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Smoke Signals

An Independent Publication of the Grand Ronde Tribe

DECEMBER 1, 2019

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UMPQUA ■ MOLALLA ■ ROGUE RIVER ■ KALAPUYA ■ CHASTA

‘Thankful and grateful’

Grand Ronde Tribe celebrates 36 years of Restoration

By Danielle Frost

Smoke Signals staff writer

The importance of Tribal culture and respect for ancestors were themes interwoven throughout the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde’s 36th Restoration Celebration.

Approximately 200 Tribal members, family, friends and elected officials traveled to Grand Ronde to fete what many call the most important day in the Tribe’s history, on Friday, Nov. 22, at the Tribal gym.

The celebration began with a Canoe Family procession of singing, drumming and dancing led by Cultural Advisor Bobby Mercier. Approximately 30 Tribal members from infants to adults joined in for “New Beginnings,” “Salmon Song and Dance” and “Traveling With Our Ancestors.”

“We are thankful and grateful to our ancestors and all that they endured so we could be here today,” Mercier said.

Many would agree that a highlight of the Canoe Family performance was “Warrior Dance,” during which Tribal Council Secretary Jon A. George took to the floor to demonstrate his moves.

“It’s a great way to start the day when we



Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Tribal Council Secretary Jon. A. George is joined by Kaikanim Mercier, 13, front, and Nakoa Mercier, center, in the Warrior dance during the 36th annual Restoration Celebration held in the Tribal gym on Friday, Nov. 22.

can live in the ways of our culture,” George said. “It’s a wonderful day to celebrate 36 years and what we have done for our membership, our community, and our family and friends.”

After Grand Ronde Royalty members performed “The Lord’s Prayer,” raffle drawings

were held and veterans were gifted with 2019 Restoration shirts.

All Tribal Council members attended Res-

**See RESTORATION
continued on pages 10-12**

How big can Grand Ronde be?

Lack of a grocery store is a barrier to Tribal members coming home

(Editor’s note: This is the last in a series of Smoke Signals stories in 2019 that examine the infrastructure of Grand Ronde and how many Tribal members could conceivably return to live in the community safely and comfortably. The first three stories examined the area’s water supply, transportation needs and housing availability.)

By Danielle Frost

Smoke Signals staff writer

When it comes to enticing more Tribal members to move home, many cite the lack of a nearby grocery store as the biggest drawback.

Stores such as a Safeway, WinCo,

Grocery Outlet or Albertson’s are more than 20 miles away in McMinnville, Dallas or Lincoln City, and are not exactly convenient for those wanting to grab a few ingredients

**See GRAND RONDE
continued on pages 8-9**

The American Market on Grand Ronde Road tries to help local shoppers by offering a selection of produce, milk, bread, dairy products and meat.



Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez

General Council meeting

10 a.m. Sunday, Dec 1

Tribal Community Center

NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings

DATE	TIME
Wednesday, Dec. 4.....	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 18.....	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 31.....	10 a.m.

Please note that these times and dates are subject to change if needed.

Letters

Dear Smoke Signals:

I am writing to thank Lake Oswego attorney Lance R. Clark, who was presented a Tribal Pendleton blanket on Wednesday, Nov. 13, for his long hard fight for seven years in getting back my Social Security benefits.

Along with the blanket, he was also presented with gift cards to Dutch Brothers and Starbucks coffee, hoodies with a Tribal logo, Spirit Mountain Casino and Willamette Falls on them, and a beaded medallion with the Oregon Duck “O” logo. He deserved all these gifts for all the hard work he did and I felt he deserved more than what Social Security gave him.

I also held a small party that included pizza, salad, fruit and cookies at the Tribal Employment Office on Wednesday afternoon. Also present were several of the 477 and Vocational Rehab workers.

Program Director Michael Herrin was one of my first caseworkers and he was presented with a handmade bow that I had made last year. Rhonda Leno was presented with a coat. Tiny Gibbons, another caseworker of mine, was presented with wind chimes and my last caseworker, Khani Shultz, was presented with a crochet blanket I had made.

This was a giveback day and huge thank you for the 477 program and my attorney.

Hayu masi to everybody who helped out in getting my Social Security back and all the support through the last seven years. Without all of you this day would not be possible.

Veronica Gaston
Roll #2332

Canoe hibernation event slated

The Cultural Resources Department will be holding an event to put the Tribe’s canoes to sleep for the winter at 5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 3, at Chachalu Museum & Cultural Center, 8720 Grand Ronde Road.

Everyone is welcome and dinner will be provided.

People are asked to RSVP to Cultural Education Coordinator Jordan Mercier at 503-879-2185 or Jordan.mercier@grandronde.org. ■

Sewing class participants wanted

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

Letters welcome

Letters should be exclusive to **smok signalz**.

Letters should be 400 words or less and must include the writer’s name, address, phone number and Tribal roll number. You will be contacted to confirm authorship.

All letters are subject to editing for space, grammar and, on occasion, factual accuracy. Only two letters per writer are allowed during a three-month period.

Letters written in response to other letter writers should address the issue at hand and, rather than mentioning the other writer by name, should refer to the date of the letter published. Discourse should be civil and people should be referred to in a respectful manner. Letters deemed in poor taste will not be printed. Send letters via e-mail to news@grandronde.org, or submit in person at the Tribal Governance Center in Grand Ronde, Ore., or mail to **smok signalz**, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR, 97347.

Tribal Office Closures

Tribal offices will be closing noon Tuesday, Dec. 24, and closed on Wednesday, Dec. 25, in observance of Christmas. Offices also will be closing noon Tuesday, Dec. 31, and closed Wednesday Jan. 1, 2020, in observance of New Year’s Day.

smok signalz

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DEADLINE DATE	ISSUE DATE
Friday, Dec. 6	Dec. 15
Friday, Dec. 20	Jan. 1, 2020

Editorial Policy

smok signalz, 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.

smok signalz 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 **smok signalz**.



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■ Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association

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December

- Wednesday, Dec. 4 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., Governance Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.
- Wednesday, Dec. 18 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., Governance Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.
- Wednesday, Dec. 25 – Christmas Day. Tribal offices closed.
- Tuesday, Dec. 31 – Tribal Council meeting, 10 a.m., Governance Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.

January

- Wednesday, Jan. 1 – New Year’s Day. Tribal offices closed.
- Sunday, Jan. 5 – General Council meeting, 11 a.m., Tribal Community Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.
- Wednesday, Jan. 15 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., Governance Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.
- Monday, Jan. 20 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Tribal offices closed.
- Wednesday, Jan. 29 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., Governance Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.

New Treatment Program at GRHWC

Full-service MAT (Medication Assisted Treatment) for Opioid Dependency is now available at the Health & Wellness Center. We utilize Suboxone/ Subutex for patients with a dependency on opioids. Our goal is to support our patients in their work to become free of addiction and to reduce the risk of overdose and potential death.

The program is currently available for Grand Ronde Tribal members. Our program offers a holistic approach to recovery, including services that focus on our patients’ physical, emotional and spiritual needs. The treatment team includes your physician, support from a specially trained nurse and our Behavioral Health Department. All services take place in a confidential environment.

For more information, contact Linda Gehrke, Medication Assisted Treatment Coordinator, at 503-879-2094. ■

Tribal Court is now open during the lunch hour

The Tribal Court office is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., including the lunch hour. Tribal Court also provides notary services. However, to obtain notary services please arrive before 4:30 p.m.

