

General Council receives
Natural Resources update
— pg. 6



Smoke Signals

An Independent Publication of the Grand Ronde Tribe  www.smokesignals.org

FEBRUARY 15, 2019

UMPQUA ■ MOLALLA ■ ROGUE RIVER ■ KALAPUYA ■ CHASTA

Tribal Council approves lodge, store investments

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

Tribal Council approved on Wednesday, Feb. 5, almost \$16 million in loans and equity investments that combined will remodel Spirit Mountain Lodge and the Grand Ronde convenience store located just east of Spirit Mountain Casino on Salmon River Highway.

Tribal Council OK'd a \$15.5 million loan from the Tribe's line of credit to Spirit Mountain Gaming Inc. that will fund construction for the first phase of lodge interior remodeling.

The lodge's interior remodel will include adding more high-demand suites, updating older lodge rooms, and redesigning and updating the entrance way and Hall of Legends connecting the lodge to Spirit Mountain Casino. Tribal Council approved \$1.1 million to fund the remodel's design phase in March 2018.

During the Tuesday, Feb. 5, Legislative Action Committee meeting, Tribal Council members Jack Giffen Jr., Kathleen George and Steve Bobb Sr. supported the lodge remodel, pointing out that with gaming and hotel competition now in Clark County, Wash., that Spirit Mountain Casino and Lodge must remain fresh and up-to-date to continue attracting guests.

"This is a necessary, strategic investment," George said.

The revamping of the 254-room

See MEETING
continued on page 10

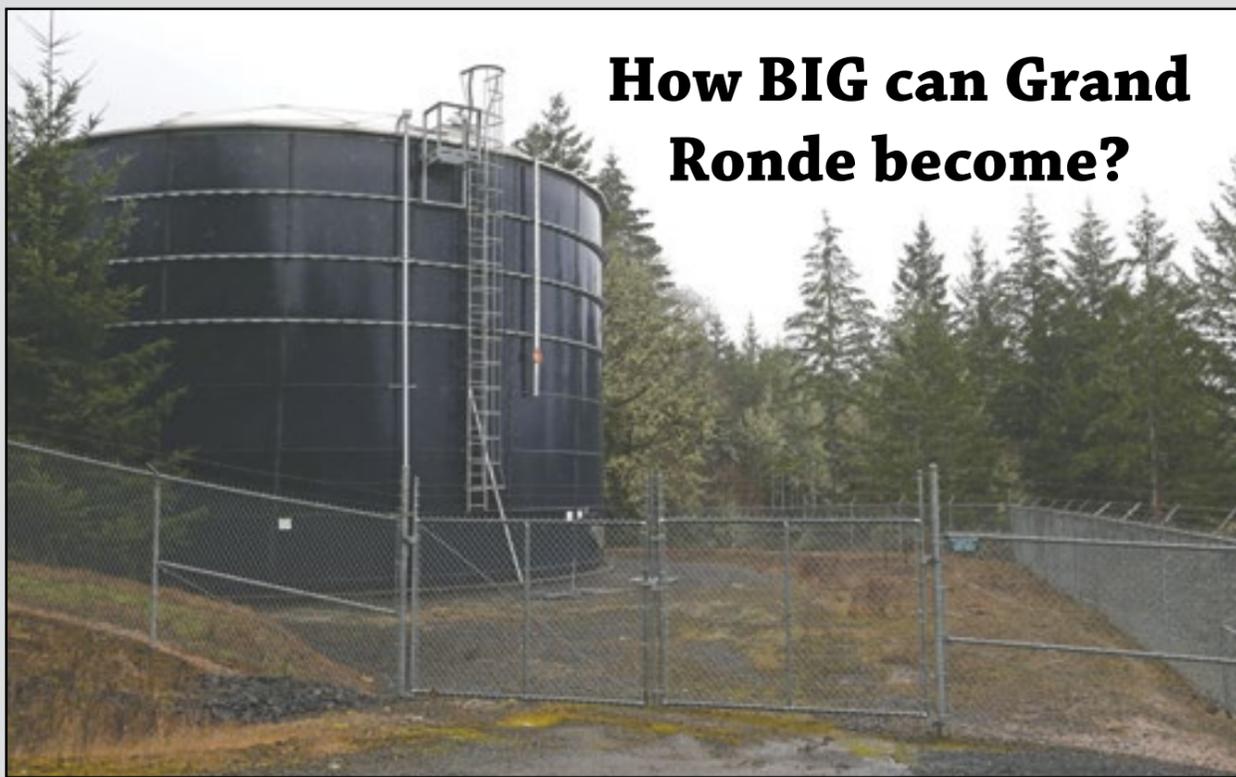


Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez

How BIG can Grand Ronde become?

A water storage tank on a hillside across Highway 18 from Spirit Mountain Casino on Thursday, Jan. 17, holds 500,000 gallons of water and was built by the Tribe to ensure fire protection for Spirit Mountain Casino and water supply for the community.

Community water supply is plentiful for future growth

(Editor's note: This is the first in a series of Smoke Signals stories in 2019 that will examine the infrastructure of Grand Ronde and how many Tribal members could conceivably return to live in the community safely and comfortably.)

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

Regarding the Grand Ronde Tribe's Strategic Plan-stated goal to "attract new Tribal members, diversify and grow the population, and promote a healthier, sustainable community," one thing it doesn't need to fret about

is the most elemental commodity – water.

Tribal lands are located within the boundaries of the Grand Ronde Community Water Association, where there's plenty of water, and water rights, to fulfill the needs of current and future population growth into the fore-

seeable future.

The association, incorporated in 1973, has water rights to more than 691 gallons per minute – approximately 363 million gallons a year – and is currently using 225 to 500 gallons per minute depending on seasonable demand.

Water Association Manager Karl Ekstrom shrugs his shoulders during a recent interview in response to the Tribe's plans

See WATER
continued on page 8

Bryan Mercier takes reins as BIA's regional director



Photo by Dean Rhodes

Grand Ronde Tribal member works way up from Summer Youth Crew

By Danielle Frost
Smoke Signals staff writer

PORTLAND — Grand Ronde Tribal member Bryan Mercier didn't travel far when he left his job at the Bonneville Power Administration for one at the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

He merely walked across the courtyard from the BPA offices to the BIA offices.

Although Mercier still drives to the same

building he has for the past 10 years, the job he does now is very different. While at the BPA, he served as division director of Fish and Wildlife. Now, Mercier is the Bureau of Indian Affairs' regional director, the senior most official overseeing all Northwest BIA functions ranging from staffing to transportation.

"We're a microcosm of federal government services," he said. "I was happy with my former job, but this has been a great opportunity to help Indian Country."

See MERCIER
continued on page 11

Tribal member Bryan Mercier received a Pendleton blanket from Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy during the Sunday, Feb. 3, General Council meeting in honor of his being hired as the new regional director for the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

General Council meeting
11 a.m. Sunday, March 3
Tribal Community Center

NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings
DATE **TIME**
 Wednesday, Feb. 20.....4 p.m.
Please note that these times and dates are subject to change if needed.

Letters

Dear Tribal members:
 I am writing this letter as a “shoutout” to the amazing health care facilities, services and staff and what we witnessed.
 It’s easy to take the benefits we have available to us for granted and not truly appreciate what we have. We recently lost our dear, sweet Gladys Bolton, “Sis” to everyone in her family and staff at Cougar Lodge, but also a sweet and loving partner to my father, Herman Hudson, “Junior” to many.
 My husband George and I, my son Kirk Delaurenti and his love Diana Traverso witnessed something that we are still talking about today.
 Not only was everyone there beyond friendly, but there really is no true way to describe how everyone opened their hearts and tried to make everyone comfortable and comforted through the process of her last days.
 There was constantly food to eat, coffee and water to drink, and kind hearts from everyone there to listen and comfort and advise on what the final process would be. The facility is so clean, welcoming and open to the ability to mingle with others in a “feels like home” environment. All we could say to each other was, “Can you believe how great this place is?” over and over.
 Special thanks to Peggy Shaver, LPN Administrator; Susan Joubert, RN Case manager; and Valentina Vittori-McKinley, RN, Hospice Nurse Case manager, Serenity Hospice. They were open to my contacting them anytime and made it easy to speak with them and be comforted by them.
 Special thanks to all of the wonderful ladies who are the around-the-clock caregivers for their unbelievable kindness, attention to their jobs and the people in their care, but also the families and loved ones of their residents. They are spectacular: Casandra Blakely, Joanna Davidson, Alyssa Garcia, Ardy Hoffer-Hallicola, Anna Huston, Stephanie King, Brianna Leno, Pearl Metzker, Carmen Parren, Brandi Valencia, Beverly Walsh and Ginger Whitman. You are all rock stars in our eyes!!
Kathryn Dunham
 Roll# 271

Tribe schedules amendment educational meetings

The two remaining educational sessions regarding the March 22 election to possibly fix the split-sibling issue have been rescheduled.
 The sessions will be held at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 20, at the Tribal Community Center in Grand Ronde, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, and at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 13, at the Lane Community College Longhouse, 4000 E. 30th Ave., Eugene. Dinner will be provided at both sessions.
 Following sessions held in Grand Ronde and Portland, the Tribe canceled the third and fourth educational sessions after the partial federal government shutdown forced postponement of the election from Feb. 25 to March 22.
 Ballots will be mailed on March 1 and must be received by Friday, March 22, in this election, which is being run by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Tribal members have until Friday, Feb. 22, to register to vote. However, since registrations must be sent to New Mexico, Tribal members are encouraged to mail to their forms early enough to arrive on time. ■

MARRIAGES IN TRIBAL COURT
 Tribal Court is now issuing marriage licenses and is able to perform marriage ceremonies for a filing fee of \$40.
 For questions regarding scheduling, contact the Tribal Court at 503-879-2303. ■

Correction — Former Tribal Librarian Marion Mercier’s granddaughter was misidentified in a Feb. 1 article. Her name is Ava Fagundes. *Smoke Signals* regrets the error.

Tribal Office Closures
 Tribal offices will be closed on Monday, Feb. 18, in observance of Tribal Chiefs’ Day.

Smoke Signals

PUBLICATIONS OFFICE

9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347
 1-800-422-0232, FAX: 503-879-2173

Website: www.smokesignals.org
E-mails: news@grandronde.org
Editorial.Board@grandronde.org

Twitter: [CTGRSmokeSignal](https://twitter.com/CTGRSmokeSignal)

www.facebook.com/SmokeSignalsCTGR/

www.youtube.com/channel/UCMDXdTzfGjzJ_j3NPPcrtcw

DEAN RHODES
 PUBLICATIONS
 COORDINATOR
 503-879-1463
dean.rhodes@grandronde.org

CHELSEA BARANKSI
 PUBLIC AFFAIRS/PUBLICATIONS
 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
 503-879-1418
chelsea.clark@grandronde.org

DANIELLE FROST
 STAFF WRITER
 503-879-4663
danielle.frost@grandronde.org

TIMOTHY J. GONZALEZ
 PHOTOJOURNALIST
 503-879-1961
timothy.gonzalez@grandronde.org

GEORGE VALDEZ
 GRAPHIC DESIGN
 SPECIALIST
 503-879-1416
george.valdez@grandronde.org

JUSTIN PHILLIPS
 PAGE DESIGNER
 503-879-2190
justin.phillips@grandronde.org

JENNIFER CLARK
 SOCIAL MEDIA/
 DIGITAL JOURNALIST
 503-879-1461
jennifer.clark@grandronde.org

DEADLINE DATE	ISSUE DATE
Wednesday, Feb. 20	March 1
Tuesday, March 5	March 15
Wednesday, March 20	April 1
Friday, April 5	April 15
Friday, April 19	May 1
Monday, May 6	May 15

Editorial Policy

SMOKE SIGNALS, a publication of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon, is published twice a month. No portion of this publication may be reprinted without permission.

Our editorial policy is intended to encourage input from Tribal members and readers about stories printed in the Tribal newspaper. However, all letters received must be signed by the author, an address must be given and a phone number or e-mail address must be included for verification purposes. Full addresses and phone numbers will not be published unless requested. Letters must be 400 words or less.

SMOKE SIGNALS reserves the right to edit letters and to refuse letters that are determined to contain libelous statements or personal attacks on individuals, staff, Tribal administration or Tribal Council. Not all letters are guaranteed publication upon submission. Letters to the editor are the opinions and views of the writer. Published letters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of **SMOKE SIGNALS**.



Members of: ■ Native American Journalists Association
 ■ Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association

2019 Tribal Council

1-800-422-0232 — tribalcouncil@grandronde.org

■ **Cheryle A. Kennedy**
 Tribal Council Chairwoman
 — ext. 2352
cheryle.kennedy@grandronde.org

■ **Jack Giffen Jr.**
 — ext. 2300
jack.giffen@grandronde.org

■ **Chris Mercier**
 Tribal Council Vice Chair
 — ext. 1444
chris.mercier@grandronde.org

■ **Denise Harvey**
 — ext. 2353
denise.harvey@grandronde.org

■ **Jon A. George**
 Tribal Council Secretary
 — ext. 2355
jon.george@grandronde.org

■ **Michael Langley**
 — ext. 1777
michael.langley@grandronde.org

■ **Kathleen George**
 — ext. 2305
kathleen.george@grandronde.org

■ **Lisa Leno**
 — ext. 1770
lialeno@grandronde.org

■ **Steve Bobb Sr.**
 — ext. 4555
steve.bobb@grandronde.org



February

- Monday, Feb. 18 – Tribal Chiefs’ Day. Tribal offices closed.
- Wednesday, Feb. 20 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., Governance Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.
- Thursday, Feb. 21 – Student Success Night, 5:30 p.m., Tribal gym, 9615 Grand Ronde Road.

March

- Sunday, March 3 – General Council meeting, 11 a.m., Tribal Community Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2301.
- Wednesday, March 6 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., Governance Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.
- Friday & Saturday, March 8-9 – Agency Creek Round Dance, 7 p.m., Tribal gym, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2037.
- Friday, March 8 – Native Youth Wellness Day, 8:30 a.m., Tribal gym, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-1489.
- Monday, March 11 – Family Cultural Wellness Night, 5:30 p.m., Tribal gym, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-1434.
- Tuesday, March 12 – Special Education Roundtable, 11 a.m., Employment Resources Training Room, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2069/2095.
- Saturday, March 16 – mək^mək Mania, 10 a.m., Grand Ronde gym, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-3663.
- Wednesday, March 20 – Tribal Council meeting, 5 p.m., Governance Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.
- Monday, March 25, through Wednesday, March 27 – Spring Break Camp, B’nai B’rith Camp, Lincoln City. 503-879-2101.

Adult Members’ Trust and Minors’ Custodial & Rabbi Trust Funds

Investments in the Adult Members’ Trust Fund and the Minors’ Custodial and Rabbi Trust Funds are updated each business day.

If you are a trust participant and/or if you are the parent/guardian of a minor member, you can access and review your balance and your minor child’s balance by visiting www.401Save.com.

To log-in, the initial User ID is your (or your child’s) Social Security number, and the initial Password is “00” followed by your (or your child’s) membership number. Once logged in, you can customize your User ID and password for security purposes. If you have any trouble logging in to or using the system, contact the 401Save Call Center at 1-888-700-0808 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Pacific time, Monday through Friday. ■

LIHEAP program open in service area

The Tribal Social Service’s LIHEAP – Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program – is open to eligible Tribal members in the six-county service area and Clackamas County.

This is a first-come, first-served program and income criteria applies.

LIHEAP is federally funded through the Department of Health and Human Services and is designed to help low-income households with home heating costs.

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

WIC visits Community Center monthly

Pregnant? Breastfeeding? Does your family include a child under the age of 5?

If so, you may qualify for the Women, Infants and Children program. With WIC, people can receive answers to nutritional questions and access fruits and vegetables, whole grains, eggs, milk, cheese, juice, cereal and more.

A WIC representative visits the Tribal Community Center on the third Tuesday of the month, which will be Feb. 19.

Walk-ins are welcome between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 503-879-2034. ■

Clothes Closet open Friday mornings

The Clothes Closet is open from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. the first and third Fridays of the month and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. all other Fridays on the Tribal campus near the Elders Activity Center at the end of Blacktail Drive.

