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# Smoke Signals

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UMPQUA ■ MOLALLA ■ ROGUE RIVER ■ KALAPUYA ■ CHASTA

## Tribal Easter Egg Hunt set for April 7

By Dean Rhodes  
*Smoke Signals editor*

**T**ribal Housing's annual Easter Egg Hunt will start at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 7, in the covered area on Raven Loop and kick off a series of Easter-related events that day.

The Easter Bunny (aka Tribal Council member Steve Bobb Sr.) will return to help hide the eggs and pass out Easter candy to participants.

Age categories for Easter egg hunters will be 1 to 4 years of age, 5 to 8 and 9 to 12. Hunters should bring their own basket.

After the hunt, the Tribe's Indian Child Welfare Program will hold a Fun Walk beginning at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 7, to be followed by an 11:30 a.m. lunch in the Tribal gym.

The Fun Walk will start in the parking lot next to the Community Center and end at the Tribal gym. T-shirts will be distributed to everyone who participates in the walk.

During lunch, there will be door prizes and informational booths.

The event is being held in conjunction with Support Child Abuse Prevention Month.

For more information, contact Tribal Foster Care Recruitment Specialist Amanda Mercier at 503-879-2039 or [Amanda.mercier@grandronde.org](mailto:Amanda.mercier@grandronde.org).

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Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Julie Brown, Tribal Cultural Interpretive Specialist, looks through a stack of photos as she prepares the "shawash-ili?i luchmən — ntsayka ikanum: Grand Ronde Women — Our Story" exhibit that will run Friday, April 6, through Monday, May 28, at the Willamette Heritage Center at The Mill in Salem.

## History on display

Willamette Heritage Center hosting two-month examination of influence of Native women

By Ron Karten

*Smoke Signals staff writer*

**A** celebration of western Oregon Native women is coming up in April with follow-up exhibitions and demonstrations continuing into May at the Willamette Heritage Center

at The Mill in Salem.

The exhibit, "shawash-ili?i luchmən — ntsayka ikanum: Grand Ronde Women — Our Story," runs Friday, April 6, through Monday, May 28.

On Thursday, April 5, an invitation-only Tribal opening will

feature Grand Ronde Tribal women Cheryle A. Kennedy, Tribal Council chairwoman; Tribal Elder Kathryn Harrison, former long-time Tribal Coun-

See HISTORY continued on page 7

## Community Fund surpasses \$56 million in giving

30 grants totaling \$420,800 given out on March 14 in Tribal gymnasium

By Dean Rhodes

*Smoke Signals editor*

**A**t its quarterly check presentation on Wednesday, March 14, in the Tribal gym, Spirit Mountain Community Fund hit another milestone, handing out its 1,789th grant and surpassing the \$56 million mark in charitable giving.

The 30 grants totaling \$420,800 given out on March 14 brought the Community Fund to \$56,254,531.70 in charitable giving since its formation in 1997, said Community Fund Administrative Assistant Kluane Baer.

At the event, Tribal member and Spirit Mountain Community Fund Director Kathleen George thanked grant recipient representatives

for allowing the Grand Ronde Tribe, through its philanthropic Community Fund, to partner with them in making western Oregon a better place to live.

The Community Fund receives 6 percent of Spirit Mountain Casino revenues and distributes the money in an 11-county area, assisting efforts in arts and culture, education, health, historic preservation, public safety, environmental preservation and problem gaming. The Community Fund also distributes grants to Oregon's nine federally recognized Tribes as part of its Oregon Tribal Grants Program.

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Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal member Kathleen George, middle, director of Spirit Mountain Community Fund, and a group of grant recipients mingle during the fund's quarterly check presentation in the Tribal gym on Wednesday, March 14.