



**2009** – Tribal Council members attended a U.S. Department of the Interior meeting in Portland to provide input on a new consultation policy. The event attracted about 50 representatives from Northwest Tribes and Interior employees heard criticism of their department's past practices, as well as constructive suggestions.



File photo

Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy welcomed everyone to the homelands of the Grand Ronde Tribe.

**2004** – Beginning in January, the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde will offer a medic alert service for homes in Tribal-sponsored housing projects. The offer is open to families with either an Elder or a disabled family member, making 66 out of a possible 110 Tribal households eligible.

**1999** – The Natural Resources Department started preparing a new 10-year Management Plan that will run through 2010. "We have to have a plan in place by the year 2001," said Natural Resources Manager Cliff Adams.

**1994** – The Tribe purchased a two-story modular building from Washington Public Power Supply System that will increase badly needed office space for Tribal employees. The 10,752-square-foot building will be located near Spirit Mountain Development Corp. "It will almost double our current available office space," said Tribal Engineer Brett Egdorf.

**1989** – *Smoke Signals* and Tribal archives do not have a copy of the December 1989 edition.

**1984** – The annual Christmas party attracted 175 people. Santa (Ray McKnight) arrived to delight the children and everyone in attendance received a large bag of goodies.

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

## IHS, Nike sign agreement to promote Native health

The Indian Health Service and Beaverton-based Nike USA Inc. signed a memorandum of understanding to collaborate on the promotion of healthy lifestyle choices for Native Americans and Alaska Natives.

The goal is to use the strengths and expertise of both organizations to improve and enhance the health and fitness of Native peoples across the nation.

Native peoples suffer health problems that are significantly higher than the general population. Obesity in Native youth is about twice that of the general population, which is of particular concern given the possible lifelong health effects.

"Regular physical activity and healthy food choices contribute to better health by reducing obesity and the many chronic conditions associated with it, including diabetes and heart disease," said Dr. Yvette Roubideaux, acting IHS director. "The partnership will serve American Indian and Alaska Native communities by expanding the information available on the importance of physical activity and healthy lifestyle choices."

"N7 is Nike's longtime commitment and mission to inspire and enable 2 million Native American and aboriginal youth in North America to participate in sport and physical activity," said Sam McCracken, general manager of Nike N7. "We are proud of Nike's unique partnership with IHS and our shared commitment to unleash the potential of American Indian and Alaskan Native communities through the power of movement." ■

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## AuCoin visits



Photos by Michelle Alaimo

**Tribal Council Chairman Reyn Leno, left, and Tribal Elder Kathryn Harrison, right, gift former U.S. Rep. Les AuCoin a Grand Ronde Pendleton blanket during his visit to Grand Ronde on Tuesday, Dec. 9. AuCoin, along with former Sen. Mark Hatfield, introduced the legislation that restored the Grand Ronde Tribe to federal recognition in November 1983. The last time AuCoin was in Grand Ronde was in 1998 for the dedication of the Governance Center, he said. He currently lives in Montana.**



**Tribal Council member Tonya Gleason-Shepek introduces herself to former U.S. Rep. Les AuCoin during his visit to Grand Ronde on Tuesday, Dec. 9. AuCoin told Tribal Council members that his work with the Grand Ronde Tribe to accomplish Restoration was one of his greatest accomplishments as a member of Congress. In the background, from left, Tribal Council members Jon A. George and Ed Pearsall and Vice Chair Jack Giffen Jr. look on.**

## West Valley district seeking Fire Explorers

The West Valley Fire District, which covers Grand Ronde, Willamina and Sheridan, is seeking youths for its Fire Explorer Program.

Young men and women age 14 to 20 will become familiar with career opportunities in the fire service through classroom instruction, hands-on training and volunteer work. The program encourages and promotes accountability, safety, communication, teamwork, fitness and leadership.

Participants must attend weekly drills from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Saturdays, adhere to dress and conduct codes, perform weekly physical fitness and training specific to firefighting skills, and demonstrate a willingness to make improvements and show self-motivation.

For more information, contact Fire Explorer Post 908 adviser Seth Bellarts at 503-437-2046. ■

### Elders' phone numbers wanted

The Tribal Elders Committee is compiling a volunteer phone list of Elders. If you would like to submit your phone number and address to be available to other Elders, send it to [elders.committee@grandronde.org](mailto:elders.committee@grandronde.org) or leave a message at 503-879-2231. ■