



# Smoke Signals

A Publication of the Grand Ronde Tribe

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www.grandronde.org

UMPQUA ■ MOLALLA ■ ROGUE RIVER ■ KALAPUYA ■ CHASTA

## Memorial Day event set

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

**T**ribal Memorial Day events on Monday, May 28, start with a noon meal prepared under the direction of Tribal member and Food Services Coordinator Kristy DeLoe.

DeLoe will be joined in cooking this year's meal by Tribal cooks Kevin Campbell and Michael Burton. Campbell is also a Tribal member.

Together, the culinary trio will prepare the traditional meal of stew

with ceremonial meat, salad, rolls, coffee, punch and dessert.

The meal will be prepared at the Elders' Activity Center kitchen though it will be served at the Community Center opposite the West Valley Veterans' Memorial. Tribal Elders and Grand Ronde Royalty have volunteered to serve the meal.

Following immediately after the meal, Tribal Council Vice Chair Reyn Leno, a Vietnam-era Marine veteran, will be master of ceremony at the memorial.

Nine new names added this year to the black granite pillars will bring the total number to 2,254. With the Army and Navy pillars filling up, the Tribe anticipates adding two new

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**Tribal Vice Chair and Marine veteran Reyn Leno speaks during the Tribe's Memorial Day observance at the West Valley Veterans Memorial on the Tribal campus on Memorial Day 2011.**



Smoke Signals file photo



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

**Tribal member Inatye Lewis, 9, looks to give a high five to a volunteer as he nears the finish in the Awesome 3000 at Bush's Pasture Park in Salem on Saturday, May 5. Behind Lewis is the friend he ran the race with, Zinn Morton.**

## An awesome run

**Inatye Lewis shines in overcoming a disability to finish Salem event**

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

**S**ALEM — On Saturday, May 5, at Bush Park, 9-year-old Tribal member Inatye Lewis participated in a 2,000-meter race for third-graders.

He was thinking, "Go, and run, and try to impress my mom."

His mother, Donna Lewis, is married to Tribal member and Cultural Resources Department manager David Lewis. She provided the back story and how she felt about the race even before her youngest

son ran it.

Inatye, she wrote in an e-mail, was born with a rare birth defect called tibial hemimelia, which is a congenital absence or reduction (and delayed growth throughout childhood) of the tibial bone or the shin bone.

"Usually other malformations of the leg and foot are present (as with Inatye) and the joints and muscles of the affected leg(s) often form incorrectly," she wrote. "The majority of children born with this syndrome end up with an amputation in the first few years of life."

"Some children are able to have enough

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## Community Fund celebrates 15 years of Tribal giving

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

**T**ribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy said: "It is astounding to me that 30 years ago, we were having bake sales and now look at this: We've given away \$56 million and I'm sitting across the table from Sherman Alexie."

The \$56 million represents almost 1,800 grants in an 11-county area.

"Indians have plenty of reasons to be angry and to fight back," said Alexie, "but to see this Tribe operate with such love and forgiveness is incredible. I'm so proud of you. You honor us and set an example that more and more will follow."

The three-hour celebration for the 15th anniversary of Spirit Mountain Community Fund on Friday, May 11, at Spirit Mountain Casino hosted about 500 Community Fund recipients, Tribal Council members, Community Fund trustees, elected officials, Tribal Elders and many guests for steak and salmon.

In addition, there was the introduction of a new Community Fund video hosted by Executive Director Kathleen George, a videotaped congratulations from Gov. John Kitzhaber, awarding of eight \$5,000 special grants and for dessert, writer, poet and storyteller Sherman Alexie (Spokane).

"Fifteen years ago, Spirit Mountain Community Fund, the new philanthropic arm of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, made its first grant award, to the Life Flight Network," said George. "That first grant, which enhanced Life Flight's ability to save lives in rural Oregon, started something that has become very important to the Grand Ronde Tribe, and that is to partner, to support the foundational ability of non-profit organizations in Oregon to help people, foster self-sufficiency and to build

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