

Gathering of Grand
Ronde Tilixam
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UMPQUA ■ MOLALLA ■ ROGUE RIVER ■ KALAPUYA ■ CHASTA

Casino float to honor Tribal fishing traditions

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

Considering the Grand Ronde Tribe's return to ceremonially fish at Willamette Falls last October and this spring, it's no surprise that Spirit Mountain Casino's float entry in this year's Rose Festival Grand Floral Parade centers around fishing.

Designed by Tribal Council member Steve Bobb Sr., the casino's float "A Culture of Fishing" will be the first one going down the 4.2-mile Grand Floral Parade route on Saturday, June 8, in downtown Portland.

The Tribe's float — always the first out of Memorial Coliseum — was built by Portland-based SCI 3.2, which has built every casino float for the last 23 years.

"A lot of Tribal members were saying they wanted the float to reflect Grand Ronde," Bobb said. "I was discussing it with Jocelyn

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If you go

Spirit Mountain Casino
Grand Floral Parade

When: 10 a.m. Saturday, June 8

Where: Memorial Coliseum
down Martin Luther King Jr.
Boulevard to downtown Portland
ending at Lincoln High School

Admission: Indoor: \$30 reserved
and \$15 supersaver;
Outdoor: \$30 reserved chairs,
\$25 reserved bleachers

More info: www.rosefestival.org



Photos by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Grand Ronde Royalty members perform "The Lord's Prayer" during the 17th annual Memorial Day ceremony held at the West Valley Veterans Memorial on Monday, May 27. Fifteen names were added to the memorial this year.

Honoring those who sacrificed

West Valley Veterans Memorial hosts 17th annual event

By Danielle Frost
Smoke Signals staff writer

The 17th annual Memorial Day ceremony held at the West Valley Veterans Memorial on the Grand Ronde Tribal campus on Monday, May 27, was highlighted by 15 names being added to the four black granite pillars that represent the major branches of the U.S.

armed forces.

Tribal Council member Steve Bobb Sr., who is past chairman of the Tribe's Veterans Special Event Board and a Marine Corps veteran from the Vietnam War era, gave the invocation and served as master of ceremonies.

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Tribal Council member Steve Bobb Sr. speaks during the 17th annual Memorial Day ceremony held at the West Valley Veterans Memorial on Monday, May 27. Fifteen names were added to the memorial this year.



Fish Ceremony connects Tribe, communities



Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez

By Danielle Frost
Smoke Signals staff writer

WEST LINN — The Grand Ronde Tribe's annual Fish Ceremony means different things to those who attend, but one common theme is that of connection between Tribal members, fish, the river and community.

On Saturday, May 18, the Tribe held the annual event in a new location, Willamette Park along the banks of the Willamette River in West Linn. In previous years, it had been held at the historic

McLean House nearby, but that location proved to be problematic for the number of attendees to find adequate parking.

Turnout was one of biggest of any of the Tribe's fish ceremonies, with approximately 75 people in attendance.

"It's a perfect day," Tribal Council Vice Chair Chris Mercier said. "This is the biggest turnout

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The remains of a salmon waits to be returned to the Willamette River at the end of the Fish Ceremony held at Willamette Park in West Linn on Saturday, May 18. The Tribe celebrated fishing off the platform at Willamette Falls and those who made it possible.