The Clothes Closet accepts clothing, small appliances, small pieces of furniture, electronics and household goods that are clean and in good condition. It does not accept books, large TVs or large furniture, but there is a community board where people can post those items.

Donations are accepted during regular business hours.

For more information or emergency clothes, contact Lori Walker-Hernandez at 559-847-7565. ■

Grand Ronde Housing Department



Board seeks community input

The Grand Ronde Housing Board is inviting Tribal members and Tribal housing residents to provide input to assist its members in carrying out its advisory role to the Housing Department and Tribal Council regarding policy guidance. The Housing Board meets at 3 p.m. the third Thursday of each month in the Housing Department conference room, 28450 Tyee Road. Its chair is Kristy Criss-Lawson. For more information, contact the Housing Department at 503-879-2401. ■

Official Tribal Facebook pages

- **Smoke Signals:** www.facebook.com/SmokeSignalsCTGR/
- **Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde:** www.facebook.com/CTGRgov
- **Grand Ronde Tribal Council:** www.facebook.com/TheConfederatedTribesOfGrandRondeTribalCouncil
- **Grand Ronde Health & Wellness:** www.facebook.com/GRHWC
- **Spirit Mountain Community Fund:** www.facebook.com/SpiritMountainCommunityFund
- **Youth Education:** www.facebook.com/CTGRYouthEducation
- **Grand Ronde Station:** www.facebook.com/GrandRondeStation
- **Grand Ronde Royalty:** www.facebook.com/CTGRRoyalty
- **Community Garden:** www.facebook.com/GrandRondeCommunityGarden
- **Food Bank:** www.facebook.com/GrandRondeFoodBank
- **Youth Council:** www.facebook.com/CTGRYouthCouncil
- **Social Services Department:** www.facebook.com/CTGRSocialservices/
- **Children & Family Services:** www.facebook.com/CTGRCS/
- **Grand Ronde Higher Education:** www.facebook.com/Grand-Ronde-Higher-Ed
- **Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department:** www.facebook.com/Grand-Ronde-Tribal-Police-Department
- **Grand Ronde Cultural Education:** www.facebook.com/Grand-Ronde-Cultural-Education



**CTGR Portland Office
Vocational Rehabilitation
Youth Transition
Presentation
Anxiety Disorder
Workshop
Tuesday, March 5
4:30-6:30 p.m.**

**4445 SW Barbur Blvd. # 101
Guest Speakers: CTGR VR Staff
Shauna Signorini- Oregon Family to Family
Youth ERA(Empowerment Recovery Academy)
Pizza & \$25 cash/gas card incentives
Contact Lisa for more information 503 879-1881**

Food Bank provides boxes, seeks help

Recipients of SNAP, TANF, SSI or LIHEAP assistance automatically qualify for assistance at the Grand Ronde Food Bank, 9675 Grand Ronde Road. No one will be turned away in need of a food box.

"We believe that everyone deserves to have enough to eat," Food Bank Coordinator Francene Ambrose says. "You are welcome to get a food box at each of our regular weekly distributions. No one will be turned away in need of a food box."

Upcoming food box distribution dates will be:

- 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Feb. 15
- And 2 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 20.

People must check in 15 minutes before closing to receive a food box. If you need immediate assistance, call 211 or visit 211info.org.

Those who are unable to pick up a food box can fill out an authorized representative form and that person can pick up a food box on your behalf. The authorization is good for one year.

In addition, the Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Center's Community Health Team will be setting up the mobile clinic at the pantry on the first Friday of every month.

The Food Bank continues to seek volunteers to help with repacking food, putting food on the shelves, handing out food boxes, end-of-month inventory and picking up food donations at area stores.

Call to ensure someone is available to assist. People also can sign up for a monthly e-mail for the Food Bank calendar and events, as well as follow the Food Bank on Facebook.

The Food Bank is an equal opportunity provider.

Call Ambrose at 503-879-3663 or contact her at fambrose@marionpolkfoodshare.org for more information or to volunteer. ■

Food assessment seeking survey responses

Marion-Polk Food Share and the Grand Ronde Food Bank are seeking responses to a Food Sovereignty Assessment survey by Grand Ronde area residents over the next couple of months.

People interested in participating should visit www.surveymonkey.com/r/28TPBHx to take the survey.

For more information, contact Food Bank Coordinator Francene Ambrose at 503-879-3663 or fambrose@marionpolkfoodshare.org or Community Food System Coordinator Taylor West at 503-581-3855 or twest@marionpolkfoodshare.org. ■

Accepting Applications for TERO Commission at-large Commissioner

CLOSES: February 28, 2019

The Tribal Employment Rights Commission is a regulatory body charged with enforcement of the Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance. One (1) Commissioner will be appointed by the Tribal Council to serve a three (3) year term.

The Commission will work with the TERO Director and take all appropriate actions to implement and enforce the TERO Ordinance and make recommendations to the Tribal Council on amendments to the Ordinance. Commissioners will be required to attend regularly scheduled monthly meetings and will be paid a stipend.

Other Responsibilities:

- Issue notices to appear and order relief or sanctions that are necessary and appropriate to enforce the TERO Ordinance.
- Certify firms as Indian Owned Businesses or Grand Ronde Owned Businesses.
- Hold public hearings on matters covered in the TERO Ordinance.
- Consult with the Tribal Attorney's Office as necessary on legal matters.
- Review program procedures, forms and policies necessary to carry out the purposes of the Ordinance.

Qualifications

Must possess a high school diploma or GED certificate; At large Commission Members with education or experience in one or more of the following areas: human resources, tribal employment rights, construction management, regulatory enforcement, auditing or investigations will be given preference.

Ability to participate in TERO Commission regular or special sessions; experience with due process and regulatory hearing processes; must be able to read and interpret Tribal ordinances rules and regulations; must be capable of conducting productive, collaborative and orderly public meetings.

Individuals employed by Spirit Mountain Casino or the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde are not eligible for appointment.

For a complete job description, please visit the Tribe's website at www.grandronde.org/employment. Applications are available by contacting Grand Ronde Human Resources, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347.

For more information please contact Human Resources at 503-879-2357. ■

Need something notarized?

Tribal Court staff is available at no charge for notaries 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday with the exception of noon to 1 p.m. Please be sure to bring a photo ID with you. If you have any questions, contact the court at 503-879-2303. ■

Committee & Special Event Board meeting days and times

Below is the most current information on the meeting days and times for Tribal Committees and Special Event Boards:

- **Ceremonial Hunting Board** meets as needed. Chair: Marline Groshong.
- **Culture Committee** meets at 5:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at the Grand Ronde Food Bank/*iskam məkʰmək haws*, 9675 Grand Ronde Road. Chair: Francene Ambrose.
- **Editorial Board** meets monthly at the Governance Center employee break room, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. Next meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m. Friday, Feb. 22. The public is welcome to attend. Chair: Siobhan Taylor. Contact: Editorial.Board@grandronde.org.
- **Education Committee** meets at 5:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month in the Adult Education building. Chair: Tammy Cook.
- **Elders Committee** meets at 10 a.m. the third Wednesday of the month in the Elders Activity Center. Chair: Penny DeLoe.
- **Enrollment Board** meets quarterly in Room 204 of the Governance Center. Chair: Ann Lewis.
- **Fish & Wildlife Committee** meets at 5:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at the Natural Resources building off Hebo Road. Chair: Tyson Mercier.
- **Health Committee** meets at 10 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month in the Molalla Room of the Health & Wellness Center. Chair: Bernadine Shriver.
- **Housing Board** meets at 3 p.m. the third Thursday of the month in the Housing Department conference room. Chair: Kristy Criss-Lawson.
- **Powwow Special Event Board** meets monthly at noon at the Community Center. Dates vary. Contact Dana Ainam at 503-879-2037. Chair: Dana Ainam.
- **Timber Committee** meets at 5 p.m. the second Thursday of the month at the Natural Resources building off Hebo Road. Interim Chair: Jon R. George.
- **Veterans Special Event Board** meets at 5:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month in the old Elders Craft House. Chair: Raymond Petite.

To update information on this list, contact Publications Coordinator Dean Rhodes at 503-879-1463 or dean.rhodes@grandronde.org.

Doris Rose CPA
Portland office on
Wednesday, Feb. 27, 9 a.m. – 12 noon
Please call her office to schedule
503 293 4128

Longtime Tribal Security employee charged with sexual abuse in Salem

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

SALEM — Longtime Tribal Security employee Juan Jose Sifuentez, 54, was arrested by the Salem Police Department on Thursday, Feb. 7, and charged with two counts of first-degree sexual abuse.

Sifuentez works for the Tribe as Security Supervisor in the Engineering & Public Works Department. His current employment status is unknown.

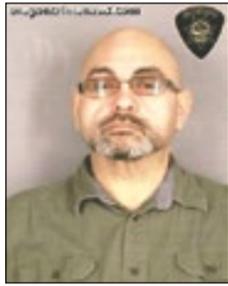
“The Tribe does not comment on personnel issues,” said Deputy Press Secretary Sara Thompson on Tuesday, Feb. 12.

Sifuentez is being held in the Marion County Correctional Facility on \$100,000 bail. His first court appearance occurred on Tuesday, Feb. 12, in Marion County Circuit Court and he is scheduled to enter a plea on Tuesday, Feb. 19. He is being represented by Salem attorney Martin Habekost.

Sifuentez has worked for the Grand Ronde Tribe for more than 20 years as a Tribal employee and as an employee of two previous contracted security firms, ProStar and Advance.

According to amended charging documents on file with Marion County Circuit Court, Sifuentez is accused of two incidents of alleged inappropriate touching of a girl younger than 14. The alleged incidents occurred between August 2014 and January 2016.

He also was issued a no-con-



Juan Sifuentez

tact order regarding the victim by Circuit Court Judge Pro Tem Jennifer Gardiner.

According to Oregon law, first-degree sexual abuse occurs if the victim is younger than 14 and is subjected to force or is incapable of consent because he or she is mentally defective or incapacitated or physically helpless. It is a class B felony punishable by up to 10 years in prison with a mandatory minimum of 6 years and 3 months.

“We are disheartened to learn of Mr. Sifuentez’s recent arrest in Marion County,” Thompson added via an e-mail statement. “While we are unaware of the specifics surrounding his arrest, we are monitoring the situation and will cooperate with any investigation if needed.”

Marion County District Attorney Paige Clarkson is prosecuting the case.

In the meantime, Tribal members can contact Lead Security Officer Roel Hernandez regarding Security Department matters at 971-901-1031, ext. 2183, during the day and 503-437-113 after hours. He was named interim Security Supervisor for the foreseeable future on Wednesday, Feb. 13. ■



2014 – Tribal Employment Rights Office Director Greg Azure briefed the general membership on the early stages of implementing the Tribe’s Employment Rights Ordinance at the Feb. 2 General Council meeting held in the Tribal Community Center. TERO became effective on Nov. 27, 2013. “We’re making progress on getting the program established and mainly putting together the pieces that will be the infrastructure for TERO to move forward,” Azure said at the beginning of his presentation. In approving TERO, the Grand Ronde Tribe joined with more than 300 other Native Tribes and Alaska Native villages that have TERO-like ordinances and became the second Oregon Tribe to enact that type of legislation.

2009 – Western Oregon Tribes marked Oregon’s 150th birthday of statehood with the Gathering of First Nations event honoring Native presence in the area. Five federally recognized Tribes of western Oregon – the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indian, Coquille



2009

File photo

Indian Tribe, Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and Confederated Tribes of Siletz – banded together and put on a well-attended, two-day celebration held Jan. 30-31 in Salem to celebrate the state’s 150th birthday while symbolically reminding residents that Oregon’s history began long before admission to the Union.

2004 – A traditional naming ceremony was planned for Tribal member Jim Holmes, the first time in more than 95 years that the ceremony was held in Grand Ronde. Warm Springs Medicine Men Wilbur Johnson and Larry Dick were set to oversee the ceremony and traditional medicine dancers and singers also were planning to participate. A meal, giveaways and a medicine dance were all planned for the festivities. Initially, it was not planned as a big event, but excitement about the opportunity to bring a traditional ceremony to the people of Grand Ronde changed that.

1999 – The success of the Grand Ronde Tribe drew recent praise from Bureau of Indian Affairs officials as a potential model for economic development in Indian Country. “They’re a model Tribe for us,” said Portland Area BIA Director Stanley Speaks. “They’ve shown that a Tribe doesn’t need to be in the business for 50 to 100 years to be successful.” The comments followed a presentation on the Tribe’s developmental history that Tribal Council member Mark Mercier gave to BIA superintendents from throughout the Northwest, including Alaska and Idaho.

1994 – Tribal Council Vice Chair Kathryn Harrison was elected to the Native American Rights Fund board of directors. NARF had been in existence for 22 years and represented people and Tribes from almost every state in the union. It was formed to advocate for the rights of Native Americans, especially the poor and disadvantaged, who could not afford their own legal representation. The board of directors includes leaders of Tribes from across the country.

1989 – Tribal Council established the Tribal Burial Fund, which capped the benefit at \$3,000 per funeral, and made it eligible to all enrolled Tribal members or those who met the criteria to be enrolled. Headstones were also an option depending on the availability of funds. Tribal Council designated Merle Holmes to administer the fund.

1984 – Several candidates for Tribal Council wrote letters to *Smoke Signals* detailing why they were the best choice to help lead the Tribe post-Restoration. One of these candidates was Merle Holmes. “I know many of the Grand Ronde Tribal members and you know me, for I have been three times chairman of the Tribal Council. I am asking for your write-in votes.”

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

Appointments available in Optometry at the Health & Wellness Center

- Comprehensive eye exams
 - Diabetic eye exams
 - Red eye treatment
 - Excellent selection of frames
- Call 503-879-2097 for an appointment. ■

Availability of Transit Grant Funds

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde is providing notice that eligible transportation providers may apply for federal 5310 grant funds (\$98,095) allocated to the Tribe for the 2019-2021 biennium by the Oregon Department of Transportation. Projects providing transportation services to seniors and persons with disabilities are eligible for funding including those that also serve the general public. In past years the Tribe has chosen to select internally generated proposals to use these funds in agreements for the transit service to Salem through the Tillamook County Transportation District (TCTD) and to McMinnville through the Yamhill County Transit Area.

Applications submitted for projects serving the Grand Ronde community must be submitted to the Grand Ronde Tribe not later than noon Feb. 18, 2019. Contact Kim Rogers at 503-879-2250, kim.rogers@grandronde.org for more information. The Tribe will also be applying for its ODOT Special Transportation Fund (STF) allocation (\$135,400) and suggestions and comments can be provided for use of those funds as well. STF funds have been used for these same routes and agreements and for transit service to Lincoln City through an agreement with TCTD.

The Tribe’s STF Advisory Committee will meet to review 5310 and STF proposals received (internal and external) at 12:15 p.m. Feb. 19, 2019, at the Elders Activity Center (dining hall north end), 48940 Blacktail Drive, Grand Ronde, OR 97347 (which is west of Grand Ronde Road). The public is invited to attend this meeting.

It is expected that the Tribal Council of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, which is an STF Agency, will vote on the recommended uses of these funds at their council meeting on 4 p.m. March 6, 2019. ■



Are you frustrated with your diabetes control?
Do you have questions about diabetes?
Do you need help managing your diabetes?

If so...

Call the Medical Clinic today at 503-879-2002

To schedule an individual diabetes education appointment

General Council receives Natural Resources update

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

CLACKAMAS — Approximately 50 Tribal members listened to Natural Resources Department Manager Michael Wilson brief General Council on management of Tribal lands during the Sunday, Feb. 3, meeting held at the Monarch Hotel & Convention Center.

Wilson discussed several Natural Resources efforts, such as growing Native plants in a nursery at the Natural Resources offices for restoration projects, harvesting older than industry standard timber and the fire program.

“I enjoy working in natural resources,” Wilson said. “I enjoy working for the Natural Resources Department for the Tribe. We have just an outstanding, great group there. ... We have a lot of really, really dedicated people and a lot of diversity in professions and perspectives, and that plays out really well in taking care of your lands.”

Natural Resources is responsible for managing 12,789 acres of forestland, growing larger than industry-standard timber.

