

Canoe paddle  
practice  
— pg. 12



JUNE 15, 2023



# SMOKE SIGNALS

UMPQUA · MOLALLA · ROGUE RIVER · KALAPUYA · CHASTA

AN INDEPENDENT PUBLICATION OF THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF GRAND RONDE · SMOKE SIGNALS.ORG

## ‘She was a true warrior’

### Public memorial service honors Kathryn Harrison

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

Several hundred people, including federal, state and Tribal government leaders, attended a public memorial service for Grand Ronde Tribal Elder Kathryn Harrison held Sunday, June 4, at Spirit Mountain Casino’s Event Center.

Harrison, who walked on May 21 at the age of 99, was instrumental in the Restoration efforts of two Oregon Tribes – the Siletz and Grand Ronde. At the time of her passing, she was the Grand Ronde Tribe’s eldest Elder and a revered figure for her work on the Restoration effort in the early 1980s, as well as for 17 years of service on the Grand Ronde Tribal Council between 1984 and 2001.

The more than two-hour service was segmented to honor Harrison’s myriad influential roles throughout her life. There were tributes from two nieces, fellow Restoration workers with both the Siletz and Grand Ronde Tribes, from federal and state leaders regarding her service on Tribal Council and her work on Tribal-state governmental relationships, and from others regarding her community service.

“I’m here to welcome you and to thank you for honoring our beloved Chairwoman Kathryn Harrison who many of you have worked with for many, many years,” said Grand Ronde Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy in her opening remarks that occurred after the Veterans Color Guard, Grand Ronde Singers and Veterans Royalty brought in the flags and performed “The Lord’s Prayer.”

“Today, we gather here to bid farewell to our beloved chairwoman. We pray that God, our Creator, rest her soul and gather her in his bosom,” Kennedy added.

The stage featured a black-and-white portrait of Harrison, her regalia, a blanket presented to her by the Corvallis



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy speaks during the memorial service for Tribal Elder Kathryn Harrison held at Spirit Mountain Casino’s Event Center on Sunday, June 4. Harrison walked on May 21 at the age of 99.

See HARRISON  
continued on pages 8-9

## Veterans Powwow slated for July 7-9

By Danielle Harrison

Smoke Signals assistant editor / staff writer

The Marcellus Norwest Memorial Veterans Powwow will return to Grand Ronde’s úyxat Powwow Grounds in July and include a veterans resource fair, Royalty coronation, food and lots of dancing.

It will be the first year that Tribal Elder and Vietnam War-era Marine Corps veteran Steve Bobb Sr. will

See POWWOW  
continued on page 7

### If you go

Marcellus Norwest Memorial Veterans Powwow

**When:** Grand entries at 7 p.m. Friday, July 7; 1 and 7 p.m. Saturday, July 8; and noon Sunday, July 9. Royalty pageant at 11 a.m. Friday with coronation at 5 p.m.

**Where:** úyxat Powwow grounds, 9600 Hebo Road  
**Cost:** Free

## Grand Ronde Road repaving began on Monday, June 5

By Danielle Harrison

Smoke Signals assistant editor / staff writer

Grand Ronde residents and governmental employees started facing a summer of repaving work on Grand Ronde Road beginning Monday, June 5.

The start date is 10 days ahead of schedule and the project is expected to wrap up by the end of September, according to construction signs placed along Grand Ronde Road.

Tribal Engineering and Planning Manager Ryan Webb sent out an all-employee e-mail Friday, June 2, to give everyone a heads-up on the impending road work.

“During this time there will be single lane closures on Grand Ronde Road,” he said. “As they excavate and replace the road section, they will have flaggers to move traffic through the work zone area.”

The first phase, which was tentatively set to end Friday, June 9, began near the intersection of Highway 22 and Grand Ronde Road.

Polk County Public Works Director Todd Whitaker said the project is a “full depth” reconstruction that

See ROAD  
continued on page 6