For more information about Tribal Court and the services available, contact the court at court@grandronde.org or 503-879-2303. ■

Official Tribal Facebook pages

- **Smoke Signals:** www.facebook.com/SmokeSignalsCTGR/
- **The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde:** www.facebook.com/CT-GRgov
- **Spirit Mountain Community Fund:** www.facebook.com/SpiritMountainCommunityFund
- **Grand Ronde Health & Wellness:** www.facebook.com/GRHWC
- **Grand Ronde Station:** www.facebook.com/GrandRondeStation
- **Grand Ronde Royalty:** www.facebook.com/CTGRRoyalty
- **Grand Ronde Education Programs:** www.facebook.com/CTGREducation/
- **Grand Ronde Community Garden:** www.facebook.com/GrandRondeCommunityGarden
- **Grand Ronde Food Bank:** www.facebook.com/GrandRondeFoodBank
- **Grand Ronde Youth Council:** www.facebook.com/CTGRYouthCouncil
- **Grand Ronde Social Services Department:** www.facebook.com/CT-GRSocialservices/
- **Grand Ronde Children & Family Services:** www.facebook.com/CT-GRCFS/
- **Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department:** www.facebook.com/Grand-Ronde-Tribal-Police-Department
- **Grand Ronde Cultural Education:** www.facebook.com/Grand-Ronde-Cultural-Education



Notice to all Tribal members on the Tribal Supplemental Security & Disability Income & Medicare Part “B” Reimbursement Programs:

It’s getting to be that time of year again. Time to submit a copy of your 2020 benefit award letter from the Social Security Administration (SSA) so that we can update your file and confirm your eligibility status in our programs. If you haven’t received your 2020 benefit award status letter from the SSA, you can request a copy be calling the SSA at 1-800-772-1213 or go online at www.ssa.gov.

Your current award benefit statement must be received in our office by **5 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 15.**, to avoid any future delays in your benefits.

Note: It is the responsibility of the Tribal member to notify the Tribe of any changes in your benefits from the Social Security Administration SSI/SSD program. Failure to notify the Tribe may result in an obligation to repay ineligible benefits received and/or interrupt or delay your Tribal Supplemental Security Income and Disability payments or Medicare Part “B” reimbursements.

Please mail copies of your benefit award statement to:

CTGR Member Services
ATTN: Shannon A. Simi
9615 Grand Ronde Road
Grand Ronde, OR 97347

You also may fax your copy to 503-879-2480 or e-mail them to Shannon.simi@grandronde.org

If you have any questions and/or concerns, contact Shannon A. Simi at 503-879-1358 or 1-800-422-0232, ext. 1358. ■



COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL EVENT BOARD VACANCIES
The following Committees and Special Event Boards have vacant positions.

- Housing Grievance Board – 1 vacancy**
 - TERO Commission – 1 vacancy**
- Please send completed applications to
Stacia Hernandez, 9615 Grand Ronde Road,
Grand Ronde, OR 97347



Food Bank provides boxes, seeks help

The Grand Ronde Food Bank – iskam mək'hmək haws – is operated by Marion-Polk Food Share, which has been leading the fight to end hunger since 1987 because no one should be hungry.

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:

- 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7;
- 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13;
- 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21 (holiday box distribution);
- Closed with week of Dec. 23-27;
- 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 4.

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@marion-polkfoodshare.org for more information or to volunteer. ■

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 mək'hmək haws, 9675 Grand Ronde Road. Chair: Francene Ambrose.
- **Editorial Board** meets monthly at the Chachalu Museum & Cultural Center conference room, 8720 Grand Ronde Road. Next meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 13. 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 Committee** meets quarterly in Room 204 of the Governance Center. Chair: Debi Anderson.
- **Fish & Wildlife Committee** meets at 5:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at the Natural Resources building off Hebo Road. Chair: Bryan Langley.
- **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 Grievance Board** meets at 3 p.m. the third Thursday of the month in the Housing Department conference room. Chair: Simone Auger.
- **Powwow Special Event Board** meets monthly at noon at the Community Center. Dates vary. Contact Dana Ainam at 503-879-2037. Chair: Dana Ainam.
- **TERO Commission** meets at 10 a.m. the first Monday of the month in the Employment Services building. Chair: Russell Wilkinson.
- **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: TBD.

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



2014 – More than 200 attendees packed the great hall at Chachalu Museum & Cultural Center for the Tribe’s second Tribal History Conference. Tribal Historian David Lewis served as the master of ceremonies. “The conference has become a must-attend event for many people working in heritage in Oregon,” Lewis said. “There are few events like the conference that offer such a powerful array of scholars working in different disciplines, presenting in the same location.”



2014

File photo

2009 – Tribal member Justine Colton, a senior at Willamina High School, was elected student body president for the 2009-10 school year. “I take this responsibility very seriously,” she said. “I feel that it is my responsibility as a leader of the youth of today to advocate for the young people.”

2004 – Tribal members learned cultural traditions during the Circle of Weaving gathering in the Grand Ronde Community Center. The event was organized by Tribal member and Tribal Tourism Project Coordinator Elaine LaBonte. “The intent of this gathering was to get our Tribal members familiar with the various basketry techniques of our ancestors and to get them interested in carrying on the tradition,” she said. Of the approximate 100 in attendance, 70 percent were Grand Ronde Tribal members.

1999 – More than 200 Tribal members and their families gathered at Grand Ronde Elementary School on Nov. 21 to celebrate the 16th anniversary of Grand Ronde Restoration. At the celebration, Tribal Council Chairwoman Kathryn Harrison thanked the people who were involved in the Restoration effort during the early years. “We should thank these people who worked so hard for us,” she said. “Not just today, but any time of the year.”

1994 – Spirit Mountain Development Corp. Manager Bruce Thomas announced that he would present a briefing for Grand Ronde residents on the progress of the Tribe’s gaming center. “It will give people a chance to ask questions on all aspects of the project,” he said. A one-page fact sheet was to be handed out at the meeting, which would list project highlights and inform people of the most important aspects.

1989 – No December edition available.

1984 – Tribal members passed the Tribe’s Constitution by a vote of 145-14. The new Constitution stated that the blood quantum requirement for enrollment in the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde would be lowered to 1/16. All applications on file with sufficient documentation to be enrolled under the new requirements of the Constitution were set to be presented to the Enrollment Committee.

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

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 Dec. 17.

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

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

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Tribal Council OKs Dec. 13 per capita payment date

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

Tribal Council approved amendments to the Tribal Council Ordinance on Wednesday, Nov. 20, that move regular meeting times to 4 p.m. year-round, as well as designated Friday, Dec. 13, as the final per capita payment date for 2019.

The proposed amendments to the Tribal Council Ordinance received one comment from the membership. They change the regular meeting time for bimonthly Tribal Council meetings from 5 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Currently, Tribal Council meetings are traditionally held at 5 p.m. every other Wednesday March through October, and moved to 4 p.m. November through February when the shorter daylight hours would have Tribal employees driving home in the dark after later meetings.

“There have been several informal discussions about permanently changing the time to 4 p.m. since Tribal Council adopted the Tribal Council Ordinance back in 2016,” said Tribal Council Chief of Staff Stacia Hernandez. “Earlier this year, Tribal Council revisited the discussion and held a work session to discuss the ordinance and possible revisions. A motivating factor was consistency.”

Since Tribal Council is currently holding meetings at 4 p.m. during the winter months, the amendments will take effect before meetings were scheduled to return to 5 p.m. in 2020.

