



2013 – Six European Fellows visited achaf-hammi, the Tribal plankhouse, and Spirit Mountain Casino’s buffet. Tribal Council member Chris Mercier called the plankhouse “our crown jewel.” Marshall Memorial Fellows from Madrid, Vienna, Ankara, Berlin and Warsaw met Americans by visiting people living in a variety of different circumstances. The Marshall Memorial Fellowship was created by the United States in 1982 to introduce a new generation of European leaders to America. All of the fellows were fluent in English and a variety of other languages.

2008 – Grand Ronde Cultural Education Coordinator Tony Johnson received the Indian Educator of the Year award at the Oregon Indian Education Association Conference. He had been working for the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde since 1997. “It was absolutely shocking,” Johnson said. “It was a genuine surprise. In terms of things I’ve been awarded in the past, it is hugely significant to me.” In addition, Grand Ronde Scholarships Coordinator Luhui Whitebear was named Outstanding Volunteer of the Year.

2003 – Baskets from the Grand Ronde collection were on display at the Mission Mill Museum in Salem and showcased the “artistry and skill” of Willamette Valley Natives. Tribal Elders Kathryn Harrison and Merle Holmes attended the Western Oregon Basketry Display’s opening. The baskets represented different styles, techniques and materials used in basket making. “The idea of the exhibit was to showcase the baskets and show the continuity between weavers,” Cultural Collections Specialist Lindy Trolan said.



2003 File photo

1998 – Health and Human Services Division Manager Cheryle A. Kennedy gave an update on Tribal health and wellness at a March General Council meeting. She noted that the prior year was very important because the programs had grown and were all housed at the new Health & Wellness Center. “Our goal is to raise the health of our membership by using preventive services as well at treatment services,” Kennedy said.

1993 – Sen. Mark O. Hatfield was named as the newest member of the Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs. Oregon’s fifth-term senior senator was a ranking member of the Senate Appropriations, Energy and Natural Resources committees. “Critical issues regarding self-determination of Native American Tribes will be debated in the select committees in the coming years,” he said. “I look forward to helping shape those discussions to reflect the needs of Oregon Tribes.”

1988 – Excerpts from “Just a Memorandum” by Mary Ann Michelle in 1956 were featured in *Smoke Signals*. In it, the author talked about her grandfather, Oregon City John, and his history with the Grand Ronde Tribe. She also described early life on the Reservation and the first land allotment, called the Thompson Allotment. “After the Indians were settled down, then they had to get the children started to school. They just had one big building. They had Catholic sisters here.” She continued that, “I am writing this because ... I feel so sorry to think about all the people that signed the treaty haven’t even got a descendent living. Oh, it’s other things that happened, but it’s no use to talk about it.”

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

Hatfield Fellow Program seeking applicants

By Angela Sears
Community Fund Program Coordinator

The web-based application for the 2018-19 Hatfield Fellowship opened Friday, March 16, for members of Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana Tribes and will close on Monday, April 30.

Each year, Spirit Mountain Community Fund sponsors a congressional fellowship with a member of the Oregon delegation to enhance the mutual understanding between the federal government and Indian Country.

Past fellows have served in a number of Senate and House congressional offices, including those of Sens. Ron Wyden, Jeff Merkley and Gordon Smith and Reps. Kurt Schrader, Darlene Hooley, Peter DeFazio and Greg Walden.

“The Hatfield Fellowship is a yearly investment in strengthening the understanding between Oregon Tribes and our congressional representatives,” Community Fund

Director Mychal Cherry said. “By spending eight months as part of a congressional office, these Tribal members come away with an invaluable understanding of how things are done in D.C. During the fellowship experience, working relationships are formed that will benefit the fellow throughout their career. The congressional staff also learn from a colleague about the realities in Indian Country and the huge potential for our communities. This is absolutely a learning exchange.”

Fellows begin their time in Washington, D.C., in November with a monthlong orientation with the American Political Science Association.

The Hatfield Fellowship was created in 1998 to honor Sen. Mark Hatfield’s public service to Oregon and the Pacific Northwest. Additional information about the program is available at www.thecommunityfund.com/hatfield-fellowship. ■

‘Marvin worked very hard to get this Tribe restored’

KIMSEY continued
from front page

“You know, we figured it would take two or three years, tops,” Kimsey said.

Eleven years later, Restoration was achieved.

“It is ... impossible, I mean impossible to tell you everything that went on in Restoration, and what it entailed,” Kimsey recalled. “It really is. You just have to be there. There were a lot of sacrifices made. We weren’t always a Tribe with a casino, or a Tribe with timber even. ... The hours were long and tedious. And there were times I wondered if it was worth it.”

In October 1983, Kimsey, Jackie Whisler, Kathryn Harrison and her children, Frank Harrison, and Karen Askins, testified before the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee in Washington, D.C., about Restoration of the Grand Ronde Tribe. Little more than a month later, President Ronald Reagan signed the Grand Ronde Restoration Act on Nov. 22, 1983.

“I’m glad I was part of Restoration,” Kimsey said. “I don’t know what would drive a person to do it. But if it had to be done again, I suppose I could muster up the strength.”

Kimsey’s passing, which was announced during the Sunday, March 4, General Council meeting, elicited honors from other Tribal members.

“Marvin worked very hard to get this Tribe restored,” Tribal Council Vice Chair Chris Mercier said while announcing the news. “He was a very important person in this Tribe’s history.”

Tribal Elder and former Tribal

Council member Val Grout honored Kimsey, Provost and Holmes. “They’re the ones that worked hard to get us where we are today,” she said.

Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy called Kimsey’s passing “a great loss to the Tribe” during the Tuesday, March 6, Legislative Action Committee meeting.

In honor of Kimsey, flags on the Tribal campus were lowered to half-staff.

Services for Kimsey were held on Sunday, March 11, in the Tribal gym with a meal that followed at the Elders Activity Center. He was buried in the Grand Ronde Tribal Cemetery.

“I know that everyone was learning some new things at the service and remembering some of the contributions that Marvin had made for our Tribe,” Kennedy said during the Tuesday, March 13, Legislative Action Committee meeting. “One of the things is he was pretty humble about what he did. He didn’t put up big banners and say, ‘Look at me. Look what I did. I’m the greatest.’ Or anything like that. He really did his job quietly, fulfilled the purpose of part of his life was, and I’m very appreciative to that and to the family for all of those contributions.”

“I guess the message that I would want to leave with all of our members is to look within ourselves and (ask) what is our contribution to our people and our Tribe? What can we do selflessly? And to be able to do so in a way that is kind and generous to all.”

A full Walking On notice appears on page 18 of this issue of *Smoke Signals*. ■

Chinuk Family Night

When:
March 22nd, 2018 @ 5:30 pm

Where:
achaf hammi (Grand Ronde Plankhouse)



Please join us for the reading of a chinuk-wawa story written by one of our tribal elders along with singing and dancing. Dinner will be provided as well as one book for each attending family.

Please RSVP to Justine Flynn @ 503-879-2066 or justine.flynn@grandronde.org

*Those that RSVP will receive a meal ticket to ensure their dinner. Those that do not RSVP will be served after those with meal tickets.