“We’re growing trees on the Reservation that are quite old,” Wilson said. “Our age when we’re harvesting trees is primarily around 70. A lot of them are older than that. This works well for us. We’re growing habitat and there is not as much impact on the land.”

Wilson said Grand Ronde is bucking an industry trend toward smaller logs for smaller sawmills, but that staff has done a good job finding specialty markets for larger logs. Most of the logs go to Hull-Oakes Mill in Bellfountain.

Tribal Reservation logs have been used to build a Bass Pro Shop in Memphis, Tenn., as well as the new Long Timber Brewery in Monroe north of Eugene.

“This beam is going to go out to somebody who really wants and appreciates that wood and the story that is being exposed in the grain of this tree that’s been on our Reservation,” Wilson said while showing a video of a large log being planed at Hull-Oakes. “It’s very, very tough for any in the forest industry now where they’re growing trees that



Photo by Dean Rhodes

Natural Resources Department Manager Michael Wilson makes a presentation to General Council on Sunday, Feb. 3, at the Monarch Hotel & Convention Center in Clackamas.

are about 40 years old or such, they can’t grow that. We’ve looked for the specialty market where we can continue our management and continue our style and our philosophy that the Tribal membership wants to see on our Reservation, but also get a good value for them.”

The Natural Resources Department’s Fire Program clears logging sites after harvesting by piling slash and burning the debris instead of using pesticides. That allows for tree planting to occur afterward.

Wilson said the Tribe keeps that program in-house and does not have to contract out for the service.

“It’s always great to have the membership taking care of their own land when we can,” Wilson said.

Wilson fielded nine comments and questions from Tribal members following his presentation.

In response to questions, Wilson said the Tribe primarily plants Douglas fir, western hemlock and

red cedar on the Reservation and that the surplus salmon distributed to the membership originates in fish hatcheries and not fish farms.

Before the meeting, about 35 Tribal members attended a 10 a.m. Coffee & Conversation with Dr. Stephen Dow Beckham, who repeated his historical presentation regarding the Willamette Falls fishery that was given in Grand Ronde in early December.

Beckham said his research has established that Willamette Falls was the “exclusive fishery of the antecedent Tribes of Grand Ronde and no other Tribes.”

His 160-page report can be found www.grandronde.org/about/archives/.

Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryl A. Kennedy said that research by such a renowned Oregon historian as Beckham only goes to prove that the oral histories handed down by Tribal ancestors is “probably 100 percent true.”

Following the presentation, Tribal Council Secretary Jon A. George presented Beckham with a salmon-themed necklace.

Tribal Council also honored Tribal member Bryan Mercier, who was recently named as the regional director for the Bureau of Indian Affairs office in Portland, succeeding Stanley Speaks who retired in 2017. Mercier received a Tribal Pendleton blanket.

Michelle Anderson, Tracy Moreland and Kaalogi Mercier won the \$100 door prizes and Keekoa Mercier, Francine Peterson, Joyce Ham, Lisa Archuleta and Perri McDaniel won the \$50 door prizes.

The next General Council meeting will be held at 11 a.m. Sunday, March 3, in the Tribal Community Center in Grand Ronde.

Jon A. George, Tribal Elder Greg Archuleta, Cultural Resources Specialist Chris Bailey, Cultural Resources Manager David Harrelson, Tribal member Eric Ber-

nando, and Tribal Council members Lisa Leno and Kathleen George performed the cultural drumming and singing to open the meeting.

Natural Resources staff members Fish & Wildlife Program Manager Kelly Dirksen and Biologist Brandon Weems also distributed fish to Tribal members who attended the meeting.

Following lunch, the first of three Community Input meetings was held to solicit Tribal member input on possible advisory votes to be held during the September Tribal Council election. About 25 Tribal members participated in the discussion.

The other two Community Input meetings will be held following the March 3 General Council meeting in Grand Ronde and after the April 7 General Council meeting in Eugene.

The entire meeting can be viewed by visiting the Tribal government’s website at www.grandronde.org and click on the News tab and then Video. ■

Constitutional Amendment Election

Feb. 20 - Educational Meeting

(5:30 P.M. – Dinner Provided) Grand Ronde, OR

Grand Ronde Community Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road

March 13 - Educational Meeting

(5:30 P.M. – Dinner Provided) Eugene, OR

Lane Community College Longhouse, 4000 E. 30th Ave., Eugene



Tribal Legislative Information Day set for Feb. 21

By Danielle Frost

Smoke Signals staff writer

SALEM — “Who We Are” is the theme of Tribal Legislative Information Day to be held on Thursday, Feb. 21.

Held annually at the State Capitol in Salem, the event provides an opportunity for Oregon’s nine federally recognized Tribes to highlight who they are and what makes Tribal governments different from the various special interest groups and stakeholders with whom legislators and state agencies mostly interact.

“This is an opportunity for Tribes to educate those in the building, including legislators, lobbyists and constituents,” said Danny Santos, interim executive director of the Legislative Commission on Indian Services. “To this day, most Oregonians are just starting to learn about the nine Tribes.”

Grand Ronde Tribal Council members and Tribal lobbyist Justin Martin usually attend to meet with veteran and newly elected legislators. The Tribe plans to provide light morning refreshments, as it has in the past.

Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy is the longest-serving member of the com-

If you go
Tribal Legislative Information Day
Where: State Capitol, 900 Court St. N.E., Salem
When: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 21
More info: 503-986-1067

mission, and in the past has served as event host along with fellow commission members and staff.

Tribal Legislative Information Day has been held for more than 13 years.

“Legislative Day is also an opportunity for both new and veteran legislators to learn more about the nine Tribes and the government-to-government responsibilities,” Santos said. “If the governor is in the building that day, she is also planning to stop by.”

In addition, the event provides an opportunity to visit Tribal informational tables and ask Tribal leaders and staff members questions from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. All nine Tribes usually participate in the event.

Tribal Council Vice Chair Chris Mercier said that the public still



Smoke Signals file photo

Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife Director Curt Melcher and Tribal Council member Lisa Leno talk during Tribal Legislative Information Day held at the State Capitol building in Salem last February.

knows far less about Tribes than they could.

“Most people are unaware of the Tribal presence in the region,” he said. “They’re not familiar that there are nine Tribes and in what areas. You usually have to associate location with a casino.”

Mercier said he is taking a Tribal law class at Lewis & Clark Law School and that even those students know “surprisingly little” about Tribes.

“Since Tribal people comprise only 2 or 3 percent of people here, it’s important to get the word out about our history with the region and the state of Oregon,” he said.

Mercier’s favorite part of Legislative Information Day is sitting at the Grand Ronde booth.

“When you see people you don’t see

often, that is always fun,” he said. “You always get people who genuinely want to know as much as possible. It’s good talking to people who are interested and eager to learn more.”

During past events, some Tribes have displayed and shared thoughts about their baskets, cradleboards, native plants, first foods, youth and Elders programs, partnerships with their neighbors and other governments, fisheries, health programs and governmental organization.

Although the Native American Rehabilitation Association’s serving of mini frybread was cancelled last year due to inclement weather, Santos said he is expecting to see them this year providing Mother Nature cooperates. Other Tribes provide donations for coffee and water. ■

PROPOSED ELECTION ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS OPEN FOR COMMENT

The Tribal Council, in consultation with the Election Board and the Tribal Attorney’s Office, has proposed amendments to the Election Ordinance. The first reading of the proposed amendments was made at the Jan. 23, 2019, Tribal Council meeting.

The proposed amendments:

- Provide for use of Ballot Boxes in Tribal elections.
- Provide a process for collection of Ballot Box ballots.
- Allow processing of ballots of voters who are living when they vote but are deceased on Election Day.
- Add an additional transfer of voters address to the mailing service.
- Remove the requirement that new Signature Verification Forms be sent to voters whose forms on file are five years or more old.
- Add definitions for Ballot Box, Election Day and Post Office Box.

For a copy of the proposed Election Ordinance amendments, please contact the Tribal Attorney’s Office at 503-879-4664. The Tribal Council invites comment on the proposed amendments. Please send your comments to the Tribal Attorney’s Office, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347 or by e-mail to legal@grandronde.org.

Comments must be received by March 4, 2019. ■

LEASING ORDINANCE OPEN FOR COMMENT

The Tribal Council, in consultation with the Tribal Attorney’s Office and Tribal Lands Department, is considering adoption of a Leasing Ordinance. The proposed Ordinance was given a First Reading at the Feb. 6, 2019, Tribal Council meeting.

The purpose of enacting this Ordinance is for the Tribe to assume authority to process and approve leases on Tribal Trust lands. Under the Leasing Ordinance, the Tribe will assume the authority to process and approve leases on Tribal trust lands, as provided for by the Helping Expedite and Advance Responsible Tribal Homeownership (“HEARTH”) Act of 2012. The Ordinance defines the types and terms of leases and licenses, describes the process for applying for both residential and non-residential leases, sets forth the lease and lease amendment processing requirements, and includes recordation and reporting requirements as well as enforcement provisions. Once enacted by the Tribe, the Ordinance must receive review and approval by the Bureau of Indian Affairs prior to becoming effective.

For a copy of the Leasing Ordinance, please contact the Tribal Attorney’s Office at 503-879-4664. The Tribal Council invites comment on the Ordinance. Please send your comments to the Tribal Attorney’s Office, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347 or by e-mail to legal@grandronde.org.

Comments must be received by March 15, 2019. ■

St. Michael’s offers brunch

St. Michael’s Catholic Church offers an open house brunch every Sunday following Mass. The brunch is free to the community. Brunch begins at about 11:30 a.m. following the 10:30 a.m. Mass.

Mass attendance is not required for brunch attendance. For more information or for kitchen and hall rental, contact Janelle Justen at 503-550-0923. ■

Snow day!



Photo by Jennifer Clark

Tribal member Benjamin Powley, 13, takes advantage of a snow day as he snowboards down a hill in Grand Ronde on Monday, Feb. 4. Both the Willamina School District and Grand Ronde Tribal government closed for the day because of the snow and icy road conditions. It was the first measurable snow in the Grand Ronde area this winter. The school district and Tribal government both re-opened at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 5.

‘We have plenty of water rights to grow’

WATER continued from front page

through 2020 to build two new apartment buildings, develop the southwest corner of Grand Ronde and Hebo roads for 24 more Elder housing units and construct a new building for the Information Systems Department; a total of 27 new water connections.

“We have plenty of water rights to grow,” Ekstrom says in the Water Association’s office off Salmon River Highway east of the casino. “We have never run out of water, ever.”

The Grand Ronde Community Water Association started with 250 members who purchased the water right from Long Bell Fiber.

The nonprofit water cooperative was funded with Farm Home Administration loans and engineered by Boatwright Engineering of Salem. It originally had 40 miles of pipeline, two storage tanks and water intake from four springs located approximately six miles south of Highway 18 that are in about 25,000 acres of private timberland.

Today, the Water Association has grown to serving 960 members, has more than 50 miles of pipeline and seven storage tanks that can hold 2.16 million gallons of water. Its \$510,000 annual budget pays for Ekstrom and two other full-time employees.

Ekstrom says Water Association engineering estimates put the potential maximum number of connections at 1,900 – almost double the current number.

Where does the water come from?

The local water supply starts at four 6- to 15-foot-deep springs located south of Spirit Mountain



Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Karl Ekstrom, manager of the Grand Ronde Community Water Association, holds open the cover to a water pump house off of Fort Hill Road on Thursday, Jan.17.

Casino at about 1,900 feet in elevation. Three new nearby springs are currently undergoing testing before being put online.

Water is gravity fed through three 1,000-gallon pressure reducing tanks as it flows downhill.

From there, the water is stored in two tanks with a combined capacity of 980,000 gallons at Reid, a 150,000-gallon tank at Rowell Creek, two tanks with a combined 489,000-gallon capacity off Fort Hill Road, a 500,000-gallon tank off Salmon Creek Highway directly north of the casino and a 50,000-gallon storage tank off Hebo Road west of the Grand Ronde Road intersection.

The Tribe constructed the Salmon Creek Highway storage tank in 1994 to help ensure fire protection at the casino and an adequate wa-

ter supply for the community. In 1997, the Tribe installed a 12-inch water main underneath Grand Ronde Road, which Ekstrom says should be sufficient for fire flow and domestic needs for quite some time. An 8-inch line extends from Grand Ronde and Hebo roads north to the Lighthouse Community Center building.

The Water Association’s service area stretches from as far west as the Tillamook County line to as far east as Willamina Creek. It also surrounds the city of Willamina, but does not serve the municipality. Willamina takes its water out of Willamina Creek.

Ekstrom has been working for the Water Association for 26 years after moving to Oregon from the San Francisco Bay area. After a year working for the city of Willamina,

he joined the Water Association in 1992 when there were only 400 connections.

Up until 2003, the Water Association also served Spirit Mountain Casino and Lodge, but the inside and outside irrigation demands of that large commercial enterprise put a strain on the water supply. In response, the casino obtained a 55-million gallon annual water right – a former irrigation water right on the Zimbrick property -- to draw water from the South Yamhill River.

The water is treated on site and used by the casino and lodge, Facilities Manager Ron Reibach says. Over the last four years, the casino has used an average of 46 million gallons of its allotted water right.

An intertie exists between the casino and the Water Association to provide the casino with enough water pressure in case of a sudden need, such as fighting a fire.

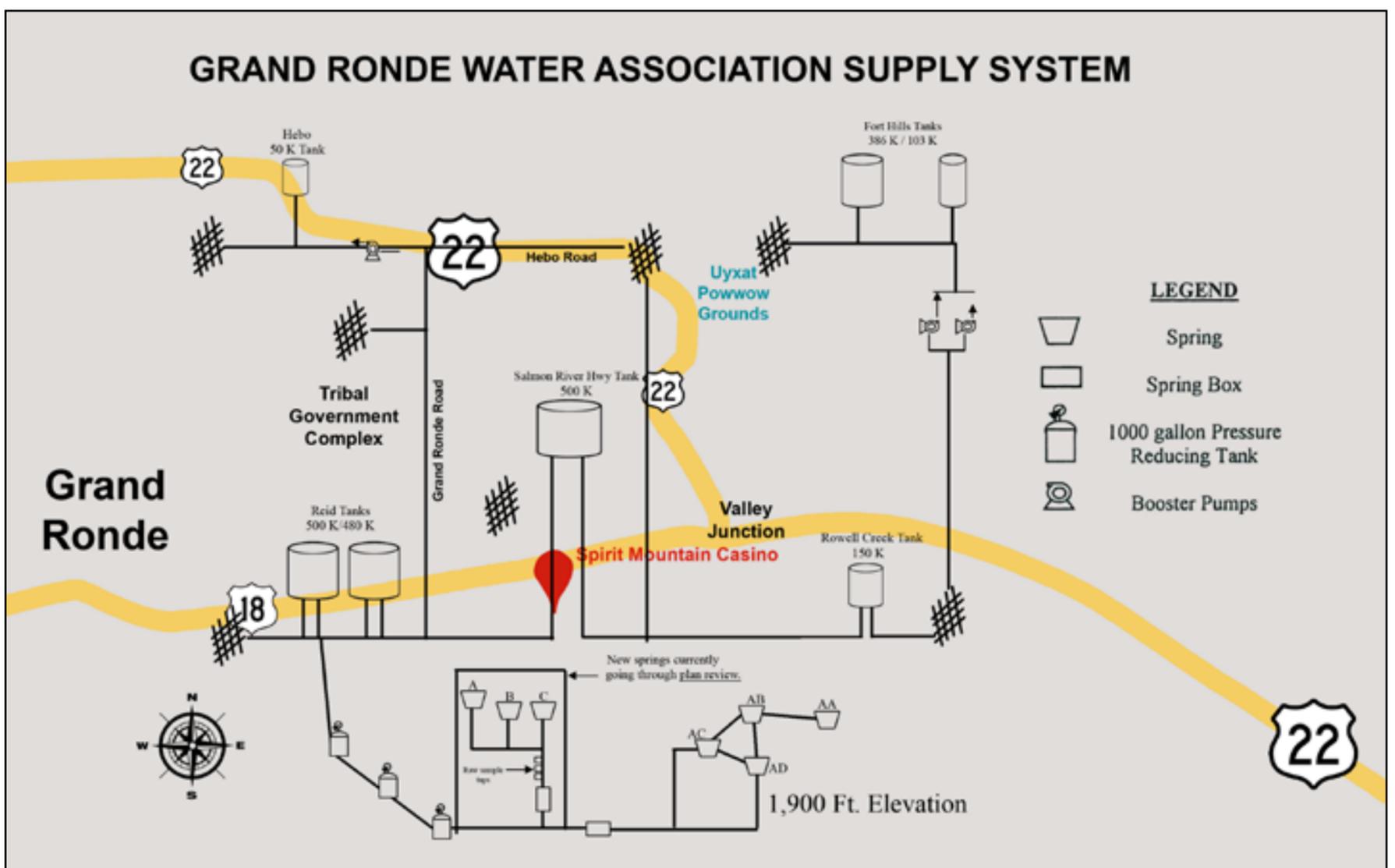
Beyond population growth at the Tribe, Ekstrom says the next largest area of increasing demand in the Water Association’s boundaries is north of Willamina in the Willamina Creek Road and Corbett Acres area.