The amendments also remove the set times to take roll call and allow use of Tribal credit cards to cover conference registration fees.

Tribal Council also approved a Friday, Dec. 13, per capita payment date. The amount of the per capita payment will not be known until early December, Finance Officer Chris Leno said.

Leno also asked that approval of a \$292 timber revenue payment be tabled for two weeks to ensure the maximum amount of revenue is available for distribution on Dec. 13.

- In other action, Tribal Council:
- Approved amendments to the Enrollment Ordinance that no longer require certified notification letters be sent regarding Restoration Roll applications. One set of comments was submitted regarding the amendments and it was in support;
 - Re-appointed Matthew Kirkland and appointed former Tribal Council member Andrew Jenness to the Spirit Mountain Gaming Inc. Board of Directors with terms that expire in September 2022;
 - Modified the Plankhouse Thin Logging Unit contract to change the contract cut and pay date, as well as update the minimum

stumpage rates in response to a substantial 32 percent drop in Douglas fir log prices;

- Approved applying for a maximum \$250,000 Bureau of Indian Affairs Invasive Species grant that will be used to clear Scotch broom and blackberry bushes from the 269.45-acre Rattlesnake Butte conservation property in Lane County;
- Approved applying for a maximum \$120,000 Bureau of Indian Affairs Endangered Species grant that will be used at the 338-acre Chahalpam conservation property along the Santiam River in Marion County that will restore river flow to a side channel and help Oregon chub combat competition from invasive plant and animal species, such as bullfrogs;
- Approved applying for a maximum \$15,000 grant from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board that will help put 11 agriculture acres at Chahalpam back into riparian habitat;
- Approved the Tribal Pharmacy purchasing software that will allow it to communicate with patients via e-mail and text and approved another contract that will allow the Pharmacy to purchase software that will make it easier for clients to obtain reimbursements from their flexible spending and health savings accounts;
- Approved the enrollment of three infants into the Tribe because they meet the enrollment requirements outlined in the Tribal Constitution and Enrollment Ordinance;
- Approved the prevailing wage schedule for 2019-20;
- Approved the agenda for the Sunday, Dec. 1, General Council meeting, which will start at 10 a.m. and feature reports from the Education Department and Education Committee;
- And approved 17 Restoration Roll corrections, bringing the total number of corrections to the historically important roll to 204 this year.

Also included in the Nov. 20 Tribal Council packet were two approved authorizations to proceed that directed staff to finalize a Fee Forestland Business Plan that requires acquisitions be evaluated utilizing market-based standards per the Oregon Forest Practices Act and managed under operational standards approved by Tribal Council, and approved moving \$280,000 from contingency to pay for the Noble Oaks siding replacement and paint project.

To watch the entire meeting, visit the Tribal government’s website at www.grandronde.org and click on the Government link and then Videos. ■



Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde has ended its efforts to purchase a second property in Oregon City at 19100 S. Highway 99E that featured riverfront access to the Willamette River.

Tribe ends pursuit of second Oregon City property

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde is no longer seeking to purchase a second property – 1.5 acres along the Willamette River – in Oregon City.

Tribal Council Chief of Staff Stacia Hernandez said on Tuesday, Nov. 19, that the Tribe has ended its pursuit of the riverfront property at 19100 S. Highway 99E.

“We were unable to negotiate and reach consensus on a final purchase price,” she said via e-mail.

On Nov. 7, the Tribe moved approximately \$1 million earmarked to purchase the property back into the Gaming Dividend Fund, which was the amount that had been approved for the acquisition minus expenses associated with due diligence.

The second Oregon City property was overshadowed in August when the Tribe closed on the 23-acre Blue Heron Paper Mill site. The Tribe purchased the Blue Heron site for \$15.25 million and at the time Tribal representatives said they were pursuing the second property, which included a boat dock.

In July, Tribal Council ap-

proved a supplemental budget of \$17 million to acquire both properties.

The Blue Heron site was once home to the Charcowah village of the Clowewalla (Willamette band of Tumwaters) and the Kosh-huk-shix village of Clackamas people, who were both forcibly removed from Willamette Falls and relocated to the Grand Ronde Reservation in the 1850s.

The purchase is a continuation the Tribe’s reconnection with the falls. In October 2018, the Tribe built a removable platform at the falls, which allows Tribal members to traditionally fish using dipnets. Tribal fishermen returned to the falls in May and caught the first fish from the platform.

Tribal members also return to the falls annually to harvest by hand Pacific lamprey, a traditional first food.

During the Nov. 5 election, Metro voters approved a \$475 million bond that includes \$20 million to fund work on the Riverwalk project in Oregon City. The Tribe is working with the regional government and other partners to rehabilitate the Blue Heron site and provide public access to the Willamette Falls area. ■

POLK COUNTY WIC

Is now in Grand Ronde
for more information please call
503-623-8175 Ext 2297

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503-623-8175 Ext 2297

Need something notarized?

Tribal Court staff is available at no charge for notaries 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday though 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. ■

Gehrke joins Tribal clinic to spearhead medication-assisted treatment effort

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

Linda Gehrke joined the staff of the Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Center on Sept. 24 to supervise the new medication-assisted treatment program designed to help those suffering from opioid dependence.

In less than two months, her caseload has reached 17 patients, most of whom became addicted to opioids through illicit use of heroin.

As the new medication-assisted treatment coordinator, Gehrke meets prospective patients where they are in their dependency. After patients undergo an induction assessment to determine their level of addiction and if they are currently using, they also are seen by Tribal physicians and Behavioral Health staff members before beginning a daily regimen of Suboxone treatment.

“Basically, Day Zero is me doing an assessment and Day One is the day they will be given a dose,” Gehrke says. “So many people have not been to a doctor in years and we are picking up the pieces of their health.”

The treatment drug is dispensed as a film strip that is placed under a patient’s tongue and each dose is good for 24 hours. The drug works to reduce a patient’s craving.

“Suboxone helps with the symptoms of detox,” Gehrke says. “It’s got a little bit of an opioid antagonist in it so it blocks the receptors to get high, which reduces the craving. It is very rapid acting.”

In addition to medication, patients receive Native American-themed counseling, including the burning of sage, praying, making dreamcatchers and working with Native American counselors in the Behavioral Health Department.



Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Linda Gehrke, newly hired supervisor of the Medication-Assisted Treatment Program, has a caseload of 17 patients since being hired in September.

“I give the education to the patients and coordinate with the Behavioral Health and Medical departments and help them get the care they need,” Gehrke says. “Patients come in at all different levels (of addiction) and we meet them where they are at.”

Gehrke, 59, hails from Buffalo, N.Y. She moved to Montana in her late 20s and obtained a nursing degree from Montana State University. She worked for 23 years in corrections health care, most of that time in the Idaho prison system. She also worked for a private firm that contracted health care services to nine county jails in the Pacific Northwest.

She and her husband, Lyle, moved to Willamina to be closer to two of their three grown daughters.

The youngest, Charlene Brewer, also works at the Tribal health clinic as a licensed practical nurse.

It was while picking up prescriptions at the Tribal Pharmacy after Lyle became employed by Spirit Mountain Casino as a valet that Gehrke began thinking about offering her nursing experience to the Tribe because she liked the friendly atmosphere. Soon thereafter, the medication-assisted treatment coordinator position was advertised.

