



2013 – Tribal Elder John Lillard, 64, was featured for his dedication to weight loss and healthy living after he lost nearly half of his body weight, slimming down his 6-foot-5-inch frame from 400 to 240 pounds. Lillard credited fresh fruit, vegetables, lean meat, exercise and determination for his weight loss. After years of health problems, he finally had enough in 2005 and threw out all processed food and soda in his home. “If I liked somebody, why would I want to give them this crap?” he said.

2008 – Memorial Day included a keynote speech from then-Gov. Ted Kulongoski at the West Valley Veterans Memorial in Grand Ronde. Beginning at 8 a.m., some 50 Tribal and family members and veterans from across West Valley gathered for the first in a series of events. It was the start of an on-again, off-again chilly, rainy and sunny day that included an address by Kulongoski and the first Tribal ceremony held with fresh ceremonial meat.



2008 File photo

2003 – The Tribe’s Spirit Mountain Community Fund reached the \$20 million mark in giving with a gala dinner and entertainment at Portland Art Museum. On stage at the museum, members of Oregon Coast Children’s Theatre, one of the grant recipients, brought a Native American myth to life. Representatives of many of the 254 recipient organizations of the fund’s 347 grants since 1997 attended, plus Tribal Elders, Tribal officials, staff members and government officials.

1998 – Tribal Information Day was celebrated at the State Capitol building with a proclamation presented by Oregon Secretary of State Phil Keisling to kick off the day set aside for Oregon citizens to learn firsthand about Tribal culture, history and community programs. Traditional dancers and drummers, as well as informational tables, were on hand for the event. Tribal leaders said that the proclamation honoring Oregon Indian nations was a significant recognition of indigenous sovereignty.

1993 – The first year of the Tribe’s Head Start program wrapped up and was touted as the “first of its kind” in Grand Ronde. It was developed in conjunction with the Yamhill Community Action Program of McMinnville. Nineteen children attended the program, which was staffed by teacher Angela Bedortha, assistant teacher Mary Cook and family services advocate June Olson. Bedortha emphasized the differences between the program and another daycare or preschool. “We discuss the differences and similarities between the different cultures,” she said. “A lot of children don’t have current concepts of what a Native American is.”

1988 – Eleven people were nominated for three open Tribal Council seats. Those nominated included John Allen, Frank Harrison, Merle Holmes, Marvin Kimsey, Gene LaBonte, Ed Larsen, Merle Leno, Tom Leno, Ray McKnight, Darrel Mercier and Riley Porter. The incumbents were Merle Leno, Gene LaBonte and Ray McKnight.

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

Tribal Council sets June per capita payment date

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

The second per capita payment date of 2018 will occur on Friday, June 15, after Tribal Council approved the distribution date at its Wednesday, May 23, meeting.

Tribal Finance Officer Chris Leno said the payment amount will not be known until early June.

In other action, Tribal Council approved the re-appointments of Tribal member Kevin Schultz and Dennis Dinsmore to the Grand Ronde Gaming Commission. Both terms will run through June 2021.

Tribal Council also approved amendments to the Tobacco Ordinance that will establish a minimum age of 21 for sale or distribution by licensed operators, bringing the Tribal law in line with state law. However, the ordinance is not intended to interfere with the use of tobacco for ceremonial purposes.

An infant also was enrolled into the Tribe because they meet the requirements outlined in the Tribal Constitution and Enrollment Ordinance.

Also included in the May 23 Tribal Council packet were approved

authorizations to proceed that transferred \$30,000 from contingency to Economic Development for the 2018 Chemawa Station operating budget and OK’d a letter from the Tribe to the Environmental Protection Agency regarding hydrologic connection.

An authorization to proceed to spend \$10,000 to install bullet resistant steel plating on the inside wall of Tribal Council’s bench in Tribal Council Chambers and the Community Center failed.

Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy made the cultural presentation to open the meeting and discussed the welcoming event held earlier in the day for 16 items from the Summers Collection that are held by the British Museum in London.

“It was a very moving experience to see some of those objects,” Kennedy said.

“The Rise of the Collectors” exhibit at Chachalu Museum & Cultural Center opens to the public on Tuesday, June 5.

The entire meeting can be viewed on the Tribal website www.grandronde.org by clicking on the News tab and then Video. ■

Social Services has bike helmets

The Tribe’s Social Services Department has bicycle helmets available for distribution. Those needing a helmet should visit the department and sign a helmet application, as well as get fitted.

For more information, contact Social Services at 503-879-2034. ■

Willamina School District offering free summer meals

The Willamina School District will once again provide free meals to children during the summer as part of its partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Anyone ages 1 to 18 can eat for free.

Meals will be served Monday through Friday from June 18 through Aug. 3 with the exception of July 4. Locations will be Willamina Elementary School from 10:45 to 11:15 a.m., Tina Miller Park near Willamina City Hall from 11:30 to noon, and Raven Loop Park in Grand Ronde from 12:30 to 1 p.m. There are no income requirements or registration required.

For more information, visit www.willamina.k12.or.us or call 503-876-2702. ■

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ACCEPTING
APPLICATIONS

Now accepting applications for the
Temporary Staffing Pool!

If you are interested in filling temporary vacancies on an “on-call” basis, you are encouraged to contact the CTGR Human Resources Office.

Applicants must successfully pass a criminal background check and drug screen.

This is an excellent opportunity for our membership to supplement their income and gain experience while aiding us in continuing a smooth delivery of services.

To apply, please go to www.grandronde.org/about/employment and download an application. Applications can be delivered to Human Resources, mailed or emailed to empapps@grandronde.org

Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Employment Service Center, Building C Attn: Human Resources, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347
If you have questions about the temporary pool, please come by the office or call 503-879-2109

HELP
WANTED