Tribal concerns

Although there is plenty of water, the Grand Ronde Tribe still has concerns about the supply and quality.

In the draft Strategic Plan, the Tribe is seeking to assert responsible roles in municipal water supply jurisdictions and governing bodies “to provide for Tribal member and CTGR water quality and quantity long-term security.”

See WATER continued on page 9



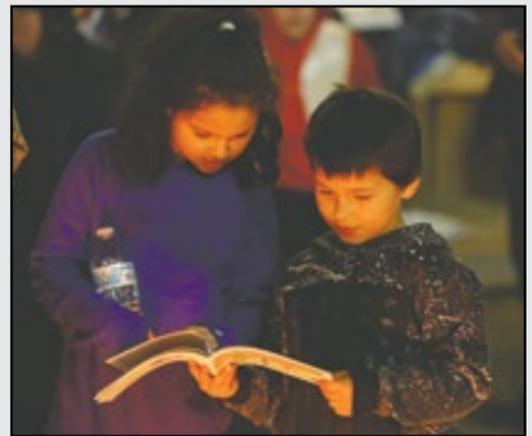
Winter stories

Chinuk Immersion K-5 Teacher Justine Flynn reads a story in Chinuk Wawa as Chinuk Immersion Preschool Teacher Jeff Mercier, second from right, translates into English during the Winter Story Night held in achafhammi on Thursday, Feb. 7. Those in attendance also were given a copy of the story in book form in Chinuk Wawa published by the Chinuk Language Program.



The Chinuk Language Program held a Winter Story Night in achafhammi on Thursday, Feb. 7. A story read in Chinuk Wawa and translated into English was read aloud.

Visit [Smoke Signals' facebook page](#) to see more photos



Photos by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Marie Quenelle, 8, and Ayden Ruiz, 6, follow along to a story read in Chinuk Wawa and translated into English.

Upcoming pipe replacement will help ensure safety

WATER continued from page 8

The Tribe has not had a representative serve on the seven-member Water Association Board of Directors since Public Works Coordinator John Mercier left after three years in 2012.

Also included in the draft Strategic Plan is the goal of completing a water rights legal review and the development of a memorandum for Tribal Council to approve to increase the Tribe's security over its municipal water supply.

Part of that legal review, Engineering and Public Works Manager Jesse White says, is determining if 10 Tribal irrigation water rights could ever be used for quasi-municipal purposes.

The Tribe also owns five quasi-municipal water rights that total more than 217 million gallons annually. The water is available for use by the casino and lodge, and as a possible backup supply for the Water Association should its source ever be interrupted.

The Executive Office, Tribal Attorney's Office, Public Works Department and Planning Department have been identified as the Tribal entities that will work on Tribal water issues.

Planning Director Rick George says the likelihood of the Grand Ronde Tribe acquiring its own significant water right from the state of Oregon is probably miniscule based on surface water rights



Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Karl Ekstrom, manager of the Grand Ronde Community Water Association, is interviewed in his office on Thursday, Jan. 17.

downstream, but the Tribe could become more involved with the Water Association by having a representative on the board.

The Tribe also could build a storage tank that would supply Tribal residents when the Water Association issues a drinking water advisory, which it last did in October 2015 when coliform bacteria was detected. It was the seventh straight year that the Water Association detected coliform bacteria in its supply.

To resolve the issue, the Water Association used chlorine to sanitize the storage tanks. The Water

Association doesn't disinfect with chlorine or add fluoride to its water on a regular basis.

At the time, Polk County Environmental Health Supervisor Jim Solvedt said that finding coliform bacteria in rural water systems is not unusual since biomass buildup inside pipes is common.

"It's a really good source of water," he said about the Grand Ronde Community Water Association.

Mercier says his No. 1 item from a Tribal strategic planning perspective would be seeing a larger water line tie-in with the 12-inch water line that ends at the intersection

of Grand Ronde and Hebo roads, which would create a loop and improve water supplies and fire protection to úyxat Powwow Grounds and the achafhammi plankhouse off Hebo Road.

"That would improve water delivery in leaps and bounds," Mercier says.

But, he adds, the Tribe does not need to consider creating its own municipal water system because of the abundance of water provided by the Water Association.

"When we talk about water delivery and the different types of water delivery that we need for this community, we want to try to create a system that's just safe for our users," Mercier says. "What that really means to us is just working together with the Water Association as we plan for our needs.

"Personally, us just working with Grand Ronde Water is my desirable. They are already structured and in place to deliver water."

Ekstrom says an upcoming pipe replacement project will help ensure the water supply's safety. The \$400,000 project will upsize 4-inch pipes near the springs and allow the Water Association to extract more water. Another project will replace a failing booster pump station near Rowell Creek.

"It'll be a safer supply, not that our current supply is unsafe. It'll just make it safer," Ekstrom says. "If you're only talking about a few hundred more homes, (water supply) should never be an issue." ■

Tribe adopts first honorary member

**MEETING continued
from front page**

lodge, which opened with 100 rooms in 1998, follows the Tribe's \$13 million investment to remodel the casino in 2016.

The Grand Ronde Tribe is in the enviable position of having the financial resources that it can loan Spirit Mountain Gaming Inc. the necessary funds for remodeling both the casino and lodge and then Spirit Mountain Gaming pays the loan back to the Tribe with interest.

The second vote approved a \$360,000 equity contribution to Grand Ronde Food and Fuel Co., which operates the convenience store, for replacement of all gas pumps so they can become card chip reader compliant, remodel the store's interior and install a new car wash. The funds will come from the company's 2018 dividend to the Tribe held in the general fund.

Tribal Council also performed a first, adopting Hattie Mae Emmilee Craig as an honorary member of the Tribe.

Hattie Mae, the daughter of Tribal member Stephanie Craig and Umatilla Tribal member Fernore Joseph Craig Jr., was born Dec. 3, 2018, and walked on eight days later. She and her brother, William, were born prematurely and she passed away from complications.

Hattie Mae was assigned honorary member roll number A0001.

"This is an historic moment," Vice Chair Chris Mercier said as Hattie Mae's parents sat in the audience.

In other action, Tribal Council:

- Approved an application to the Oregon Office of Emergency Management for two State Homeland Security grants totaling \$80,000 to update the Grand Ronde Emergency Operations Plan and prepare an Emergency Operations Plan regional response annex;
- Approved an application to the Oregon Department of Transportation for the Tribe's \$100,000 in Rural 5311 federal pass-through funding;
- Adopted a resolution that mandates all appointments to Spirit Mountain Gaming Inc.'s Board of Directors shall have terms ending on Sept. 30 and that the terms of current board members will be extended to expire on Sept. 30;
- Appointed Reuben Nelson and Jerry George to the Timber Committee, Anthony Texeira to the Veterans Special Event Board, Valeria Atanacio to the Education Committee and Josephine Ingraham to the Enrollment Committee. All of the terms run through March 2020;
- Approved the fifth amendment to the Tribe's Portland Harbor Environmental Services agree-

ment with Industrial Economics to add work regarding the third phase of natural resource damage assessments;

- Approved final adoption of amendments to the Guardianship and Conservatorship Ordinance that were adopted on an emergency basis in November. The amendments will help protect the assets of disabled Tribal children who are wards of the state by allowing the Tribal Children and Family Services Program to file for conservatorship in Tribal Court. No comments were received on the amendments when they were sent out for a first reading;
- Approved sending amendments to the Leasing Ordinance out for a first reading, which will solicit Tribal member input. The amendments will allow the Tribe to assume authority over the process and approval of leases on Tribal trust lands. "The more self-governance we do, the better," Tribal Attorney Rob Greene said during the Tuesday, Feb. 5, Legislative Action Committee meeting;
- Approved the Tribe's annual application for \$13,000 in Oregon Youth Conservation Corps funding that will partially fund the Tribe's Summer Youth Crew. The Tribe has received the grant funding for more than 20 years

and it is used to help pay Youth Crew participants;

- And approved an amended professional services agreement with Akana to provide construction administration services for the second phase of construction of the Wind River Apartments. The amendment brings the total agreement with Akana to \$113,392.

Also included in the Feb. 6 Tribal Council meeting packet were approved authorizations to proceed that established a proposed financial model for establishing fully funded targets in the Tribal endowments and waived the Committee and Special Event Board travel policy to allow four members of the Youth Council to attend the 2019 UNITY mid-year conference in Arizona in February and allow the remaining three members to attend the national Unity Conference in July in Florida.

The meeting was held at 1:30 p.m. instead of the customary 4 p.m. because of the threat of inclement weather that remained in western Oregon, Tribal Council Chief of Staff Stacia Hernandez said.

The video of the entire meeting can be viewed by visiting the Tribal government's website at www.grandronde.org and clicking on News and then Video. ■

HOW TO ACCESS SMOKE SIGNALS

MAIL



Smoke Signals arrives in your mail twice a month.

COMPUTER



Access *Smoke Signals* website at www.smokesignals.org to download *Smoke Signals*, read stories and watch videos.

PODCAST



**SMOKE SIGNALS
P O D C A S T**

E-MAIL



E-subscribe at esubscription@grandronde.org to receive PDF version of *Smoke Signals*; much faster than mail!

YOUTUBE



**SMOKE SIGNALS
Y o u T u b e C h a n n e l**

Go to www.youtube.com and then search for *Smoke Signals* Channel.

SOCIAL MEDIA



Follow *Smoke Signals* on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram

 [SmokeSignalsCTGR](#)

 follow us @ [CTGRSmokeSignals](#)

 [CTGRSmokeSignals](#)

Mercier first new regional director in 40 years

MERCIER continued from front page

He takes the helm of the Portland BIA office from Stanley Speaks, who retired in 2017.

“I have known Stan for several years and I’m trying to meet with him every few months,” Mercier said. “He has a lot of knowledge and was here for a long time.”

Mercier, 45, is not the only member of his immediate family serving Indian Country. His younger brother, Chris, is Grand Ronde Tribal Council vice chair.

“Indian Country is pretty small so I don’t think it’s uncommon to have situations like these, but you have to be careful and aware of it,” he said.

This means Mercier will need to recuse himself from making any decisions that directly affect the Grand Ronde Tribe.

“Even the perception of that is something I want to completely avoid,” he said. “There are ethics rules for federal employees which are very clear.”

Mercier’s family has a long history in Grand Ronde and he grew up knowing his great-grandparents, Hubert and Martha Mercier. His grandparents are Winston and Michelle Mercier, and parents are Bryce and Patricia Mercier. He also has a half-brother, Damien Mercier.

Mercier is married to wife Christine, and the couple has two children, 7-year-old Kali and 9-year-old Keekoa.

He jokes about being a “professional student” until almost turning 30. First, Mercier earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Oregon and then a graduate economics certificate from the University of Freiburg in Germany.



Photos by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Bureau of Indian Affairs Northwest Regional Director and Tribal member Bryan Mercier goes through paperwork in his Portland office on Friday, Feb. 8.



He then earned a master’s degree in international law from Charles III University of Madrid in Spain.

He also served as principal legislative staff on federal Indian policy for Oregon Sen. Gordon Smith from 2003-05 as a Tribal Hatfield Fellow and through the Udall Foundation, which offers scholarships and internships to outstanding Native American and Alaska Native college students who want careers in health care and Tribal public policy.

Studying for advanced degrees and living abroad was far removed, both geographically and socially, from his experiences growing up

in Salem, but Mercier has always had a desire to learn more about the world.

“Education is key,” he said. “College is not just about school. It is also about the chance to experience diversity. I grew up in rural Oregon. It would have been easy to stay there, but going to different schools opened up the world to me.”

Mercier has already dealt with the longest partial federal government shutdown in history during his first three months on the job – no easy task when you have 330 employees and most of them are furloughed.

“What was the hardest part was seeing my staff go through this,” he said. “Some of them live paycheck to paycheck and it was hard (many) to make ends meet. I didn’t want to lose more people.”

Mercier noted that due to retirements, he is down approximately 70 people and is looking to fill positions, something that couldn’t be done during the shutdown.

“Hiring is one of my top three priorities right now,” he said.

The other two are visiting all 45 Tribes in the BIA Northwest region, which includes Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Alaska and Montana, and improving Tribal self-determination.

Mercier said the most interesting part of his new job so far is the variety and the toughest part is the size of the bureaucracy.

“I am working on the culture within the BIA and trying to build on that,” he said. “I want to engage with staff and empower them to believe in the mission. They have the desire to serve Indian Country so I want to make it more collaborative and engaging.”

Although Mercier is enjoying his new job, especially since his employees are back at work, he misses BPA co-workers.

“I was there for 10 years and had a great career,” he said. “It was hard to leave, but I like being dedicated 100 percent to working with Tribes. I started my career that way and miss the camaraderie.”

Part of his goal of visiting all 45 Tribes will begin this summer, when he takes his family on the

road in a recreational vehicle and will work remote.

“That trip with my kids is going to be an awesome experience,” he said.

Before Mercier worked for BPA and BIA, he served as a financial advisor for the U.S. Treasury and a program analyst for the Forest Service.

He has had several mentors along the way. One is Roy Sampsel (Choctaw/Wyandotte), who led the way in establishing Tribal fishing rights and greater protection for the Columbia River watershed. He walked on in 2017. He also served the Department of the Interior as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs.

Another mentor is Jamestown S’Klallam Tribal Council Chair Ron Allen.

Allen and Mercier have known each other for 10 years, dating back to when Mercier worked for BPA.

“I have always appreciated his leadership and managerial skills,” Allen said. “He led a large program at BPA and made sure his staff fully understood our sovereignty, jurisdiction and treaty rights. His calm and balanced disposition served him well as a problem solver and caused those who worked with him to have confidence that he understood their views or ideals.”

He added that Mercier is replacing a “Northwest legacy” in Speaks, but that he has reached out to him for insights.

“He brings the right personality and skill set to serve our 45 Tribes in our Northwest region,” Allen said. “He is quick to acknowledge there are many concerns and needs of the Northwest Tribes that he doesn’t understand, but possesses a quick learning curve. ... Bryan is one who looks to insights of his team and those who can provide him the right kind of counsel to make good decisions as a Tribal advocate. We are hopeful he will stick with us for a long time.”

Thinking back on his accomplishments thus far, Mercier said he owes a debt of gratitude to the Tribe.

“The Tribe helped me get through college and graduate debt-free,” he said. “If it wasn’t for that, I would have never gone to Europe or Washington, D.C. The assistance I have gotten has been huge over the years.”

Mercier also worked on the Tribe’s first-ever Summer Youth Crew in 1989 as one of four members.

He’s come a long way from summer youth employee to BIA regional director, but Mercier views as it returning to what he enjoys most: Serving Tribal people.

“I’m excited about this opportunity,” he said. “Being the first new regional director in 40 years can be intimidating, but I want to make this area the crown jewel of BIA operations in the country.” ■

Sharing Our Stories learn know understand

Join David Harnelson, Cultural Resources Department Manager and Jedd Schrock, Linguist for a conversation about traditional stories, dances and ethnographies of Grand Ronde.

All are welcome to attend, and no prior knowledge is needed.

