



Native Youth
Wellness Day — pg. 12

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UMPQUA ■ MOLALLA ■ ROGUE RIVER ■ KALAPUYA ■ CHASTA

Key Restoration figure Marvin Kimsey walks on

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

Marvin Kimsey, one of three Grand Ronde Tribal members who started the Tribe on the path to Restoration in the 1970s and then testified before Congress in 1983 in support of the Tribe's Restoration to federal recognition, walked on Sunday, March 4, at the age of 83.

Kimsey was born Feb. 27, 1935, to Loren and Nora Kimsey and he is descended from Chief Bogus of the Umpqua Tribe who was killed by vigilantes on the 1856 Trail of Tears. He married Eleanor Kimsey on Nov. 25, 1954, and they owned a filling station together. Eleanor walked on in 2006.



Marvin Kimsey

Kimsey, along with his sister, Margaret Provost, and Merle Holmes are credited with starting the arduous work that eventually led to 1983's Restoration.

Kimsey joined Holmes and Dean Mercier as three of the first original Tribal chairmen before Restoration occurred. He also served on the post-Restoration Tribal Council from September 1988 to September 1989, receiving the second highest vote total in the September 1988 Tribal Council election with 77.

According to a *Smoke Signals* story published in December 2001, Kimsey and Holmes were convinced by Provost to attend an Association of Urban Indians meeting held in Lebanon in 1972 that sparked the Restoration effort.

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Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal Elder Steve Bobb Sr. has been an artist most of his life. He has an art studio in his Willamina home where he does his artwork.

A 'lucky' man

Tribal Elder Steve Bobb Sr. serves as chair of Veterans Special Event Board and continues to create artworks

By Danielle Frost

Smoke Signals staff writer

Grand Ronde Tribal Elder and lifelong area resident Steve Bobb Sr. has held a multitude of titles in his almost 69 years of life: Husband, father, grandfather, soldier, veteran, friend, professional truck painter, sign maker, artist, rebel, cancer survivor, Tribal Council member and volunteer.



He is passionate about veteran's causes and fiercely loves his family. Most describe Bobb as someone who speaks his mind and he wouldn't have it any other way. One of his mottos is, "Lead from the heart, speak from the heart."

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Egg-citing Easter event set for March 31

Children get candy from the Easter Bunny, aka Tribal Elder Steve Bobb Sr., during the Tribe's annual Easter egg hunt held at Tribal Housing last April.

Smoke Signals file photo



By Danielle Frost

Smoke Signals staff writer

Easter falls on Sunday, April 1, which means the annual Grand Ronde Easter Egg Hunt will be held Saturday, March 31, at the covered area in Tribal family housing.

Hunt organizers aren't joking when they advise being on time for the event or you'll feel like an April fool.

"The hunt begins at 10 a.m. and is usually over by 10:03 a.m.," Rental Housing & Self-Sufficiency Coordinator Deborah

Kroeker said.

So, this is one Tribal event that requires extreme promptness on the part of parents and prospective Easter egg hunters, lest they miss out on the various candy-filled eggs.

There are four hunt categories for children ages 1 to 2, 3 to 4, 5 to 8 and 9 to 12. Egg hunters are advised to bring their own Easter basket to put their bounty in.

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