“As we brought on medication-assisted treatment programming at the clinic, we knew it was important to have an experienced staff member help coordinate care and resources for our patients seeking these services,” says Health Services Executive Director Kelly Rowe. “Linda is very compassionate

and her knowledge and skills are a great fit for us. She is helping us develop our medication-assisted treatment program and also has been able to facilitate our relationship with the local jail system to support program adherence for our clients.”

Medication-assisted treatment is an alternative to making opioid addicts go “cold turkey,” which research has found is not successful.

Although medication-assisted treatment is not new, Gehrke says it has gained renewed attention because of the opioid addiction epidemic and high-profile lawsuits filed against opioid medication companies that have occurred in recent years.

“Opioid addiction is now being recognized as an illness,” Gehrke says. “The word ‘addict’ is going away and now it’s more of a mental health diagnosis and we help people with their dependency.”

Gehrke says tell-tale signs of addiction include buying drugs illegally or taking a larger dosage than a doctor has prescribed.

Gehrke says the treatment has been very successful so far despite a few patients dropping out because they weren’t ready to seriously tackle their addiction. “It’s holistic. We bring in the Tribal ways, Behavioral Health and the medical piece, so it’s well-rounded program. The resources for Tribal members are really beneficial.”

Anyone interested in contacting Gehrke can call her at 503-879-2032.

“It’s confidential,” Gehrke says. “When somebody comes in, I don’t even walk out in the clinic to get someone. My face is known as the medication-assisted treatment coordinator. I have someone else do it. It’s a confidential, safe environment.” ■

Attention: Native American Artists

Hatfield Fellowship Logo Contest

Prize: \$500

Logo designs must be submitted in .JPEG file format to info@thecommunityfund.com, no later than 5pm on Monday, December 23, 2019

A panel of judges selected by the Spirit Mountain Community Fund will determine the winning logo design

All entries will be judged on the following criteria:

- * Relevance of Artwork
- * Clarity of design in conveying the theme
- * Overall creativity & concept
- * By visual appeal /impact

TO SEE A LIST OF CONTEST RULES, VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.thecommunityfund.com

QUESTIONS? Please call 503-879-1400 or email us at info@thecommunityfund.com

If your logo is selected, it will become the sole property of the Spirit Mountain Community Fund for use in promoting the Hatfield Fellowship Program.

Winner will be notified by January 6, 2020

About the Hatfield Fellowship

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde established the Mark O. Hatfield Fellowship in 1998 as a living tribute to Senator Hatfield to honor his accomplishments as Governor of Oregon and United States Senator.

Each year, the Spirit Mountain Community Fund sponsors a highly motivated Native American to serve as the Hatfield Fellow, and intern in a congressional office for an eight-month term. Placement of the Fellow rotates through the Oregon congressional delegation to enhance the mutual understanding between leadership in Washington, D.C. and Indian Country, providing them with an invaluable opportunity to gain knowledge and understanding of how to navigate the political process in Washington, while working on issues that directly affect Native Americans.

Attention All Artisans



The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Royalty is seeking bids for our 2020 - 21 crowns and medallions.

Submit full design that includes:

- The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde logo (including feathers)
- Court Year: 2020 - 21
- Titles:
 - Little Miss Grand Ronde
 - Junior Miss Grand Ronde
 - Senior Miss Grand Ronde
- Crowns and medallions must be completed and delivered by May 14, 2020.

Must submit photos of progress when requested

Bid deadline:

Dec. 2, 2019

(deadline is firm and no bids will be accepted after 5 p.m.)

Mail bids and designs to:

CTGR Royalty c/o Public Affairs
9615 Grand Ronde Rd
Grand Ronde, OR 97347

Questions: Call Chelsea at 503-879-1418 or email chelsea.clark@grandronde.org

*bids and designs can be sent to the above email address

Little indicted for felony theft from Elders’ fund

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

Former Elders Committee Treasurer Julie Ann Little is scheduled to return to Polk County Circuit Court on Thursday, Dec. 19, to possibly change her not guilty plea to two charges of first-degree theft.

Little, 64, was indicted on two counts of first-degree theft by a Polk County grand jury on Oct. 29 after the grand jury heard testimony from Elders Committee Chairwoman Penny DeLoe and Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department Sgt. Rod McAllister.

The charges stem from Little allegedly stealing a \$1,000 or more on two separate occasions from the Elders Committee fund – one that occurred between March 8 and July 11 and another that occurred between July 15 and July 31.

“The defendant ... did unlawfully and knowingly commit theft of money, of the value of \$1,000 or more, the property of Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde,” both felony counts state.

The indictment states that she allegedly spent the money in Yamhill, Polk and Tillamook counties.

Little was elected to the Elders Committee during the December 2018 election and resigned when the allegations against her surfaced.

She was cited and released by McAllister on Sept. 26.

The Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department declined to release Little’s arrest report to *Smoke Signals*, citing that the Polk County District Attorney’s Office is not finished

with the case. She is being prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Kyle Haney.

Chief Deputy District Attorney Alicia Eagan said that first-degree theft charges generally receive sentences from between probation to five years maximum depending on a defendant’s criminal history.

“Last I heard they were working on a deal, but I didn’t hear if she took it,” said Tribal Police Chief Jake McKnight in an e-mail.

Elders Committee Secretary-Treasurer Julie Duncan said that the Elders bank account decreased from approximately \$7,400 to \$58 during the first three months after Little took over as treasurer.

Duncan said she and Little were the only Elders Committee members with access to the funds, which were raised through bingo nights, fundraisers and other events to help pay for Elders activities and trips.

Duncan added that the Elders Committee voted to pursue legal action against Little. “It wasn’t just one person’s decision,” she said.

Duncan said the Tribe has reimbursed the Elders Committee the missing funds and Elders funds are now being funneled through the Finance Office to prevent a similar occurrence.

Tribal Council Chief of Staff Stacia Hernandez said she was unable to comment on the specifics of the case.

Little, who lives in Dallas, is represented by Salem attorney Arthur B. Cummins. She declined to comment on her case when contacted by *Smoke Signals*. ■

Grand Ronde Editorial Board position openings

The Grand Ronde Editorial Board, a Tribal board assigned the duty by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde (“Grand Ronde”) of overseeing its independent Tribal press (*Smoke Signals*), invites applications to serve on the Grand Ronde Editorial Board. There are two open board positions occurring in March 2020.

The five-member Grand Ronde Editorial Board is responsible to the Grand Ronde Tribal Council. It oversees the editor of *Smoke Signals* to ensure the independent Tribal press reports news free from any undue influence and free from any political interest, and that Tribal news employees adhere to the highest ethical journalistic standards.

The Editorial Board meets monthly. From time to time, additional special meetings may be held. Board members are expected to attend all meetings in person, although participation by telephone or video will be permitted. Each board member receives a monthly stipend for attending meetings. Travel reimbursement is limited to travel within the six counties of Polk, Yamhill, Marion, Tillamook, Multnomah and Washington.

Board members must be 18 years of age, have qualified experience in management and/or publications, be of good character and integrity, and certify that he or she will adhere to the standards of accepted ethics of journalism as defined by the Society of Professional Journalists and endorsed by the Native American Journalists Association. Experience with and knowledge of Native American organizations is also preferred, as well as dedication to protecting and advancing a free press for the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.

Applicants will be interviewed by the Grand Ronde Editorial Board before a recommendation is forwarded to Tribal Council. Terms run for three years.

Preference will be given to qualified Tribal members.