Two sessions are being offered each day, attend one or both sessions on:

Monday February 25th
Monday March 18th

Noon Stories 12:10 - 12:50pm
Evening Stories 5:15 - 6:15pm

Chachalu Museum and Cultural Center
Conference Room

**There will be no food provided at these events. You may bring your own bagged lunch.

Murrell resurrecting Domestic Violence aid program

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

When Tribal member Danielle Murrell relocated to Oregon from Southern California in mid-September and walked in for her first day of work as the Tribe's new Domestic Violence coordinator, she was taking over a program that had been idle for almost a year.

Now, after five full months on the job during which she has learned about the resources available to help women dealing with domestic violence situations, she is ready to reinvigorate the Tribal response for women in need of help.

"Something that spoke to me was another therapist who was Native talked about going back to her Reservation and visiting, and no matter how many trainings you take ... the best way to learn more about your own Tribe is coming back," Murrell says about moving to Oregon. "I think coming back to my own community and learning about my people and more about our traditions and culture is super important."

In 2017, when Anne Falla held the position, the Domestic Violence Program within the Social Services Department received 200 crisis calls and helped more than 80 clients.

Murrell says the current workload for her program is down from the 2017 levels because of the year-long break in the program and the time necessary for her to become familiar with the Tribal, county and state resources available to help domestic violence victims.

However, of those she has worked with, she is seeing mostly domestic violence affecting mothers with

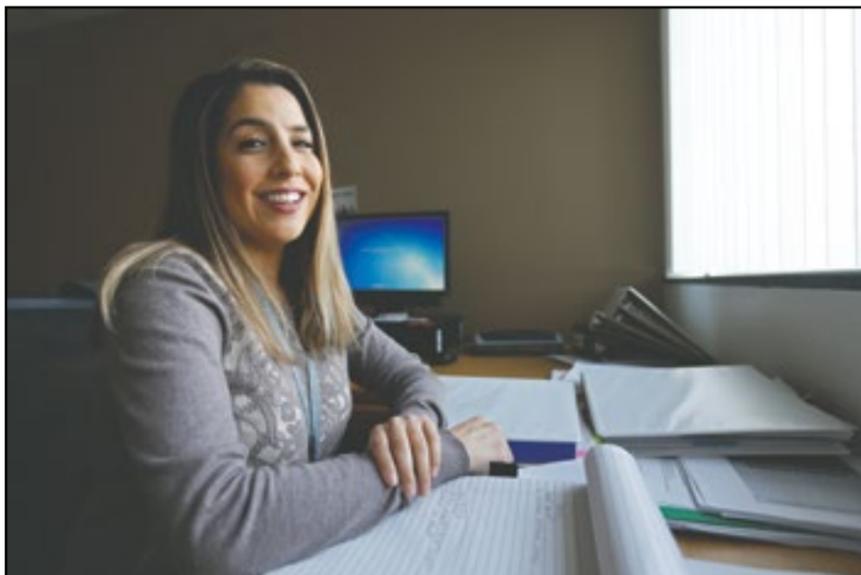


Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Danielle Murrell is the Tribe's new Domestic Violence coordinator. Her office is located in the Tribal Community Center.

children who are assessing their options in possibly leaving an abusive relationship. Common characteristics in her cases are alcohol and drug abuse, as well as a current or ex-partner having a criminal history.

"They are really looking at their options and seeking support," Murrell says. "With trauma-informed care, you want to always provide options. ... We don't direct anybody to do anything. It's all up to them and about providing options."

Murrell says she also has seen cyber stalking situations where ex-partners are tracking their former girlfriend or partner on social media and contacting their friends and relatives, slandering them. "It's definitely a growing problem," she says.

Murrell was born and raised in

Southern California, graduating from Edison High School in Huntington Beach. She received her bachelor's degree from California State Fullerton and her master's in social work from California State University-Long Beach in 2011.

Her social work experience is varied, including working six years for the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, aiding the second largest Native American/Alaskan Native population in a county in the United States as a therapist. She also is a licensed clinical social worker in both California and Oregon, meaning she can provide clinical therapy.

"I did a lot of trauma work," she says about her days working out in the field in the Los Angeles area.

Her parents are Debra Leno and Danny Estrada and her grandparents are Maxine and Bud Leno. She is the middle child. Her older

sister, Nicole Hewitt, is the Tribe's Youth Prevention manager and her younger brother, Erik Estrada, lives in Southern California.

Murrell says she decided to go into social work because she has always been helping people, even at a young age.

"Even in high school, I was volunteering. I volunteered at a program called Get on the Bus, where you work with youth who are unable to see their incarcerated mothers and you take them to go visit their parents. ... I think I've always wanted to be somewhere helping people."

She credits her mother's involvement in such things as being a court-appointed special advocate and volunteering at a hospice for instilling the desire to help in herself and her siblings.

Murrell, 39, is looking forward to beefing up her staff by hiring two positions that also have been vacant – domestic violence relief advocate and victims of crime advocate – and getting a domestic violence hotline up and running.

She also is starting Women Moving Forward, a 12-week support group to provide support for women moving beyond abusive relationships.

Murrell can help all Tribal members facing domestic violence situations, not just those who live in Grand Ronde or the six-county service area.

"Right now I'm trying to do outreach and, because the position was vacant for so long, to let the community know I'm here and the program is up and running," she says. "I'm here to help in any way I can."

Murrell can be contacted at 503-879-1660 or via e-mail at danielle.murrell@grandronde.org. ■

WALK-IN DENTAL APPOINTMENTS FOR KIDS <6

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY FOR DENTAL CHECK-UPS FOR KIDS 5 AND UNDER WHO ARE ELIGIBLE TO BE SEEN AT THE TRIBAL CLINIC. JUST COME ON IN!

We will check your child's teeth during any of our clinic hours without an appointment. Dental check-ups are recommended beginning with the first tooth!

Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Dental Clinic
Phone 503-879-2020
Hours: Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri 8:00–5:00; Thur 9:30-5:30



In seek of:

Parent Partner for Project LAUNCH

The Young Child Wellness Project LAUNCH is seeking a Parent Partner. The Partner will be involved with the planning of activities for the grant. This person will also be a part of the engagement & outreach efforts with families and sharing their voice & vision to create community based approaches that meet Tribal community & Cultural needs.

Hours: Up to 4 hours a week.
Wage: \$25.00 an hour.

Requirements:
Applicant cannot be an employee of the Tribe. Partner must be a Parent or Guardian of a Tribal Member or Parent or Guardian of a Descendant.
* Preference will be given to Grand Ronde Tribal Member applicants.

If you are interested in being considered for this position please contact Keri Kimsey at 503-879-2476 or email at: keri.kimsey@grandronde.org

NEW TRIBAL PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT
PROMOTING WELLNESS IN EARLY CHILDHOOD
INDIGENOUS PROJECT LAUNCH
(LINKING ACTIONS FOR UNMET NEEDS IN CHILDREN'S HEALTH)

THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF GRAND RONDE HAS BEEN AWARDED THE INDIGENOUS PROJECT LAUNCH GRANT. THIS IS A 5-YEAR GRANT THAT IS ISSUED BY THE SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION. (SAMHSA)

THE PURPOSE OF THIS PROGRAM IS TO PROMOTE OVERALL WELLNESS OF YOUNG CHILDREN FROM BIRTH TO EIGHT YEARS WITHIN OUR TRIBE AND COMMUNITY.

THE POPULATION OF FOCUS FOR PROJECT LAUNCH IN CTGR IS ENROLLED MEMBER CHILDREN 0-8, THEIR FAMILIES, AND ENROLLED MEMBER DESCENDANTS.

This is just the beginning! The Tribal community will be hearing and seeing a lot more information regarding LAUNCH in the upcoming months. Stay tuned for information on meet & greets with our staff & community events we will be attending!



We understand this is new to our community & you may have a lot of questions.
We encourage you to please contact Keri Kimsey, the Young Child Wellness Community Coordinator, at 503-879-2476 or email at: keri.kimsey@grandronde.org.

Kimsey is new Young Child Wellness Community coordinator

By Danielle Frost
Smoke Signals staff writer

To say the Kimsey family is well-known in Grand Ronde would be putting it lightly.

Marvin Kimsey was a key Restoration leader and his family has carried on that legacy through their work with the Tribe.

Now, granddaughter Keri Kimsey, 29, is helping the Tribe's youngest members as the Young Child Wellness Community coordinator. It is a position that is new to the Tribe and grant funded.

"When I heard about this job, it sounded perfect," she said. "It's an opportunity to work with families, the community and wellness."

Kimsey began working for the Tribe nine years ago in the Head Start preschool program.

"I soon realized working with children was really meaningful for me," she said.

After the Tribe enacted its Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance in 2014, she joined her father, Duke Kimsey, in that department, serving as its secretary. TERO was formed to provide quality services for the Grand Ronde Reservation and surrounding region by increasing and enhancing employment opportunities, and promoting Tribal and Indian preference in contracting and subcontracting.

Kimsey began her new job a month ago, with the main goal being development of positive relationships with families in the Grand Ronde community and connection with current programs serving children and families. Kimsey's job is funded through the Linking Actions for Unmet Needs in Children's Health, or LAUNCH. It is a childhood wellness program targeted at children from birth through 8 years old.

According to the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, which funds the program, LAUNCH focuses on the wellness

of young children by addressing the physical, social, emotional, cognitive and behavioral aspects of their development. The goal of Project LAUNCH is to "create a shared vision for the wellness of young children that drives the development of federal, state, territorial, Tribal and locally-based networks for the coordination of key child-serving systems and the integration of behavioral and physical health services."

The desired result is for children to thrive in safe, supportive environments, and enter school ready to learn and succeed. The five-year grant doesn't require matching funds.

"We are looking at how we can collaborate with our efforts, and also create a liaison between internal and external social service agencies," Kimsey said. "The goal is to have kids ready for school and able to thrive. There has been a huge need for this because of behavioral health issues in school. We want to give kids and families tools and resources to help."

Internal agencies included in the effort will be the Tribe's Education, Social Services and Health & Wellness departments. Outside partners include county social service agencies and area school districts.

Health & Wellness Quality Improvement Manager Dawn Doar is also serving as LAUNCH director.

"Right now the focus of the program is serving Tribal children, families and descendants," Doar said. "We are very excited about it. This is a huge opportunity for the Tribe."

During her first year on the job,



Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Keri Kimsey, 29, is helping the Tribe's youngest members as the Young Child Wellness Community coordinator. It is a position that is new to the Tribe and grant funded.

Kimsey will attend community events, and network with children and families to gauge the highest priority needs.

"The first year of the grant is identifying needs and putting together a plan," Doar said. "The second year we roll it out. Keri's job is to research and gather information so we can engage people in the process."

Kimsey said her nine years working for the Tribe and growing up in Grand Ronde have prepared her for this task.

"I realize how many programs we have that are geared toward kids," she said. "It will make my job much easier in providing resources when we have the services already in place. I really enjoy being able to work with people in these programs, and start a new adventure of child wellness and family services. Everyone here has been really supportive and they are

excited for me."

Doar describes Kimsey as a "breath of fresh air."

"She really hit the ground running and is not afraid to try new ideas, and blaze a trail," she said.

When she's not working, Kimsey enjoys spending time with boyfriend Sean Kyllonen and sons Ben, 9, and Reed, 5, as well as attending her sons' sporting events. She also likes music, cooking and camping.

"The Tribe has been a big part of my family's life and my connection with the community motivates me to do the best that I can to serve," Kimsey said.

Added Doar, "Keri is a great fit for this position and it's a good opportunity for her to learn all about the specifics of grant work, and also to help the Tribe move closer to meeting needs for all of our kids."

Kimsey can be reached at 503-879-3476 or keri.kimsey@grandronde.org. ■



**FAMILY CULTURAL WELLNESS NIGHT
WITH GRAND RONDE HEAD START PRESCHOOL**

CULTURALLY INSPIRED ACTIVITIES TO MAKE AND TAKE HOME:
TOY MAKING ~ SELF CARE ~ TRADITIONAL FOODS

DINNER. RAFFLE. FAMILY FUN.

Grand Ronde Tribal Gymnasium

Monday, March 11, 2019

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

OPEN TO ALL FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN 0-5

RSVP WITH AMANDA MERCIER, 503.879.1434

Smoke Signals debuts new website

Smoke Signals staff

In its continuing evolution as an independent Tribal newspaper, *Smoke Signals* unveiled its own website on Monday, Feb. 4, at www.smokesignals.org.

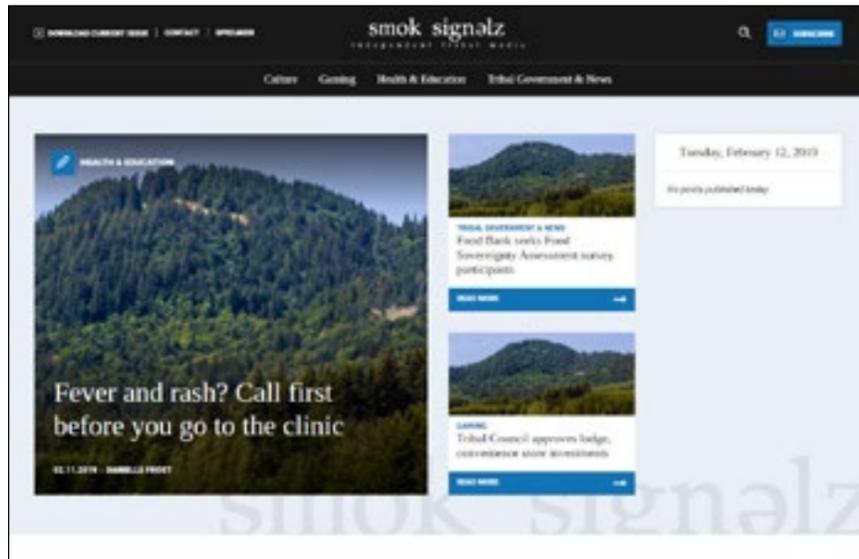
The newspaper website is now independent of, but still linked to, the main Tribal website at www.grandronde.org.

The Grand Ronde Editorial Board and *Smoke Signals* staff have been working with the Portland firm Subtext to create the new website since the summer of 2018. All *Smoke Signals* stories since 2011 appear on the new website and the site is still linked to the governmental website, as well as the archives that store PDFs of *Smoke Signals* dating back to the 1980s.

"I think *Smoke Signals* readers will find the new website design cleaner, easier to navigate and much more visually pleasing than the *Smoke Signals* section on the governmental website," said Editor Dean Rhodes. "Plus, there are now easy links to our podcasts on Spreaker, as well as to our social media accounts on Twitter, Facebook, YouTube and Instagram."

The Editorial Board authorized purchasing the smokesignals.org url for 10 years last summer and the new *Smoke Signals* website, although hosted on Tribal servers, creates an added layer of independence between the Tribal newspaper and Tribal elected officials.

Smoke Signals became an in-



dependent Tribal newspaper in January 2017 after passage of the Independent Tribal Press Ordinance in December 2016. The ordinance established a free and independent press to ensure the Tribal publication has the independence to report objectively on Grand Ronde news without interference from Tribal administration or elected officials.

"I also think that readers will like the use of Chinuk Wawa on the website," Rhodes said. "The name of the newspaper there is *smok signalz*. The one drawback, however, is that people interested in independently reported news on the Tribe will now have to go to the new website and not www.grandronde.org. We will no longer be posting our material to that website." ■

SMOKE SIGNALS PODCAST

To hear Editor Dean Rhodes discuss the new *Smoke Signals* website, visit www.spreaker.com and search for "Smoke Signals podcasts."

Milestones in *Smoke Signals*' history

- Early 1979:** Grand Ronde Tribe starts publishing *Smoke Signals* as an 8½-by-11-inch mimeographed newsletter.
- April 1987:** *Smoke Signals* is printed on newsprint for the first time.
- February 1995:** *Smoke Signals* starts publishing twice a month.
- February 2001:** *Smoke Signals* joins the World Wide Web at www.grandronde.org.
- January 2017:** *Smoke Signals* officially becomes an independent Tribal press following the December 2016 passage of the Independent Tribal Press Ordinance.
- June 2017:** The five-member Grand Ronde Editorial Board meets for the first time and lifts the unwritten prohibition against running paid political ads.
- December 2017:** *Smoke Signals* posts its first podcast on Spreaker.com.
- May 2018:** *Smoke Signals* starts its own Facebook page.
- December 2018:** *Smoke Signals* starts social media accounts on Twitter, YouTube and Instagram.
- Feb. 4, 2019:** smokesignals.org launches, creating an independent news site for Grand Ronde members to visit.

