

Rosies from A1



DAMIEN SHERWOOD/COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL

From left: ARRA past national president Dr. Yvonne Fasold, "Rosies" Opal Nelson, Doris Graham and Dolly Marshall strike the iconic "Rosie the Riveter" pose before their Seattle trip.

Willamalane Adult Activity Center in Springfield. The Rosies also share their stories with schools and community groups throughout the area.

Dr. Yvonne Fasold is a past national president of ARRA whose mother was a welder during the war.

"What really comes across when these women talk is there's no sense of 'poor me,'" Fasold said. "No sense of negativity. It's always so positive."

The women are happy to talk about their contribution to the war effort — but stop short of taking too much credit.

"It's just what we did," said Dolly Marshall, 89. "And when it was done, I don't think we gave it another thought because we were involved with our lives and children."

Marshall made her war-time contribution on the East Coast as a volunteer in the Civil Air Patrol in New Jersey.

"We had uniforms and we went to Fort Dix and we danced with soldiers and we learned to march," she said.

As a cadet, she became a member of the Army's Aircraft Warning Service to keep watch for enemy planes entering American airspace. Marshall was trained to identify the silhouettes of planes from her station in a football stadium press box.

Though she never spotted enemy aircraft, evidence of the war washed up on the shoreline.

"The beaches were just covered with globs of oil from all the sunken ships," said Marshall. "You had to dunk your feet in kerosene because the beaches were just covered in it."

After the war, Marshall went into pipe construction.

Filling roles traditionally held by men was at times met with resistance, though these positions were pioneering efforts that forged a path for the next generation of women workers.

"When I graduated from high school and was going to college, you could be a nurse or teacher. And that was about it," said Marshall. "I took industrial design ... so I was often the only woman in the drafting room and faced a lot of sexual harassment over the years. ... It was a fight in those days. And it still is."

Graham, 94, was born in Washington, D.C. and grew up in Virginia. When a representative of the Treasury Department offered her the opportunity to be a typist for war

bonds, she jumped at the opportunity.

At 16 years old, the day after her high school graduation in 1942, Graham went to D.C. to work at the Treasury building, which overlooked the White House.

The work afforded Graham an invitation to the President's Birthday Ball. Though the president was not in attendance, Graham recalled being greeted at the door by a tall woman.

"She took our hands and said, 'Thank you for coming to the President's Birthday Ball,'" recalled Graham. "It wasn't until later that I realized that was Eleanor Roosevelt."

ARRA member Opal Nelson, 97, also a Cottage Grove resident, filled the iconic Rosie role as a riveter in California.

Nelson was a child of

the Great Depression, and went job seeking straight out of high school in 1939. At the time, jobs were scarce, so Nelson and a friend journeyed across the States looking for work before landing in Santa Monica.

As U.S. aircraft production increased in the lead up to the war, Nelson found work on an assembly line. Despite her lack of training, Nelson was hired as a riveter on the graveyard shift to help assemble fuselages for Douglas A-20 Havocs, a medium bomber/attack aircraft.

Besides the need to make a living, Nelson said she was heavily motivated to do her work as she knew that men overseas were counting on a steady stream of supplies.

"That was a primary thought in my mind — that

I was helping this come to pass," Nelson said.

The women's legacies were honored over the weekend at a banquet hosted by the Washington Women in Trades Association, which is also featuring Marshall and two other local members in the association's 2020 calendar.

Nelson and Graham have already appeared in previous calendars.

Following the honors, the five Lane County Rosies received a VIP tour of a Boeing facility.

Fasold is eager to find more Rosies in the area as the generation ages.

"Time is of the essence," said Fasold. "We lost four members of our chapter this last spring."

More information on the ARRA can be found at rosieriveter.net.

The City of Cottage Grove Public Works Department will be conducting its annual Leaf Pickup during the following weeks:

November 12th-15th • December 2nd - 6th • December 16th-20th

Tips for Leaf Placement in Street

- ✓ Only piles of loose leaves will be picked up
- ✓ Pile leaves on the street surface near the gutter, keeping gutter and catch basins free of leaves so storm water is not obstructed
- ✓ On streets without curbs and gutter, pile the leaves near the street surface away from ditches
- ✓ Stack the leaves so that they don't block bike and traffic lanes
- ✓ Leaves should be piled in rows so they do not block the flow of water along the curb and do not encroach on the traffic lane
- ✓ Do **not** place leaves in the streets where curbside parking does not exist. You may bring those leaves to the designated area outside the Row River Water Treatment Plant at 3300 Row River Road
- ✓ Do **not** place your leaves in plastic bags
- ✓ Branches will **not** be picked up
- ✓ Shrub prunings and blackberry vines will **not** be picked up
- ✓ Do **not** include rocks, metal or other debris in your leaf pile
- ✓ Lawn clippings will **not** be picked up

For more information please contact the Public Works Department at (541)767-4100 during working hours of Monday through Friday, 8:00AM to 5:00PM.

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ADDITIONAL NOVEMBER

Students of the Month

FOR MORE STUDENTS OF THE MONTH CHECK OUT THIS MONTH'S ISSUE OF THE SCHOOL ZONE.

LONDON SCHOOL

CALEB RILEY

We would like to nominate 4th Grader Caleb Riley for the October 2019 Student of The Month. Caleb has an excellent work ethic who is always wanting a challenge. He is a super mathematician who love to solves higher level math problems. Caleb also consistently turns in his homework on time and is an active participant in classroom discussions. He is also a student who demonstrates school wide expectations. We are proud to honor Caleb as the Student of The Month.

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HARRISON ELEMENTARY

No Picture Available

JONNY KOFOID

Jonny's positivity lifts up others. He is thoughtful, hardworking, and cares deeply about those around him. Jonny always puts his best effort into everything he does, from sports to friendships. He embodies the values of a great student. He is always respectful, responsible and safe. He is a great leader in 5th grade.

Cottage Grove Sentinel
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