Submission deadline: Friday, Jan. 10, 2020

Interested individuals should submit a letter of interest describing their qualifications, a résumé and three references to:

Grand Ronde Editorial Board
c/o Smoke Signals
Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
9615 Grand Ronde Road
Grand Ronde, OR 97347
Phone: 503-879-1463
E-mail: editorial.board@grandronde.org

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WHO? ALL ARE WELCOME
WHAT? WELLBRIETY TALKING CIRCLE
WHEN? EVERY SATURDAY AT 1:00 P.M.
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DECEMBER 13th 2019

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9615 Grand Ronde Rd

Handmade gifts, decor, crafts, soaps, wreaths, weaving, carving, beadwork, artwork, Indian Tacos and so much more!

For info call 503.851.8406



‘We need to have a grocery store here’

GRAND RONDE continued
from front page

for dinner.

“We need to have a grocery store here or at least expand (Grand Ronde Station),” Tribal Council member Denise Harvey says. “I’m not worried about it being profitable because it provides a service to our Tribal members.”

The Grand Ronde Tribe’s Strategic Plan states as a goal that it wants to “attract new Tribal members, diversify and grow the population, and promote a healthier, sustainable community.”

In order for the Tribe to be successful in accomplishing that goal, Harvey and others say that the “food desert” barrier needs to be removed.

“In order to get people to eat healthy, you need to change the environment of the community first,” Harvey says. “You can’t just tell people the health risks and ask them to eat healthy.”

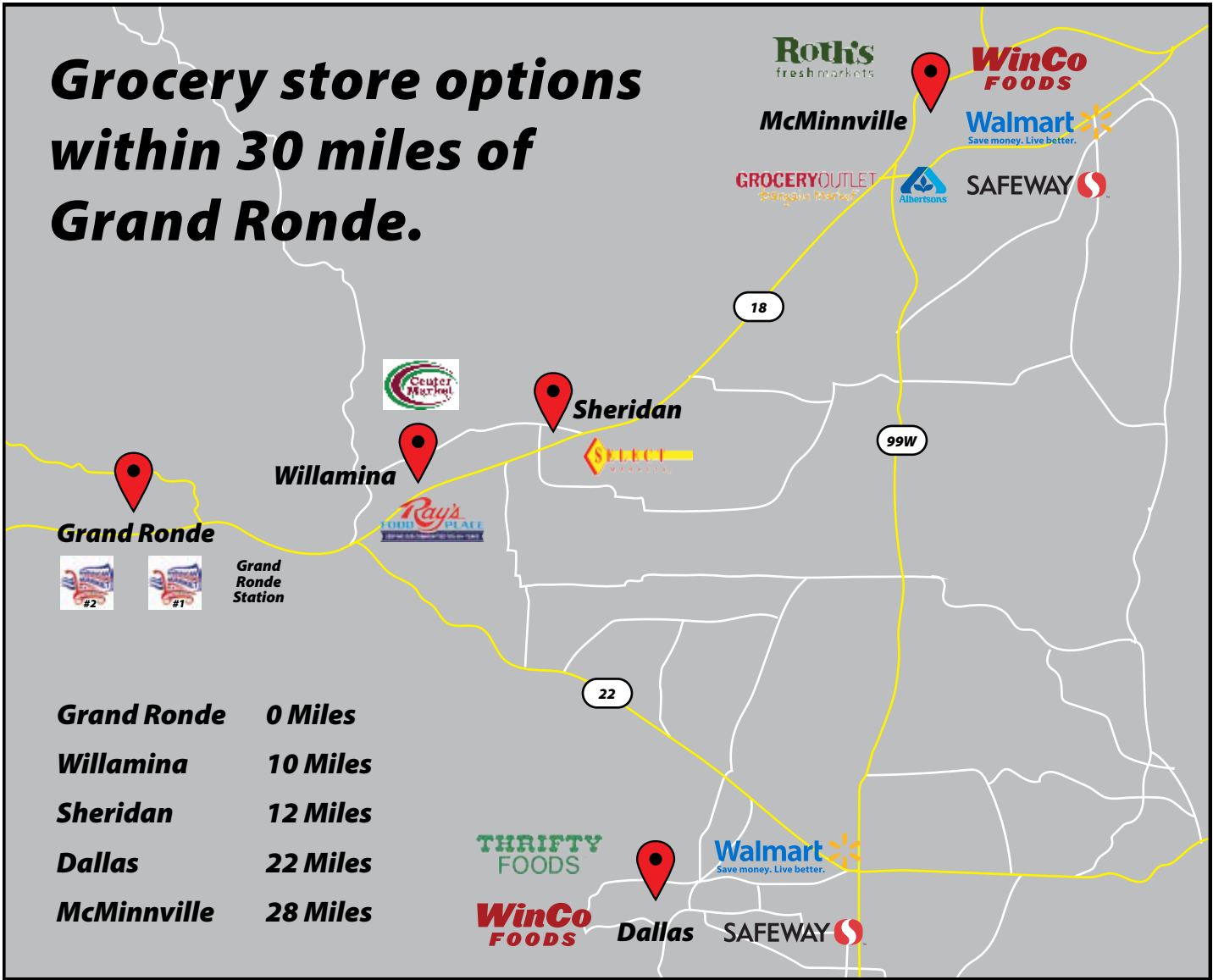
Food deserts are defined as areas that lack whole food providers who supply fresh protein sources, as well as fruits and vegetables. Instead, people living in food deserts typically rely on convenience stores that provide processed, high-sugar foods, which are known contributors to a variety of health ailments, such as obesity and Type 2 diabetes.

The opinion that Grand Ronde needs a grocery store to improve community health outcomes and attract more Tribal members to move home is nothing new.

In 2015, a survey of Tribal members found that almost 75 percent felt a community grocery store was a necessity, and those who have attended subsequent input meetings over the years echo the sentiment.

Following the survey results, Tribal Council voted in 2016 to have ECONorthwest conduct a feasibility study to determine if there is enough demand to justify a stand-alone grocery store in Grand Ronde. The study found that demand could not sustain a full-sized store because it would require \$10 million in annual sales to survive. At the time, the total community grocery spending was estimated at \$2.7 million. However, the study concluded that expanding Grand Ronde Station near Spirit Mountain Casino might be a viable option.

These findings resulted in a 2017 study by Pepper Foster Consulting to identify options within the Grand Ronde Station site. Ultimately, the study found it unlikely that Grand Ronde Station would be able to compete on either price or selection with “big box” grocery stores in



Map created by Samuel Briggs III



Photos by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Bananas available at Grand Ronde Station on Wednesday, Nov. 13. The market tries to help local shoppers by offering bread, dairy products and healthy snacks.

Dallas or McMinnville. However, the study did recommend reconfiguring the store to make one side a community store that sold basic items such as produce, cheese, milk, eggs, meat and other necessities.

As of 2019, the study’s suggestion has not yet been implemented.

“The main objection I am hearing is that it would not be profitable,” Harvey says. “I think a grocery store would be a bonus, and that

we could attract a lot of the traffic heading to and from the coast.”

She notes that although the Grand Ronde Food Bank – iskam məkʰmək haws – does a good job providing fresh fruits and vegetables to the community, there are limits on the availability and choice of products.

Food Bank Program Manager Francene Ambrose has said that many local families prefer to buy produce rather than take what is available at the food pantry because of quality and selection.