Native and Indigenous Student Union presents

17th Annual Social Powwow

Saturday March 16th, 2019
Sparks Athletic Center
1060 Mill St Se Salem, OR

Vendor Setup – Noon
Grand Entry-4pm
Ending – 10pm
Funding Guaranteed for first 10 drums

Master of Ceremonies: Bob Tom
Arena Director: David West
Host Drum: Star Horse
Dance Contest: Men's Traditional

Contact Office of Multicultural Affairs
503.370.6265 or gtoyama@willamette.edu

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR TRADITIONAL ROUND DANCE TO CELEBRATE SOBRIETY, COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLNESS

17TH ANNUAL AGENCY CREEK ROUND DANCE

MARCH 8 AND 9, 2019
7 P.M. FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
GRAND RONDE, OR.
@TRIBAL GYM

Hosted by
the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Youth Prevention Program

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
Native Youth Wellness Day
Friday, March 8, 2019
8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Tribal gymnasium

THANK YOU FOR RESPECTING GRAND RONDE'S TRIBAL COMMUNITY AND CULTURE BY NOT DISPLAYING GANG AFFILIATION OR BY BRINGING DRUGS, ALCOHOL OR WEAPONS TO THIS EVENT.

The final chapter



Photos by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Librarian Marion Mercier is presented with a blanket by General Manager David Fullerton and Higher Education Manager Bryan Langley during her retirement party held in the Tribal Library on Thursday, Jan. 31.

Visit **Smoke Signals'** **facebook** page to see more photos



Librarian Marion Mercier visits with her nephew Bobby Mercier and her brother David Mercier during her retirement party held in the Tribal Library on Thursday, Jan. 31.

College Fund publishes higher education report

DENVER, Colo. – Last spring after a parent attending a college tour called campus police with concerns about two Native Americans in the group, the American Indian College Fund convened a group of national higher education experts and Native students to address the social issues Native Americans face on campus.

On Tuesday, Feb. 5, the College Fund published “Creating Visibility and Healthy Learning Environments for Native Americans in Higher Education” as a tool for higher education institutions to advance the visibility of Native American students at their schools and to ensure that Native history, achievements and perspectives are respected.

The report was crafted by the Indigenous Higher Education Equity Initiative in Denver, Colo., in August 2018, which was hosted by the College Fund in cooperation with leadership from Colorado State University. It highlights steps colleges and universities can take with recruiting, financial aid, student orientation, recognition of Native lands, curriculum creation, establishment of meeting places for Native people, work with nearby Tribes and more.

Currently, only 14 percent of American Indian/Alaska Native people age 25 and older have a college degree, which is less than half of that of other groups in the United States.

The College Fund believes that colleges and universities can use “Creating Visibility” as a guide, helping them make campuses welcoming spaces for Native students.

To download a copy, visit www.collegefund.org or a printed copy can be requested by sending an e-mail to info@collegefund.org. ■

Fever and a rash? Call before you go to the clinic

By Danielle Frost
Smoke Signals staff writer

The Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Department is strongly encouraging anyone who thinks they might have measles to not visit the clinic. Although no cases have been reported in Polk or Yamhill counties, the clinic is urging caution.



Kelly Rowe

Signs have been posted on the clinic doors, alerting patients who have fever and a rash to stay outside and call the reception desk at 503-879-1407.

“It’s spreading so we have the signs up for precautionary reasons,” Health Services Executive Director Kelly Rowe said. “If someone suspects they have measles, we can come out and see them.”

According to the Oregon Department of Public Health, those at the greatest risk of measles include infants younger than 12 months who cannot be vaccinated, unvaccinated pregnant women and people with weakened immune systems.

Measles symptoms typically begin with a fever, cough, runny nose and red eyes, followed by a rash that begins on the face and spreads over the rest of the body.

Common complications include ear infections, lung infections and diarrhea. Swelling of the brain, although rare, is another complication. Those who contract measles can be contagious days before they know they are sick.

Tribal Pediatrician Allison Empey suggested parents who are worried about measles double-check that their children are current on vaccinations.

“Measles is a vaccine preventable disease,” Empey said. “The Centers for Disease Control recommends routine childhood immunization

MEASLES ALERT!

IF YOU HAVE FEVER and RASH
DO NOT ENTER the FACILITY
PLEASE WAIT OUTSIDE AND ASK SOMEONE TO CONTACT THE RECEPTIONIST or CALL: (503) 879-1407

for measles, mumps and rubella vaccine starting with the first dose at 12 to 15 months of age, and the second dose at 4 through 6 years of age or at least 28 days following the first dose.”

One concern cited frequently by people with children too young to be vaccinated is whether it is safe to take them out in public.

“It is safe to take your children under 12 months of age or those who have not been immunized out in public,” Empey said. “Measles has not been reported in the Grand Ronde area.”

As of the last report from the Oregon Health Authority on Jan. 30, measles exposure sites in Oregon were concentrated to the Portland area and in Bend. Clark County, Wash., has 53 confirmed cases of measles.

“Measles is a highly contagious respiratory viral infection,” Empey said. “Measles spreads by having direct contact with oral and nasal secretions with someone with measles and through the air when someone with measles coughs or sneezes. Small particles of virus may remain in the air for several hours after a cough or sneeze. Therefore, to avoid spreading measles if you suspect you have measles, please call the clinic first.” ■

CTGR Portland Office is hosting Heart Month workshop

Feb. 26
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
4445 SW Barbur Blvd. #101

Guest Speaker
Tina M. Kaufman PHD
Assistant Professor Prevention Cardiology OHSU
Contact Lisa for more information 503-879-1881

Ad created by George Valdez

Native representative



Contributed photo

Grand Ronde Tribal Council member Michael Langley met with New Mexico Rep. Deb Haaland in Washington, D.C., during the National Congress of American Indians Winter Session on Tuesday, Feb. 12. Haaland and Sharice Davids of Kansas are the first two Native American women elected to the U.S. Congress in November 2018. Haaland is an enrolled member of the Laguna Pueblo people.

Merkley co-sponsors Savanna's Act introduction

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Oregon Sen. Jeff Merkley joined with his bipartisan colleagues in introducing Savanna's Act, legislation to combat the epidemic of murdered and missing Native American women and girls by improving the federal government's response to addressing the crisis.

The bill would increase coordination among all levels of law enforcement, increase data collection and information sharing, and empower Tribal governments with the resources they need in cases involving missing and murdered indigenous women and girls wherever they occur.

"Murder rates against Native women are a shocking 10 times more than the national average," Merkley said. "That is tragic and unacceptable. This bipartisan bill finally lays the foundation for getting these women, and Native communities, the justice they deserve."

Savanna's Act aims to bridge the gap of the limited data on the number of missing Native women by directing the U.S. Department of Justice to formulate new guidelines for the reporting of violent crimes against indigenous people. The bill improves Tribal access to certain federal crime information databases by mandating that the Attorney General and the Secretary of the Interior consult with Tribes on how to further improve these databases and access to them.

It also requires certain federal agencies to solicit recommendations from Tribes on enhancing the safety of Native women.

The legislation is named for Savanna LaFontaine-Greywind, who was abducted and killed in Fargo, N.D. ■

Kick the Habit.

Call these numbers for free from anywhere in Oregon:
1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669)

Español: 1-877-2NO-FUME (1-877-266-3863)

TTY: 1-877-777-6534

Or register online at: www.quitnow.net/oregon/

TRIBAL COURT

Request for Qualifications

The Tribe is seeking Requests for Qualifications from individuals interested in serving as the Chief Judge of the Tribal Court. This is a part-time, Tribal Council-appointed position with a term of two years. To obtain a copy of the RFQ, contact Angela Fasana at 503-879-4596 or angela.fasana@grandronde.org.

Proposals must be received by 5 p.m. March 8, 2019. ■

Adult Foster Program

"A Place To Call Home"



The Tribe's Adult Foster Care lodges are committed to offering quality care to our Elders and helping them remain as independent as possible, while providing the personalized assistance they need. At our lodges, a wide range of services is available in a comfortable setting where privacy is respected and maximum independence is supported. For information, contact Adult Foster Program Director Peggy Shaver at 503-879-1694. ■



A celebration of local foods, farmers, hunting, and gathering MĒK^hMĒK-MANIA

Saturday, March 16th | 10am-1pm
Grand Ronde Gym

**FREE & OPEN TO ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS
COMMUNITY LUNCH @ 12PM
ACTIVITIES FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!**

Cooking demonstrations | Information booths |
Educational Workshops | Door prizes | and MORE

Questions? Contact Francene Ambrose at 503-879-3663



Walking On...

Marilyn Gail Portwood

Dec. 16, 1936 – Jan. 28, 2019

Tribal Elder Marilyn Gail (Walker) Portwood, 82, walked on peacefully, surrounded by her loving family on Monday, Jan. 28, 2019.



Marilyn was born in Portland on Dec. 16, 1936, to Nevilles “Jim” Walker and Dora (Williams) Walker. Marilyn went to public school in Portland, including Fernwood and Beaumont grade schools and Grant High School. She attended the University of Oregon and was a member of the Alpha Phi sorority. She received her bachelor’s degree in English from Portland State University.

Marilyn married her husband, Richard “Dick” Portwood, in June 1957. She had a career as a middle school teacher in various school districts in Oregon, including Willamina, where she taught numerous Tribal members.

Marilyn descended from Chief Tumulth, a Cascade/Watlala Tribal leader and signatory on the 1855 Treaty of the Willamette Valley. She was a proud and active member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.

Marilyn lived a remarkable life, full of purpose, determination and grace. She was kind to all who she met and treated everyone with great respect. She and Richard loved to travel, ski and play tennis, and she was an accomplished dominoes player. She loved spending time in central Oregon in the peace and quiet of their Black Butte Ranch vacation home, usually in the company of friends and family.

Marilyn was a beloved member of the Ascension Episcopal Parish family for 35 years.

She is survived by her loving husband of 62 years, Richard; her sisters, Joan (Walker) Anderson and Valerie (Walker) Alexander; her daughter, Nina Portwood Shields and husband, Tim; her daughter, Lee Ann Huffman and husband, Eric; her son, Michael; and grandchildren, Hannah, Abigail, Nicholas, Richard “Ricky,” Lucy and Dominic.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. At her request, memorials should be sent to Ascension Episcopal Parish or the Oregon Food Bank.

Eldon Lee Leaton Sr.

Aug. 7, 1930 – Feb. 8, 2019

Tribal Elder Eldon Lee Leaton Sr. was born to William and Bernice Leaton on Aug. 7, 1930, in North Bend, Ore. He grew up living above the Gold and Silver Falls and Allegheny in Coos County. His early years were spent working hard and with a strong work ethic.



He married Elizabeth J. Hinds in 1950, and of this marriage was born Eldon Lee Jr. He then joined the Army in 1955 and was stationed at Fort Lewis, Wash., and then Fort Bliss, Texas.

In 1956, he married Edith Wilson. While at Fort Bliss, he and Edith would have a son, William Lee, in 1956, and a daughter, Linda Marie, in 1957.

After being discharged, Eldon started his trucking career in Cimarron, N.M., and then at several locations in California, including Arcata, Eureka, Baker and Palo Alto, and then Grangeville, Idaho. He drove logging trucks, belly dumps and operated other types of logging and highway construction equipment.

In 1966, they completed the family with Lonnie Lee. In 1972, he gave up the logging and moved the family to Payette, Idaho, where he started with a 20-acre apple orchard. What was unique to this idea was that he knew how to fall timber and haul it to the mills. He thought you only had to pick the fruit. Thinking he would only have to work one or two months out of the year, he learned hard and fast that you basically worked year-round and long hours regardless of the weather.

He, however, was very successful and finished with 80 acres of orchard, vegetables and hay. He married Peggy Peterson in 1994. In 2001, he was done with the orchard and relocated to St. Maries, Idaho, where he could get back to his woods and hauling logs. In 2004, he returned to Payette and another 20 acres.

Eldon lived a very full life with stories that will be always treasured. He liked so many things, such as elk hunting, fishing, flying his planes and collecting stuff, and will always be remembered for how he could figure out any problem and fix it. He loved his pets: Pilot, Midnight, Blackie, Lobo, Lady, Rusty, Lacy, Jake and Indie.

He was preceded in death by his parents, William and Bernice Leaton; sister, Hattie Cotter; and wife, Peggy.

He is survived by his sons, Eldon Jr. (Kitty), of Payette, William (Joyce) of Roseburg, Ore., and Lonnie of Ontario, Ore.; daughter, Linda Wilson (Greg) of Payette; four grandsons, John Raines, Hugh Blacketer II, and Larry and Tyler Leaton; sister, Wilma Hoelig of Huntington Beach, Calif.;

and many nieces and nephews.

The family suggests memorial contribution be made to Meals on Wheels. Shaffer-Jensen Memory Chapel assisted the family.

A graveside service was held Wednesday, Feb. 13, at Cloverdale Cemetery in Boise, Idaho.

LaVerne May Teter (Hosford) Bean

Aug. 18, 1922 – Aug. 25, 2018

Our beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and great-great-grandmother went home to be with the Lord on Saturday, Aug. 25, 2018, just one week after her 96th birthday. She celebrated her birthday on powwow weekend surrounded by family and friends.



Tribal spouse LaVerne May Teter Bean was born Aug. 18, 1922, to Marshall and Pearl Teter in Rickreall, Ore. She attended school in Rickreall until the ninth grade. She met her husband Fremond Bean at the age of 15 and moved to Grand Ronde in 1937. Together, they had six children: Donna, Frank, Ellen, Tom, Linda and Joyce.

Despite being a mother of six children, LaVerne was a logger, helping Fremond run the first Indian-owned logging company in the area, F.F. Bean Logging. She set chokers, scaled logs in her moccasins, ran equipment and managed the payroll and taxes.

In 1957, the family moved to Siletz, Ore., and LaVerne managed the S&H Green Stamp store in nearby Toledo.

After 25 years of marriage to Fremond, they divorced and she moved to Portland. She went to work for Jantzen Woolen Mills as a seamstress where she met Bob Hosford and his son, Danny. During her time with Bob and Danny, she helped Bob with his car sales business and became a car saleswoman. Through Bob, LaVerne became involved in the Portland professional wrestling scene. She took great pride in being part of the team that managed and looked out for professional wrestler and longtime wrestling promoter Sandy Barr.

She used her skills as a seamstress to make costumes for wrestlers and her work was much in demand by wrestlers on the Portland circuit, such as Lonnie Mayne, Tony Bourne and Dutch Savage, to name a few.

After separating from Bob, she lived in Eugene and Salem, Ore., and Phoenix, Ariz., before choosing to be near her family and settling into retirement on the Grand Ronde Indian Reservation.

All her life she was known for her sewing skills. She made quilts, pillows, clothes, ties and traditional Native American ribbon shirts. She enjoyed knitting, crocheting, embroidery and macramé. LaVerne also had a keen eye for crossword and jigsaw puzzles.

LaVerne was preceded in death by her sons, Thomas Joseph and Francis Bean; daughter, Ellen Bean Campbell Fischer; and son-in-law, Duke Olson.

LaVerne’s surviving children are daughters Donna Bean Stronach, Linda Bean Hostler Olson and Joyce Bean Kirk. This amazing matriarch also is survived by 18 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren and 15 great-great-grandchildren.

At her request, there will be no funeral services. A private luncheon and interment for family and close friends will be held on Sunday, Feb. 24, at the Grand Ronde Community Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. ■

SOCIAL SECURITY

Do you need assistance applying for Social Security or retirement benefits

Contact Julie Singer 503-879-1347

Julie's office hours are:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 10 a.m - 5 p.m.



