



2013 – Elders were being invited by the Land & Culture Department to record oral histories in an effort to increase the Tribal museum’s archive of their recollections. Tribal Historian David Lewis and Collections Specialist Veronica Montano invited Tribal Elder Ed Larsen in to give his history as part of the latest effort. The museum was undertaking the task of completing oral histories for the 350 Tribal Elders who were listed on the Termination Roll and still living. “We’re trying to do a couple hundred in the next year,” Lewis said. “It’s pretty ambitious.”



2013 File photo

2008 – Record high heat and humidity did not deter Grand Ronde Tribal members on their annual pilgrimage to the American Museum of Natural History in New York City, which houses Tomanowos, the 15.5-ton meteorite also known as the Willamette meteorite. Tribal Council members Valerie Sheker and Kathleen Tom led a delegation of seven Elders, family members, student interns and representatives from Cultural Resources and Education on the trip. Tribal Elder and former Tribal Council Chairwoman Kathryn Harrison also traveled to New York City.

2003 – Tribal Elder and then-Tribal Council Chairwoman Kathryn Harrison received an honorary degree from Portland State University in recognition for her commitment to public policy and Tribal government. She was awarded a Doctorate of Humane Letters at the 2003 graduation ceremony. Harrison played a major role in the Restoration of both the Grand Ronde and Siletz Tribes. “All I did was work,” she said. “I was blessed by my Tribe, my family and my God.”

1998 – The Grand Ronde Tribe was taking the local water association to court over what it deemed unfair fees charged for installing a water line to Grand Meadows and filed a stipulated temporary restraining order to prevent the utility from shutting off water services to the community. Tribal attorneys filed the order in response to the water association’s threat to shut off service to the residential park, which housed approximately 70 Tribal members. The shut-off notice was in response to the Tribe’s refusal to pay the alleged excess hookup fees.

1993 – Plans for a Tribal gaming facility continued as the staff of Spirit Mountain Development Corp. devoted “virtually all of its time and effort,” to the project. Tribal Council members Mark Mercier, Kathryn Harrison, Margaret Provost and Candy Robertson spent time exploring several different aspects of the project. A negotiating team reached an agreement with Oregon Gov. Barbara Roberts that allowed the Tribe to operate a gaming facility while providing the state with assurances that the Tribe’s operation would be consistent with the state’s goals.

1988 – The Grand Ronde Reservation Bill was unanimously approved by the House of Representatives. The bill authorized a 9,811-acre reservation in Yamhill County for the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. The bill was sponsored by Oregon Rep. Les AuCoin and was set to move to the Senate, where Oregon Sen. Mark Hatfield was expected to work for quick passage of the legislation. “Establishing the Grand Ronde Reservation is the second step in putting the Tribe and its members back on appropriate social, economic and cultural footing,” AuCoin said.

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

ENROLLMENT ORDINANCE OPEN FOR COMMENT

The Tribal Council is considering amendments to the Enrollment Ordinance. The proposed amendments were given a First Reading at the June 20, 2018, Tribal Council meeting.

The proposed amendments address reinstatement of membership in limited circumstances. Specifically, Tribal Council proposes that Section (j) be amended to add a Subsection (7). The added language would be as follows:

- (7) Reinstatement of Membership. Tribal Council may reinstate membership following loss of membership under the following conditions:
- (A) Tribal Council determines that reinstatement of membership is appropriate under Tribal law, including Tribal case law;
 - (B) The loss of membership decision was made by the Enrollment Committee/Board between July 2, 2014, and January 28, 2018, the time period during which the Enrollment Committee/Board made the final loss of membership decision;
 - (C) The individual being reinstated did not become a member of any other federally recognized Indian Tribe following loss of membership and met the Constitutional blood quantum requirements for membership at the time he or she was originally enrolled;
 - (D) The reinstated member shall be reassigned his or her original membership roll number;
 - (E) Reinstatement of membership shall be effective on the date approved by Tribal Council Resolution at which time the reinstated member shall be eligible for Tribal benefits;
 - (F) There is no right to Tribal benefits or payments during the time period prior to reinstatement; and
 - (G) The decision to reinstate membership pursuant to this provision is at the sole discretion of Tribal Council.

The proposed amendments may also include minor technical (i.e., formatting and typographical) modifications.

Tribal Council invites comments on the proposed amendments to the Enrollment Ordinance. For a copy of the proposed amendments, please contact the Tribal Attorney’s Office at 503-879-4664. Please send your comments to the Tribal Attorney’s Office, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347 or by e-mail to legal@grandronde.org. Comments must be received by July 31, 2018. ■

Sewing class participants wanted

The sewing classes that have been held at the Elders Activity Center have been canceled due to lack of participation. Classes could resume if at least six people commit to attending. To commit or find out more information, contact Elders Activity Assistant Virginia Kimsey-Roof at 503-879-2233. ■

JULY 12, 2018 5PM - 7:30PM
TRIBAL COMMUNITY CENTER

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CONTACT: BRYAN LANGLEY, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
EMAIL: YOURMONEYYOURFUTURE@GRANDRONDE.ORG
PHONE: 503-879-2276

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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 through Aug. 3 with the exception of Wednesday, 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. ■