Tribal Economic Development Director Bruce Thomas says that a full-sized brick-and-mortar grocery store operates on only a 3- to 5-percent profit margin, and that includes a large number of steady customers.

“I’ve never seen a town of this size able to support a grocery store,” Thomas says. “Most people here have access to a car to drive to stores (in other areas) and the cost of grocery delivery services would be far lower than the cost of building a regular store, and the waste that would result if you can’t sell

the product.”

Tribal Council Vice Chair Chris Mercier lives in Grand Ronde and feels a grocery store could be supported by the community.

“There is a Grocery Outlet in La Pine and that’s a fairly remote community,” he says of the central Oregon town south of Bend with a population of approximately 1,900 residents. “We shouldn’t be so worried about profitability. If we build something like a WinCo or a Grocery Outlet, it will attract customers. Right now, people who come to the food bank are from all over the area.”

The 2010 U.S. Census estimated there were 1,661 people living in the Grand Ronde Census Designated Place. George says the most recent population count is approximately 1,800 people in 700 households.

Mercier adds that an emphasis on healthy eating and lifestyles won’t work as well without a local place to purchase fresh, affordable groceries.

“I live in Tribal housing and I know a lot of people who go to the convenience store every day to get a soda and bag of chips (for a meal),” he says. “I think if those people could go to a grocery store, they might make better health choices, but they need to learn how much better fresh things taste.”

Tribal Planning Director Rick George says a plan is currently in the works to establish a “tipping point” for population numbers needed to support a full-sized grocery store.

“Until we hit the tipping point, we can’t sustain a store,” George says. “We need to be careful and just like



A selection of healthy snacks available at Grand Ronde Station.

See GRAND RONDE continued on page 9

Weekly farmer’s market idea being circulated

GRAND RONDE continued from page 8

with our housing, cut risks as much as possible and see what you can do as a solution in the meantime. Find out what is reasonable now and in the long term. Population is what drives development.”

This opinion is shared by the Housing Department officials as well, who told *Smoke Signals* in a previous interview that the community had everything it needs in the way of basic services except a grocery store, and that maybe when enough housing units are built and filled it would be something that the Tribe could support fully.

Another possibility would be to site a smaller store that caters to rural areas, such as IGA. Currently, the nearest one is 10 miles away in Willamina, which is a 15-minute drive or nearly 30-minute bus ride from Grand Ronde.

Unlike the chain store business model, IGA operates as a franchise through stores that are owned separately from the brand.

Many of these stores operate in small-town markets and belong to families who manage them. There are more than 1,100 IGA grocery stores in the United States.

West Coast Area Director Doug Walter says one of the first things he does when potential store owners reach out to him is see where the closest supplier to the store is located. Currently, the nearest supplier to Grand Ronde would be located in Portland, but that site is expected to close soon, making Centralia, Wash., the next closest location.

“The thing to look at next is doing a site survey to determine its viability,” Walter says. “Sometimes there are a lot of tax breaks that are available, so it can be a great opportunity.”

Convenience store options

Besides having a potential expansion of Grand Ronde Station, other ideas that have been circulated include a weekly farmer’s market and having local convenience stores stock fresh fruits and vegetables, along with other grocery basics like milk and eggs.

A recent survey of available fresh items revealed that American Market, American Market 2 and Grand Ronde Station all carry items that one would not typically expect to see in a convenience store. However, one store employee noted that the fresh items “don’t move very fast.” This could be due to those



Photos by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Grand Ronde Station tries to help out local shoppers by offering a selection of produce, milk, bread, dairy products.

How much does it cost to start a grocery store in a small town?

- Registering the business – \$750.
 - Legal expenses for obtaining licenses, permits and accounting services (software, POS machines) – \$3,300.
 - Marketing expenses for grand opening – \$3,580.
 - Hiring a business consultant – \$2,500.
 - Insurance (general liability, worker’s compensation and property/casualty) coverage at a total annual premium – \$2,400.
 - Rent for 12 months (Based on \$1.76 per square foot in the total amount of \$105,600).
 - Store remodeling (construction of racks and shelves) – \$20,000.
 - Other start-up expenses (stationery, phone and utility deposits) – \$2,500.
 - Operational cost for first three months (employee salaries, bills, etc.) – \$60,000.
 - Cost for start-up inventory (stocking with a wide range of groceries from different brands) – \$100,000.
 - Storage hardware (bins, rack, shelves, food case) – \$3,720.
 - Counter area equipment (counter top, sink, ice machine, etc.) – \$9,500.
 - Store equipment (cash register, security, ventilation, signage) – \$13,750.
 - Purchase/installation of security cameras -- \$10,000.
 - Furniture and other hardware (computers, printers, phone, TVs, sound system, tables, chairs) – \$4,000.
 - Website creation – \$600.
 - Grand opening party – \$2,000.
 - Miscellaneous: \$5,000.
- Total average cost: \$349,200.**

*These numbers are for a medium-scale but standard single grocery store.
Source: www.provitableventure.com*

items being less affordable than at a grocery store.

American Market, located at the intersection of Highway 18 and Grand Ronde Road, offers milk, eggs, butter, cheese, yogurt, sour cream, lunch meat, potato salad, limes, mushrooms, tomatoes, potatoes, garlic, onions, carrots and lettuce.

American Market 2, a half-mile west on Highway 18, has cottage cheese, yogurt, milk, eggs, bacon, frozen corn, shredded cheese, lunch meat and butter.

Grand Ronde Station sells bananas, cheese, lunch meat, cream cheese, bread, milk,

eggs, butter and prepared salads, along with a selection of healthy snacks.

Not surprisingly, a majority of the items are higher priced than in grocery stores.

During the 2017 survey, respondents indicated that they would shop locally if more options were available at prices that were competitive with stores such as Wal-Mart and WinCo. In a Marion-Polk Food Share hunger study, many clients indicated that they lacked regular access to a car and either carpool to get groceries or rely on local convenience stores.

Other grocery options

Grocery delivery services are on the rise, with companies from Amazon to Uber getting in on the action. Some say grocery delivery to Grand

Ronde might be an effective temporary solution until demand is high enough to sustain a physical store.

Thomas says alternative solutions, such as the Social Services Department coordinating grocery store transport, is another idea.

“Not everything needs to cost \$1 million,” he says. “There are other ways.”

Thomas adds that Tribal grocery delivery services also should be considered.

“The cost of delivery would be far less than the Tribe having a grocery store,” Thomas says.

George agrees that delivery service is something that should be researched.

“Because of its financial situation, the Tribe has the ability to be creative,” he says. “We can look into options now and in the long term.”

A partnership that has worked in other rural areas is the Raley’s Food for Families Program. Since 1986, the Sacramento-based grocery store has raised more than \$36 million for local food banks, which in turn have provided more than 40 million meals to those battling hunger. There are 74 Food for Families food bank partners across central and northern California and Nevada. The food banks identify what’s most needed in their communities and Food for Families provides them with the items.

Julie Rollofson Teel, Food for Families board member, says the partnership works well because Raley’s absorbs all the overhead costs of the program, and uses its wholesale purchasing power and product donations to have a greater effect.

“One hundred percent of every donation goes directly toward feeding the hungry,” she says. “We send everything to the food banks directly from our store. What we found is by doing that, we are feeding more people this way. Not everyone wants to go to a huge food bank or has the ability to do so.”

Another suggestion Teel has is establishing a food co-op.

A food co-op is a grocery store that is owned by those who shop there. Members decide which foods and products will be offered, where they are purchased from and what kinds of quality standards the products must meet.