CULTURAL EDUCATION

✦✦✦✦✦✦

Are you missing out on what Cultural Education has to offer? Follow us on Facebook to get detailed class information, photos from events, and updates.

Plus, check out the tribal calendar for a quick glance of upcoming events and classes.

Open to Tribal and Community members. Join us!

✦✦✦✦✦✦

Search Facebook for Grand Ronde Cultrual Education
Tribal Calendar // www.grandronde.org/tribal-calendar

2019 Tribal fishing opportunities

Within the Trask hunting unit, there are 10 lakes and ponds that the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife stocks with rainbow trout throughout the year.

Below is an overview of the different locations you may fish with a valid Tribal hunting and fishing license. If you do not have a valid hunting and fishing license, you can get one at the Natural Resources Department between 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday excluding the lunch hour.

While fishing you must obey all Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife rules and regulations including daily catch limits. You can obtain a sport fishing regulation booklet from the Natural Resources Department or online at <https://myodfw.com/fishing>. Day use and camping fees may apply in some locations.

When fishing for salmon, steelhead and sturgeon you must first acquire a tag from the ODFW office. For more accurate stocking schedules see link already listed. You should always read the regulations before you go.

Huddleston/Hampton Pond

Location: This five-acre pond located within Huddleston Pond Park in Willamina. This former mill pond has "kid-friendly" edges, is ADA accessible in places and has a restroom and picnic areas.

ODFW Stocking Schedule: Feb. 25 through Jan. 10, 2020.

Total Trout Stocked: 5,230 Legals and 1,490 Trophy.

Other Fish: Trout, bass, bluegill.

Henry Hagg Lake

Location: The lake is now open year-round and is stocked regularly. Henry Hagg Lake is a 1,110-acre body of water located seven miles southwest of Forest Grove.

ODFW Stocking Schedule: Feb. 25 through Nov. 15.

Total Trout Stocked: 113,000 Legals & 3,850 Trophy.

Other Fish: Rainbow trout, smallmouth bass, yellow perch, largemouth bass, crappie, bluegill, brown bullhead, yellow bullhead, native cutthroat trout.

Dorman Pond

Location: This is an eight-acre pond west of Forest Grove at the junction of highways 8 and 6

ODFW Stocking Schedule: March 18 through May 3.

Total Trout Stocked: 3,332 Legals.

Hebo Lake

Location: Near Mount Hebo Road in Hebo.

ODFW Stocking Schedule: March 18 through May 31.

Total Trout Stocked: 7,550 Legals.

Town Lake

Location: North of Pacific City off Sandlake Road.

ODFW Stocking Schedule: March 18 through Sept. 20.

Total Trout Stocked: 6,400 Legals & 300 Trophy.

South Lake

Location: Off Forest Road 1428 above the Grand Ronde community.

ODFW Stocking Schedule: March 18 through April 19.

Total Trout Stocked: 4,700 Legals.

North Lake

Location: North of South Lake off Forest Road 14.

ODFW Stocking Schedule: April 15 through April 19.

Total Trout Stocked: 200 Legals.

Cape Meares Lake

Location: Off Bayocean Dike Road near Tillamook.

ODFW Stocking Schedule: March 18 through Sept. 20.

Total Trout Stocked: 12,750 Legals & 300 Trophy.

Other fish: Largemouth bass and bluegill

Loren's Pond

Location: Near Tillamook off the Trask River Road.

ODFW Stocking Schedule: March 18 through April 26.

Total Trout Stocked: 3,000 Legals.

Tahoe Lake

Location: Near Tillamook off E. Fork Bypass.

ODFW Stocking Schedule: March 18 through April 26.

Total Trout Stocked: 1,000 Legals.

For more information about fishing in the Trask Unit, contact Aquatic Biologist Brandon Weems at 503-879-2192 or brandon.weems@grandronde.org. ■

Veterans Royalty

Veterans Royalty work with the Veterans Special Event Board (Veterans SEB). They attend powwows, parades, fundraisers, meetings and other events with the Veterans SEB and the Honor Guard. They interact with and represent all veterans. They also work with the Grand Ronde Royalty during events and activities such as Restoration, parades and fundraisers. The Veterans Royalty should know what a veteran is and the different military branches.

When Veterans Royalty attend events, they are expected to stay for the duration of the event. This includes helping to set up events, meetings and parades and dancing during Grand Entry, InterTribals and staying until the flags are retired. Veterans Royalty should have their own regalia and be willing and able to dance.

GRAND RONDE VETERANS ROYALTY

Participating in Veterans Royalty is an excellent opportunity for Tribal youth to learn our traditions, powwow protocol and work with veterans. Participants represent the veterans and the Tribe by attending powwows and various community events.

We encourage all Tribal youth to join.

Warriors — 8-18 years of age

Junior Veterans Queen — 11-13 years of age

Senior Veterans Queen — 14-18 years of age

General Requirements:

1. Enrolled Grand Ronde Tribal member
2. Must be alcohol and drug free
3. Never married, no children
4. Attend school regularly and be in good standing
5. Sign and comply with Veteran Royalty Guidelines and Agreement

~ OFFICIAL APPLICATION ~

Applicant's Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone (Day): _____ (Evening): _____

Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____

Father's Name: _____

Mother's Name: _____

Sponsor's Name, Address and Phone (if different than a parent): _____

Why do you want to participate in Veterans Royalty? _____

Applicant's Signature _____

Parent's Signature _____

Sponsor's Signature (if different than a parent) _____

**Return this application to: Veterans SEB, c/o Public Affairs
9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347
Deadline: 5 p.m. Wednesday, May 15, 2019
Questions? Contact Chelsea Clark at 503-879-1418
or chelsea.clark@grandronde.org**

Health & Wellness Center Entrance

Reminder: The drive-through entrance at the Health & Wellness Center is for loading and unloading only. The entrance was built with our Elders and those with mobility issues and their ease of access in mind.

If you are coming to the center to pick up prescriptions, please park in one of our regular parking spaces.

Thank you,

Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Center Administration



Susie Shaw

Life Insurance Representative

1010 NE Cornell Road

Hillsboro, OR 97124-3339

Bus 503-844-2800

Fax 503-427-1447

susie@mygoodenoughagent.com

Ashley Goodenough, Agent

Don't forget our appointment at: _____



Paid ad

WILLAMETTE UNIVERSITY

Native and Indigenous Student Union

17th Annual Social Pow wow

Saturday March 16, 2019

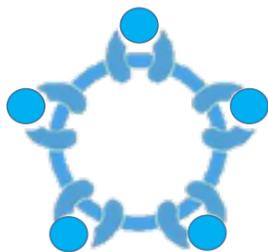
Grand Entry 4pm

Men's Traditional Dance Contest

Call 503.370.6265 for information

Special Education Roundtable

Hosted by Family Service Coordination Team



Discussion of special education topics, highlighting transition from preschool to Kindergarten and high school to adulthood

Save the date!



Tuesday, March 12th, 11 A.M. to 1 P.M.



Employment Resources Training Room

RSVP: Audra X2069 or Elaine X2095

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL

- **Controller**
Job #009-19
Finance
Grade: 21
Closing date: March 1
- **Teen Pregnancy Prevention Coordinator**
Job #010-19
Social Services
Grade: 10
Closing date: March 1
Grant funded until Sept. 30, 2021.
- **CFS Caseworker**
Job #053-18
Social Services
Grade: 10
Open until filled
- **Domestic Violence Relief Advocate**
Job #011-18
Social Services
Grade: 8
Open until filled
This is a limited duration position through June 30, 2019; continuation is subject to grant funding.
- **Behavioral Health Coordinator**
Job #002-19
Behavioral Health
Grade: 12
Open until filled
- **Child and Adolescent Mental Health Therapist**
Job #124-18
Behavioral Health
Grade: 12
Open until filled
- **Police Officer Trainee**
Job #118-18
Tribal Police
Grade: 10
Open until filled

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL

- **Physician**
Job #083-18
Medical Clinic
Grade: 23
Open until filled
- **Young Child Wellness Project Manager**
(This project is a five year grant and ends on 9/29/2023.)
Job #106-18
Health Administration
Grade: 14
Open until filled
- **Young Child Wellness Project Partner**
(This project is a five year grant and ends on 9/29/2023.)
Job #107-18
Health Administration
Grade: 12
Open until filled
- **Radiology Lab Technician (on call)**
Job #125-18
Lab
Grade: 8
Open until filled

Internal recruitment process

For those individuals meeting minimum qualifications an interview will be given in the following ranking order:

1. Grand Ronde Tribal members
 - a) Qualified Grand Ronde Tribal members who show they meet the minimum qualifications of the position during the course of the interview process will be given first consideration for hire and the recruitment process will end.
2. Tribal member spouses, parents and/or legal guardians of Grand Ronde Tribal member children and current regular employees.

Internal applicants are

1. Current regular employee, past their six-month Introductory period, receiving at least a "meets expectations" on most recent performance evaluation and not under disciplinary action or performance improvement within the previous six months,
2. Grand Ronde Tribal members
3. Spouse of a Grand Ronde Tribal member or
4. Parent or legal guardian of Grand Ronde Tribal member children

Drug-Free Workplace Policy

- Effective January 1, 2004, all employees are subject to random drug and/or alcohol testing.
- All pre-employment offers.
- When there is reasonable suspicion.
- Post accident.

For more information about job positions available, please visit the Tribe's employment page at www.grandronde.org

www.grandronde.org



Thursday, Jan. 24

- Assist outside agency with offensive littering in the 22000 block of Southwest Grand Ronde Road.
- Found property in the 9500 block of Raven Loop.
- Welfare check performed in the 9600 block of Tilixam Circle.
- Driving complaint received in the 26800 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Assist outside agency with a reported domestic disturbance in the 8600 block of Grand Ronde Road. A male subject was arrested and transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.
- Suspicious vehicle reported in the area of milepost 24 on Southwest Hebo Road.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 26800 block of Salmon River Highway.

Friday, Jan. 25

- Assist outside agency with a reported case of menacing in the 28000 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Suspicious activity reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Drug complaint reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Abandoned vehicle reported in the 26800 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Assist outside agency with a DUII in the area of milepost 24 on Southwest Hebo Road. Male subject was arrested for DUII (alcohol), reckless driving and reckless endangering after providing a breath sample of .17 percent blood alcohol content.
- Suspicious activity reported in the 47000 block of Southwest Hebo Road.

Saturday, Jan. 26

- Assist outside agency with a reported domestic disturbance in the 38000 block of Tenbush Lane in Willamina.
- Motorist assist performed in the area of milepost 25 on Salmon River Highway.
- Assist outside agency with reported suspicious activity in the area of milepost 10 on Southwest Hebo Road.
- Assist outside agency with a reported domestic disturbance in the 25000 block of Yamhill River Road.
- Suspicious activity reported in the 9700 block of Tilixam Circle. Male subject was arrested on a valid probation violation detention warrant and transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.
- Welfare check performed in the 9600 block of Tilixam Circle.
- Suspicious activity reported in the 8700 block of Grand Ronde Road. Male subject was arrested for failure to register as a sex offender and transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.

Sunday, Jan. 27

- Reported theft in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Assist outside agency with suspicious activity reported in the area of milepost 18 on Southwest Hebo Road.
- Assist outside agency with a reported stolen vehicle in the area of Mill Creek and Harmony Road. Female subject was arrested on a valid Washington County warrant and a male subject was arrested for unlawful possession of methamphetamine. Both subjects were transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.
- Suspicious activity reported in the area of milepost 27 on Salmon River Highway.
- Driving complaint received in the area of milepost 29 westbound on Salmon River Highway.
- Non-injury vehicle crash in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Driving complaint received in the area of milepost 25 westbound on Salmon River Highway.
- Driving complaint reported in the area of milepost 20 eastbound on Salmon River Highway.

Monday, Jan. 28

- Assist outside agency with reported suspicious activity in the 28000 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Suspicious activity reported in the 9500 block of Raven Loop.
- Assist outside agency with suspicious activity reported in the area of Grand Ronde Road and North Street.
- Criminal trespass reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

Tuesday, Jan. 29

- Reported trespass in the area of Big Buck Campground.
- Assist outside agency with a DUII in the area of milepost 24 on Southwest Hebo Road. Male subject was arrested for DUII (cannabis) and transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.
- Drug complaint received in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

Wednesday, Jan. 30

- Suspicious activity reported in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Assist outside agency with suspicious conditions in the 100 block of Wind River Drive.

- Traffic stop in the area of milepost 23 on Salmon River Highway. Male subject was arrested for DUII (alcohol) and transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas after providing a breath sample of .24 percent blood alcohol content.

Thursday, Jan. 31

- Parking complaint received in the 9500 block of Raven Loop.
- Warrant arrest in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway. Male subject was issued a citation to appear on a valid Lebanon Municipal Court warrant for failure to appear on a theft charge.
- Reported theft in the 28600 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Suspicious activity reported in the 26800 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 400 block of Main Street in Willamina. Male subject was served a trespass notice.
- Driving complaint reported in the area of milepost 23 on Salmon River Highway.
- Driving complaint reported in the area of milepost 22 on Highway 22.
- Assist outside agency in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.

Friday, Feb. 1

- Assist outside agency with a reported burglary in progress in the 19000 block of Gopher Valley Road. Male subject was arrested on a valid Oregon State Parole Board warrant and transported to the Yamhill County Jail in McMinnville.
- Assist outside agency with a logging accident in the area of milepost 9 on Forest Service Road 2234 in Tillamook County.
- Reported fraud in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 100 block of Wind River Drive.
- Traffic stop in the area of milepost 22 on Salmon River Highway. Female subject was arrested for violating the conditions of her probation and transported to the Yamhill County Jail in McMinnville.
- Assist outside agency with reported suspicious activity in the area of milepost 17 on Salmon River Highway.
- Suspicious activity reported in the area of milepost 22 on Salmon River Highway.

Saturday, Feb. 2

- Suspicious activity reported in the 9500 block of Raven Loop.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 100 block of Wind River Drive.
- Suspicious activity reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Reported domestic disturbance in the 9600 block of Tilixam Circle. Male subject was arrested for fourth-degree assault and physical harassment, and transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.
- Assist outside agency with a single-vehicle rollover crash in the area of Salmon River Highway and A.R. Ford Road.
- Assist outside agency with a two-vehicle crash in the area of Highway 22 and Star Road.

Sunday, Feb. 3

- Welfare check occurred in the 9500 block of Raven Loop.
- Assist outside agency with reported suspicious activity in the 7900 block of Fire Hall Road.
- Reported theft in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Drug complaint reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Reported theft in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Assist outside agency in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.

Monday, Feb. 4

- Suspicious activity reported in the 9500 block of Raven Loop.
- Assist outside agency in the 25000 block of Yamhill River Road. Male and female subjects were arrested on robbery charges and transported to the Yamhill County Jail in McMinnville.
- Suspicious activity reported in the 9600 block of Tilixam Circle.

Tuesday, Feb. 5

- Public assist occurred in the 9600 block of Tilixam Circle.
- Assist outside agency in the 300 block of Main Street in Willamina. Male subject was arrested and transported to the Yamhill County Jail in McMinnville.
- Assist outside agency in the 800 block of Jefferson Street in Dallas.
- Suspicious activity reported in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Assist outside agency with a report of shots fired in the 24000 block of Highway 99 in Amity. Male subject was arrested after a brief standoff and transported to the Yamhill County Jail in McMinnville.

Wednesday, Feb. 6

- Warrant arrest occurred in the 25000 block of Yamhill River Road. Male subject was arrested on a valid Oregon State Parole Board warrant and transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.
- Citizen contact occurred in the area of Salmon River Highway and Southwest Hebo Road.
- Assist outside agency with a disabled vehicle in the area of milepost 17 on Salmon River Highway.
- Welfare check performed in the 9600 block of Raven Loop.
- Public assist occurred in the 26000 block of Hall Road.

**Compiled by Grand Ronde Tribal Police
Department Sgt. Rod McAllister**

Student Spotlights

Ava Fagundes

This month, the Youth Education Department would like to recognize Ava Fagundes for her outstanding work ethic and academic success.

Whenever we see Ava at school, she is working hard and on top of her classes. She has a great attitude and never shies away from a challenge.

