied. How we remedy that is still uncertain.

"There are many people who are hurting as a result of this election and when people are hurting, there

are no winners. I feel that the current members of Tribal Council are committed to the issues that surround enrollment. I also believe there is a way to help Tribal families through our hard work and my hope is that we begin that work now."

Tribal Council member Chris Mercier, who supported the bundle, said, "It's obviously a very divisive issue, and probably will always be a divisive issue. I think that the reality is that getting two-thirds majority support makes getting a constitutional amendment really daunting. ...

"I personally think that the economic climate has to have had an impact. There were a lot of people who expressed concern over the financial impacts of suddenly enrolling all these new people, and we are worse off financially than we were three years ago."

Mercier said he thinks enrollment issues will continue to be a topic of discussion for the Grand Ronde Tribe.

"The fact that it hasn't been resolved means it is still a live issue, and it is still something that people can campaign on and keep alive," he said.

The Nov. 15 election was the third time Grand Ronde Tribal members have voted on enrollment issues since 1983's Restoration.

In 1999, Tribal members approved a bundled proposal that tightened up requirements to limit burgeoning enrollment caused by the financial success of Spirit Mountain Casino.

In 2008, only one of three separate proposals — the five-year relinquishment period that people have to wait after they leave another Tribe before they can apply to enroll in the Grand Ronde Tribe — received the constitutionally mandated two-thirds majority to be incorporated into the Tribal Constitution. ■

Chinuk Wawa classes offered

The Tribal Cultural Education Department offers adult Chinuk Wawa language classes from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Monday and Wednesday in Room 207 of the Tribal Education Building.

Language classes can be taken for college credit or for fun.

For more information, call 503-879-2249 or 503-437-4599. ■

Tribal teen collecting pennies for presents

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

Tribal teenager Loren Hahn, 16, knows the value of a penny. Or, more accurately, the cumulative value of a lot of pennies.

For the second year in a row, she is collecting pennies to buy Christmas presents for the less fortunate.

Hahn started Pennies for Presents last year when she was 15. It is a nonprofit foundation that helps less fortunate families have a better holiday.

The goal, Hahn says, is to raise enough money through penny drives to help families in the local community — Hahn lives in Aurora, Ore. — who need a helping hand for Christmas.

The pennies provide food and gifts for children, and most of the gifts are educational.

In 2010, Hahn collected 75,000 pennies, or \$750, which helped three families have a better Christmas.

This year, she is working with fellow Tribal member Ayana Buxton, an 8-year-old third-grader at McMinnville's St. John's Lutheran Church



Contributed photo

Tribal members Ayana Buxton, left, and Loren Hahn.

who is this year's Junior Miss Oregon.

Penny donations will be accepted at the Tribe by Shannon Simi at Tribal Social Services and Kandee Little and Melody Baker, who both work at the Tribe's Health & Wellness Center.

Hahn is a junior at North Marion High School and plays on the varsity soccer and softball teams, among her other interests. ■