Typically, co-ops also try to offer high-quality foods at fair prices for both customers and producers. According to an article in tasteofhome.com, doing business this way helps keep money in the community by supporting local farmers, fishers and other vendors, and creates jobs.

“What is great about co-ops is that it provides jobs, creates food literacy and typically offers cooking classes and budgeting tips,” Teel says. “It brings people in the community together and you have a better ‘buy in’ when those who shop there also own it.”

She adds that lack of access to fresh foods is something that can happen anywhere.

“Food deserts can exist in a variety of circumstances,” she says. “It’s up to us to help make it better.” ■



Selections of dairy products offered for sale at The American Market on Grand Ronde Road. The market tries to help local shoppers by offering a selection of produce, milk, bread, dairy products and meat.



Dancers take part in a Welcome dance during the 36th annual Restoration Celebration held in the Tribal gym on Friday, Nov. 22.



Layla Harmon (Eastern Shoshone), 13, joins in an intertribal dance.

'I am so proud of all the accomplishments'

RESTORATION continued from front page

toration. They are Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy, Vice Chair Chris Mercier, George, Lisa Leno, Kathleen George, Jack Giffen Jr., Steve Bobb Sr., Michael Langley and Denise Harvey.

"Today is a good day," Kennedy said. "One of the things we must impart to our younger generation is gratefulness for the sacrifices of their Elders so we could sit in a gym today, eat together and celebrate. I am so thankful for that."

After the Tribe was Terminated by the federal government in 1954, a majority of Tribal members were forced to relocate from Grand Ronde to survive.

On Nov. 22, 1983, everything changed when President Ronald Reagan signed the Tribe's Restoration bill into law.

Kennedy acknowledged longtime Tribal Council chairwoman and key Restoration figure Kathryn Harrison, who attended Friday's event. At 95, Harrison is now the third eldest Elder in the Tribe.

Kennedy also recognized past



Tribal Council members in attendance including former longtime chairman Reyn Leno, Brenda Tuomi, Angie Blackwell, Candy Robertson, Henry Petite, Tonya Gleason-Shepek and Ed Larsen.

Kennedy also thanked former Tribal Council Chairman Mark Mercier, who was instrumental in the passage of the Grand Ronde Reservation Act.

"I am so proud of all the accomplishments that have gone on at the leadership table," Kennedy said. "There are now more opportunities for Tribal members to participate in the process."

She also noted that throughout its 36-year history, there have only been six Tribal Council chairs, including herself, which indicates stability. The other Tribal chairs were Harrison, Petite, Mark Mercier, Reyn Leno and Chris Mercier.

At the 35th anniversary event in 2018, Kennedy issued a challenge for all Tribal members in attendance: Find out which Tribal Chief you are descended from. A few in the audience shouted out different names at this year's celebration.

"Next year, I will ask the same question," she said. "It's a part of knowing your history and culture."

A poignant moment came when Kennedy asked those who had gone through Termination to stand. Of the approximately 200 gathered, only a handful stood.

"(Restoration) is an effort that began with three people," Kennedy

said. "We are here because of Margaret Provost, Marvin Kimsey and Merle Holmes."

The three key Restoration Elders have since walked on. Earlier this summer, a life-sized bronze sculpture of Provost, Kimsey and Holmes, designed by Steve Bobb Sr., was erected at the entrance to the Governance Center as a permanent reminder of their life's work.

"Now, I get to enjoy seeing them every day," Kennedy said.

She also thanked Grand Ronde and Veterans Royalty members for all of their hard work representing the Tribe at various



Arianne Sheka (Ho-Chunk/Dine) participates in an intertribal dance during the 36th annual Restoration celebration.



Dancers make their way on to the dance area during the Grand Entry.



bal dance.



Little Miss Princess Marie Quenelle, 9, and Auburn Logan join other members of the Canoe Family in performing a dance.

that have gone on at the leadership table’

Visit Smoke Signals’
facebook
page to see more photos

events in Oregon.
After Kennedy spoke, Kathleen George gave an invocation and lunch was served. It included baked salmon, ceremonial stew, green salad, mashed potatoes, green beans, rolls and cupcakes.
Most who attended Restoration received a gift box with trail mix, beef jerky, a notepad, magnet, sage, can-

dles, a cedar bark candle holder and salmon-shaped gourmet chocolates.
During lunch, raffle prizes including backpacks, purses, Tribal blankets, Pendleton coffee mugs, huge stuffed animals, body pillows and gift bags filled with goodies and other items were given away.

Powwow was standing-room only

After lunch concluded, tables and dishes were quickly whisked away and the gym was transformed for the Restoration Powwow, which attracted so many people that it soon became standing-room only.

The powwow began with host drum Bad Soul providing Grand Entry music as the Honor Guard brought in the colors, followed by Tribal Council members past and present, veterans, Grand Ronde Royalty, Head Man and Head Woman Anthony and Ramona Quenelle and dancers of all ages, most dressed in regalia. The emcee was Tribal Elder Bob Tom.

“I want to welcome all of our visitors here,” Kennedy said. “We have different Tribes from different states, and we love to host and entertain you, and share with you the blessing Creator gave to us. We offer our hospitality and hope you have a good time here.”

Jon A. George added that hosting other Tribal Nations was “an honor.” “It’s good for us to fellowship together and I’m honored to stand before you as a humble leader,” he said. Bobby Mercier led the invocation and then veterans introduced themselves to the audience.

“Before Restoration, we were still Indian and will always be Indian,” Reyn Leno said. “A pen (signature) didn’t make us Indian again.”
Powwow specials were held in the junior/teen and adult categories for Fancy Feet and Warrior Up, along with Sweep Your Teepee for junior/teen and adult categories. There also was an Honoring Our Visionaries Golden Age Special.

A Margaret Provost family giveaway lasted for approximately 90 minutes with several of the late leader’s family members participating. Provost’s granddaughter,

Molly Provost Leno, said she wanted to acknowledge all of those who had a relationship with the family.

“Our ancestors fought for Restoration so we would have a family that looked like this,” she said. “You learn a lot about a person at these giveaways.”

Restoration and Culture Committee members who assisted with the 36th anniversary event include Darlene Aaron, Francene Ambrose, Lisa Archuleta, Chelsea Baranski, Eric Bernando, Joanna Brisbois, Julie Brown, Jon A. George, Jack Giffen Jr., Rachelle Kellogg, Shannon Ham-Teixeira, Stacia Hernandez, Logan Kneeland, Brad Leno, Molly Leno, Jackie Many Hides, Tracie Meyer, Shayla Myrick-Meyer, Antonio Perkins, Sarah Ross, Faye Smith, Crystal Szczepanski and Sara Thompson.

Before the Restoration Celebration began, 11 Tribal members including Jon A. George participated in a morning ceremony at the Tribal Cemetery, where they prayed and drummed for healing of the Tribe and community. Other Tribal Council members in attendance were Kennedy and Kathleen George. ■



Tribal Elder Herman Hudson, 94, joined in the 36th annual Restoration Celebration held in the Tribal gym.

Photos by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Junior Miss Grand Ronde Kaleigha Simi, right, Little Miss Grand Ronde Sophia Grout, center, and Little Miss Princess Marie Quenelle, 9, join other members of the Canoe Family in dancing during the 36th annual Restoration Celebration held in the Tribal gym on Friday, Nov. 22.