Ava attributes her successes to paying attention in class and making sure to ask questions so she can always be informed about what is going on.

Ava is also involved in athletics. She plays volleyball and basketball, which is her favorite. After high school, Ava would like to either be an author, because she loves to write, or a forensic scientist, because she finds the field very interesting.

She would like to attend Western Oregon University because it is a good school close to home and she has enjoyed tours and activities there with the K-5 program.

Her advice to other students would be to pay attention in class, don't be embarrassed to ask questions, try not to talk or get distracted, and get help if you need it.

Ava is kind, hardworking and an excellent role model for her peers. We are so proud of all that she has accomplished and know she will continue to be successful. Keep up the good work, Ava!

— *Dominique Olson*



Ava Fagundes

Josh Henry

Willamina High School sophomore Josh Henry is Youth Education's Student Spotlight for the Month.

Josh has worked tirelessly to improve his grades and his overall approach to academics. Josh is the son of Anthony Henry of Grand Ronde and Terry Huber of Oakdale, Ore. He credits his grandmother Marion Mercier as being an inspiration to him and improving his academics.

Josh says his academic approach has improved because he has increased his desire to succeed this year. He also utilizes all the resources available to him and other Tribal students, and has worked hard in Guided Study with Kaylee Oakes and Kevin Simmons.

Kaylee Oakes, Guided Study instructor at Willamina High School, says, "Josh worked extremely hard all first semester and even wrote a novel during November with over 9,000 words for his English class. He has developed positive relationships with other classmates in Guided Study and we love having him in class."

Josh's future plans include working in forestry in one capacity or another. He enjoys the solitude that comes from being in the forest and someday hopes to be able to enjoy this every day.

In his spare time Josh likes to ride his bike and read. Josh's favorite book is "It" by Stephen King and also recommends "Between Shades of Gray" by Ruta Sepetys and another King book titled "Dark Tower."

Josh provides this wisdom to other students, "Put your mind to what you want and can do" and "Don't wait to do anything that you can do now," and "seek help where you need it."

— *Kevin Simmons*



Josh Henry

Trey Danforth

Within the pages of a book, one can get lost in an imaginary world filled with wizards and dragons, or perhaps get the feeling of being transported to a future land of zombie terror.

These are just a few of the reasons why Tribal member Trey Danforth loves to read books, especially if they are in the Fantasy genre.

The Willamina Elementary School fifth-grader enjoys art, reading and language arts classes during his school time, and has scored in the top 95 percent of his class in reading. He claims to not be the biggest fan of math, but has shown exceptional work ethic with the extra time he's spent out of class working on raising his level of understanding.

Trey dreams of one day being an archeologist or paleontologist, and knows that attending a university will have to be in his future plans to attain his goals.

The 11-year-old states that his mother is his hero because "she's there for me when anything bad happens." Trey loves nachos, popcorn and bacon, and his hobbies include writing and playing video games.

On weekends, Trey's favorite thing to do is visit his grandparents because they take him out to eat at many different restaurants, and sometimes his grandfather takes out his classic green pickup truck that Trey loves to ride around in.

— *Matt Bucknell*



Trey Danforth

Police Department has non-emergency text line

The Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department has created a non-emergency text line.

"We learned in our last school meeting that kids would like a different way to communicate with the police if they have a non-emergency situation," Tribal Police Chief Jake McKnight said. "We all know kids love to text so my officers and I decided this would be a great tool to utilize."

The new text number is 541-921-2927.

"Even though this is mostly designed for children, I don't want adults thinking that they can't use it as well. If you have a non-emergency situation or question, feel free to contact my officer via text through this line. When one of my officers receives the text, they will call you back when they have time."

McKnight said that emergency situations still require people to call 911. For more information, contact McKnight at 503-879-1474. ■



LIBRARY HOURS:

Monday – Friday: 9 A.M. – 6 P.M.
 (closed Monday - Friday: noon – 1 P.M.)
 Saturday: 10 A.M. – 2 P.M.
(Beginning on Tuesday, Feb. 19, the library will be open from noon to 1 p.m. Tuesday-Friday)

Movie Time at the Tribal Library: Will resume in June during the Summer Program.

Winter Reading Incentive Program: Runs through Feb. 28. This program is for all ages. Last year, 337 books were read. Our goal is to best last year's record! A dragon scale with the name of the reader and the book title is added to the library dragon for each book read.

Oregon Battle of the books 2018-19: Available for checkout at the Tribal Library.

Book review: "There, There" by Tommy Orange.

Author Tommy Orange is an enrolled member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma. He was born and raised in Oakland, Calif., where this story takes place. "There, There" is Orange's debut novel and it's a gripping dive into the Native American community.

Orange starts the book with a powerful prologue about Native American history and how it was filled with treaties, betrayal and murder. "There, There" tells the story of 12 characters, each traveling to the Big Oakland Powwow.

Each character struggles with identity, community, substance abuse and poverty in the urban setting of Oakland. As the story progresses, we learn more about each individual's reasons for attending the powwow – some are generous, some fearful, some joyful and some violent. Momentum builds toward a conclusion that will change everything for these characters.

This book flows beautifully. Orange has poetic style of writing that will keep you captivated until the very end. – *By Crystal Bigelow*

Donations: Our thanks to Gianna Espinoza and Josh Henry for their donation of books to the collection. We truly appreciate your donations.

Reminder: Donated items must be clean and in good condition.

Inter-Library loan services: The Tribal Library partners with Oregon State Library to offer "library to library" loan services.

GET YOUR BUSINESS STARTED ON THE RIGHT TRACK!

MERIT helps you:

- Explore your business idea
- Find the information you need
- Get connected with the people who can help

To find out more, attend a FREE *Start Your Business* class!

JOIN US at the Grand Ronde Adult Education Building on the second Thursday of every month at 4PM
 9615 Grand Ronde Road
 Grand Ronde, OR

MERIT
 Explore • Launch • Grow

LEARN MORE AT:
www.meritnw.org
 Or call 503 548-7314

MERIT helps people explore, launch & grow successful small businesses through training and support

SCHOOL IS COOL LOGO CONTEST

Sponsored by the CTGR Education Committee

DESIGN OUR LOGO AND WIN!

- Contest open to students K - 12 who are enrolled in school.
- "School is Cool" must be used in logo design.
- Logo will be used on printed materials for School is Cool Dance Special at Contest Pow Wow in Grand Ronde.

DEADLINE TO ENTER IS APRIL 30, 2019

WINNING ARTIST PRIZE INCLUDES:
 \$250 Amazon Gift Card
 Akanum Saddle Blanket
 Logo Sweatshirt & Backpack filled with School Supplies

Send entries and your contact info to: Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Education Committee, Education Department
 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347
 or email PDF to: deborah.bachman@grandronde.org

Housing Association seeking scholarship applicants

The Northwest Indian Housing Association is accepting applications from enrolled Tribal members for the 2019 Youth Scholarship Program.

To be eligible, applicants must be members of an active Housing Association voting member Tribe and not have reached their 24th birthday by the application deadline. Grand Ronde is an active voting member.

Applications can be obtained by going to www.nwiha.org and clicking on the Youth Scholarship Program header. Applications and supporting documents must be submitted via e-mail to info@nwiha.org on or before 5 p.m. Monday, March 25.

All applicants will be notified of the Executive Committee decisions. Successful applicants will be recognized at the banquet to be held Tuesday, April 2, at Mill Casino Hotel in Coos Bay.

Any questions can be address to info@nwiha.org or by calling 360-220-9212. ■

CTGR Youth Education
 2019

Spring Break Camp
 March 25-27
 B'nai B'rith Camp, Lincoln City

For Native youth 6-12th grade
 *Preference to CTGR Tribal Member Youth

Sign-Ups: February 15- March 8
 Permission slips available at YED

Limited Openings

503-879-2101

3rd Annual
 CTGR Student Success Night

February 21,
 2019

Tribal
 Gymnasium
 5:30pm-7:30pm

A night to celebrate and recognize our local native students for outstanding academics and attendance, among other successes.

*Students receiving awards will receive an invitation in the mail.



HEALTH & WELLNESS NEWS

Health & Wellness Center closures

- Monday, Feb. 18 – Tribal Chiefs’ Day
Be sure to request your prescriptions early to cover closure days.

Afterhours health line

Tribal members can contact the Afterhours Health Line for questions about health care concerns you may have when the clinic is not open. You can reach the Afterhours Health Line by calling 503-879-2002 and follow the prompts. The Afterhours Health Line will coordinate care and communicate with Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Center providers.

Health & Wellness Center hours

The Health & Wellness Center is pleased to add additional access for patients during holiday weeks on Thursday mornings. The clinic will be scheduling patients at 8 a.m. every Thursday preceding or following a holiday closure. Urgent care also will be available during this time. ■

Please join us on Friday, Feb. 22
Healthy Heart Event
11 a.m.-2 p.m.
Clinic Atrium
Giving out blood pressures, cool swag
and come see our hands
on heart that pumps blood!



Heart disease is the leading cause of death for both men and women in the United States. The good news? It is also one of the most preventable. Making heart-healthy choices, knowing your family health history and the risk factors for heart disease, having regular check-ups and working with your physician to manage your health are all integral aspects of saving lives from this often silent killer. Heart disease is an umbrella term that includes conditions such as coronary artery disease, heart attack, cardiac arrest, congestive heart failure, and congenital heart diseases. The most common cause of heart disease is coronary artery disease (CAD), which is a blocked or narrowed coronary artery that supplies the heart with blood.

Heart Attack Warning Signs

<p>Women</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Light-headedness or dizziness Upper back pressure Chest pressure Shortness of breath Pain in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw or stomach Fainting or extreme fatigue 		<p>Men</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cold sweat or nausea Chest pressure or pain Shortness of breath Pain in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw or stomach
--	--	---

5 If you have any of these symptoms for more than 5 minutes and are unsure of the cause, call 9-1-1.

Women might not experience the chest pain that is often noted as the most common sign of heart attack. Some women who have had heart attacks say they thought they had the symptoms associated with the flu.

Treatments work best if given within 1 hour of when heart attack symptoms begin.



We Want To Hear From You!

That’s right, the Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Center Comment Box is located at the entrance of the Health & Wellness Center, next to the drinking fountain. Share your experience, good or bad with us! We look forward to hearing what you have to say. ■



Colon Cancer Awareness Walk

Date: 3/2/2019

Time: 10am

Rain or Shine

Fort Yamhill State Heritage Area
 Hwy 22 Grand Ronde, OR 97347

Come join us for a small 20-30 minute easy walk!!

Wheel chair accessible

For more information please call 503-879-2089

GIVEAWAYS

We will provide umbrellas for you while supplies last.

Colon Cancer Awareness Information

With Tribal Member and Colon Cancer Survivor Amber Case



Colon Cancer is Preventable, Treatable and Beatable!!!



Mobile Mammography

Convenience • Privacy • Certified women technologists State-of-the-art equipment • ACR- & FDA-accredited

The Mobile Mammography unit travels by appointment to businesses, health fairs, senior centers, even private gatherings—wherever there are at least 10 women interested in receiving a mammogram. We will be in your area soon.

Date: Thursday March 14th, 2019

Location: Grand Ronde Clinic’s Upper Parking Lot

To schedule an appointment please call: Kandee Little 503-879-2089

Smoke Signals starts own Facebook page

Smoke Signals launched its own Facebook page and is posting its stories, photos and podcasts to that page.

Popular features, such as photo galleries from Tribal events and links to Smoke Signals podcasts and stories, are now featured on the newspaper's Facebook page.

"This is part of the continuing evolution of an independent Tribal press for the Grand Ronde Tribe," Editor Dean Rhodes said. "The other two Facebook pages are outlets for official Tribal government announcements and positions, while the Smoke Signals Facebook page will be a conduit of information dissemination for the independent Tribal press that was created in January 2017. This also accomplishes a goal of the Grand Ronde Editorial Board, which seeks to create a defined separation between the Tribal government and the Tribal independent press."

Rhodes will be the moderator of the Smoke Signals Facebook page, which can be "friended" at www.facebook.com/SmokeSignalsCTGR/.

"Although I will miss having the more than 4,500 friends on the main Grand Ronde Facebook page, I am hopeful that many of them will quickly friend Smoke Signals on Facebook so that they can keep abreast of independently reported news about the Tribe," Rhodes said. "In addition, this separate page will give us more latitude to post links of other stories about Native American Tribes and issues regionally and nationally that Tribal members might be interested in reading about."

For more information, contact Rhodes at dean.rhodes@grandronde.org or call 503-879-1463. ■

Hunter's Education Course set for March 30-31

Youth who are interested in obtaining a Hunter's Education Certificate should attend a class held in Grand Ronde at the Natural Resources Department office building off Hebo Road.

The class will be held 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, March 30-31. Youth must attend both days and bring lunch with them.

The class is open to Tribal and nonTribal members age 9 to 17 by the beginning of the 2019 hunting season. Visit the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife website to register for the class, which includes a nonrefundable \$10 fee.

Hunters age 17 and younger must pass a certified hunter's education class before they can hunt unless they are participating in the Mentor Youth Hunter Program for youth age 9 to 15. The minimum age to hunt big game is 12 and youth must be accompanied by an adult 21 or older when hunting.

Class size is limited so signing up soon is suggested.

For more information, contact Parks and Recreation Coordinator Jerry Bailey at 503-879-2337 or jerry.bailey@grandronde.org. ■

Smoke Signals photo reprint policy

See a photo you like in *Smoke Signals*?
Want a copy, or several copies?

Want to see if a photo that was taken but not printed in *Smoke Signals* because of space limitations might be something you'd like hanging on your living room wall? Tribal members can order 8-by-10-inch copies of photos taken by *Smoke Signals* staff members regardless of if they were published in the newspaper. Charge is \$1 for each print ordered. Reprint orders must be pre-paid with a check made out to *Smoke Signals*. A photo reprint order form is available in the Publications Office of the Tribe's Governance Building in Grand Ronde, or can be mailed upon request.

All photos contained in *Smoke Signals*' current archive are available for purchase, but people interested in going through the archive must make an appointment to review photos for possible purchase.

No rush orders are permitted and requestors must allow 30 days for delivery. Requestors must be Tribal members. In addition, reprint requestors must agree that the reprint is for personal use only, and not for use in an ad, or for commercial, political or promotional purposes.

Smoke Signals reserves the right to decline a reprint request. To request a reprint order form, write to *Smoke Signals* at 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347, or call Timothy J. Gonzalez at 503-879-1961 or 800-422-0232. ■

CTGR Community Health Services



Helping Our Elders Be At Their Best At Their Home

- We provide medical transportation to and from medical appointments
- Home visits are available for wellness checks, blood pressure monitoring, health education, and home safety education.
- We currently have trained caregivers that can assist homebound and disabled Tribal Community Members on a short term, intermittent basis with: light housekeeping, meal preparation, and bathing.
- We provide Medical Alert personal emergency response services to frail elders.
- We provide an Elder Exercise Program twice weekly at the Elder Activity Center.
- We have caregiver support services (respite care, caregiver education).
- We have a Registered Nurse who can assist with advocacy and support for Tribal Community members who are hospitalized or facing new healthcare challenges.

Call Community Health 503 879 2078

West Valley Veterans Memorial Application

Name: _____ PH: _____
 Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 DOB: _____ Gender: Male / Female (circle) CTGR Tribal: Y / N (circle) If Tribal, roll# _____
 DOE _____ Place of Entry _____
 DOS: _____ Place of Separation _____
 Rank: _____ Branch: _____ Honorable: Y / N (circle)
 Deceased: Y / N (circle) DOD: _____ Place of Burial _____

*All applicants must submit a copy of their DD214. If applicant is deceased, a family member or spouse can submit a copy of their DD214. If you are a CTGR Tribal member please attach a copy of your Tribal ID. If you are non-Tribal please attach a copy of a bill/record with your name and address showing you had lived or now reside in Grand Ronde, Willamina or Sheridan. Please send application and all documents to: Grand Ronde Veterans SEB, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR, 97347. If you have any questions, please call Steve Bobb at 503-876-3118.

Deadline is March 15, 2019

Any applications received after March 15, 2019, will be kept on file for inclusion to the Memorial in 2020.