Restoration 2019



Leon Araiza Jr., 5, carries a stuffed shark won during the raffle at the 36th annual Restoration Celebration held in the Tribal gym.

Photos by Timothy J. Gonzalez



Grand Ronde Honor Guard member Alton Butler, front, and Wayne Chulik (Tlingit) carry Eagle staffs at the beginning of Grand Entry.



Tribal Elder Guy Schultz is served salad by Tribal Council Vice Chair Chris Mercier during lunch.

Ian Gallagher (Klamath Modoc) joins others dancers in the Grand Entry.

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

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.

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

State seeks veterans for advisory committee

SALEM – Gov. Kate Brown and the director of the Oregon Department of Veterans’ Affairs are seeking interested veterans to serve as members of the Veterans’ Affairs Advisory Committee.

The committee, established in 1945, advocates for veterans issues and shares insight on veterans concerns with the ODVA director and staff. Meetings are held throughout the state on the first Wednesday in March, June and December, and the second week in September.

Recruitment for qualified veteran applicants is open and ongoing. All veterans are welcome to apply.

For more information and an application, go to www.oregon.gov/odva/Connect/Pages/Advisory-Committee.aspx. ■

Massage at Health & Wellness Center

Mind, Body & Soul Therapeutic Massage started at the Health & Wellness Clinic last year.

Remember: Appointments for massage are not managed by the Health & Wellness Center staff. To schedule an appointment, call 971-237-2561. ■

Elder Building Open House

When: Monday, Dec. 2, 2019
Where: Elder Activity Center
Time: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Come check out all the decorations in the Elder Building and enjoy fresh baked cookies and a hot cocoa bar.*



Your health insurance could be free.



Health insurance can expand your options for getting the care you need. It covers a wide variety of providers and services. If you’re a member of a federally recognized tribe, you can sign up anytime, year-round. If you qualify, your insurance may even be free.

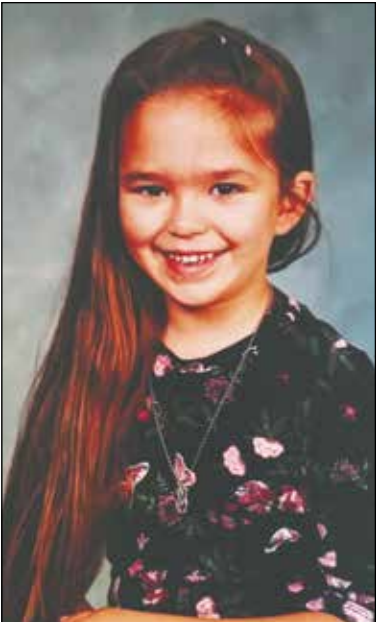
Do you qualify?
Find out if you’re eligible for free insurance or payment assistance to lower your costs:

- Apply online at **OregonHealthCare.Gov**.
- Get **free help** at your tribal headquarters.
- Or call the Oregon Health Insurance Marketplace at **1-855-268-3767** and ask for free, local help. Calls are toll free.

Sign up now | OregonHealthCare.Gov



Happy 6th Birthday,
Lyllian Raye!
You are so amazing and we love you to the moon and back
Mom, Makenzy & Bentlee



USDA Distribution

~Siletz~

Dec. 2: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Dec. 3: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Dec. 4: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Dec. 5: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Dec. 6: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

~ Salem ~

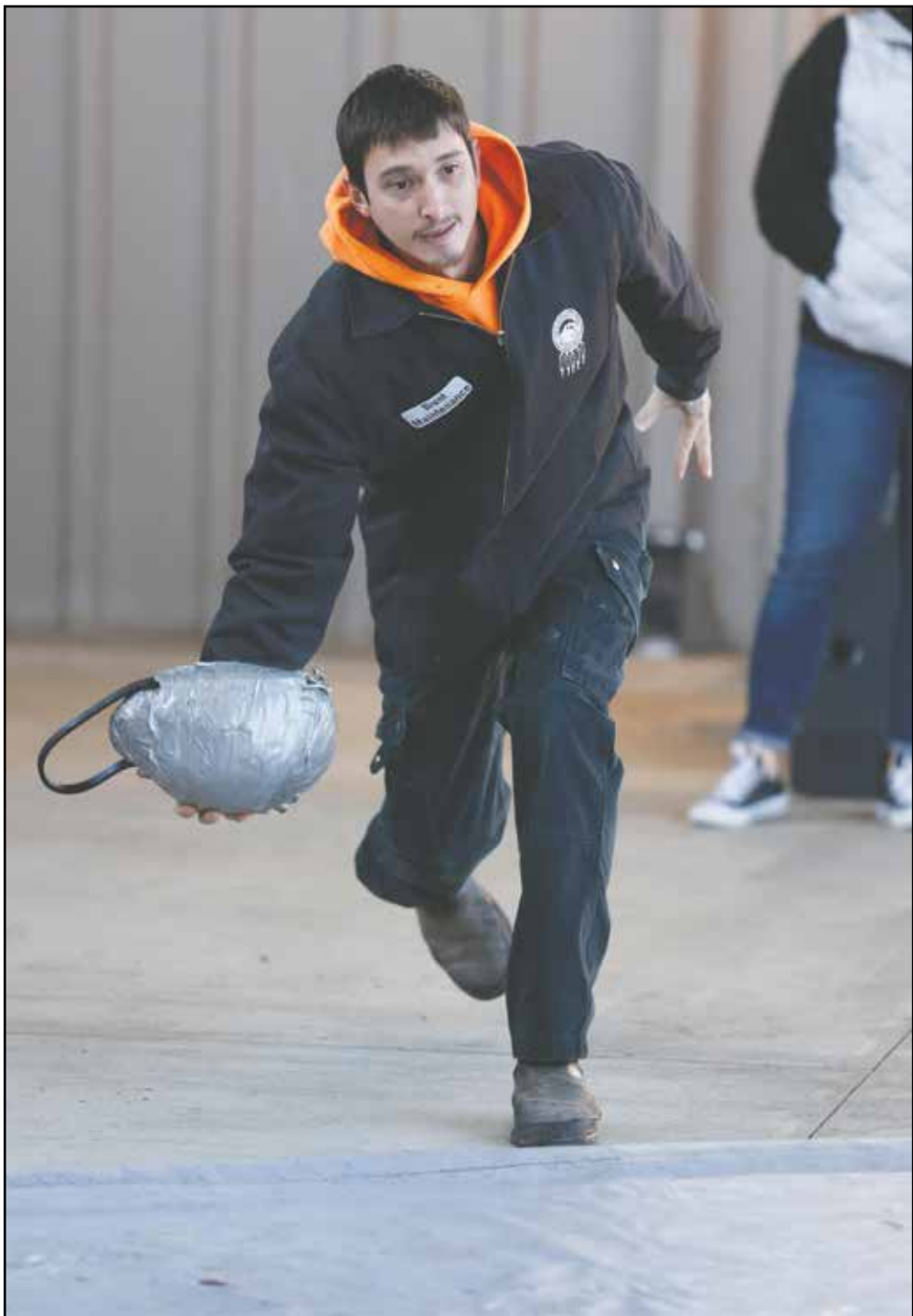
Dec. 16: 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Dec. 17: 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Dec. 18: 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Dec. 19: Appointment only

If you need assistance, call Joyce Retherford at 1-800-922-1399, ext. 1393, or call direct at 541-444-8393 or 541-444-8279.

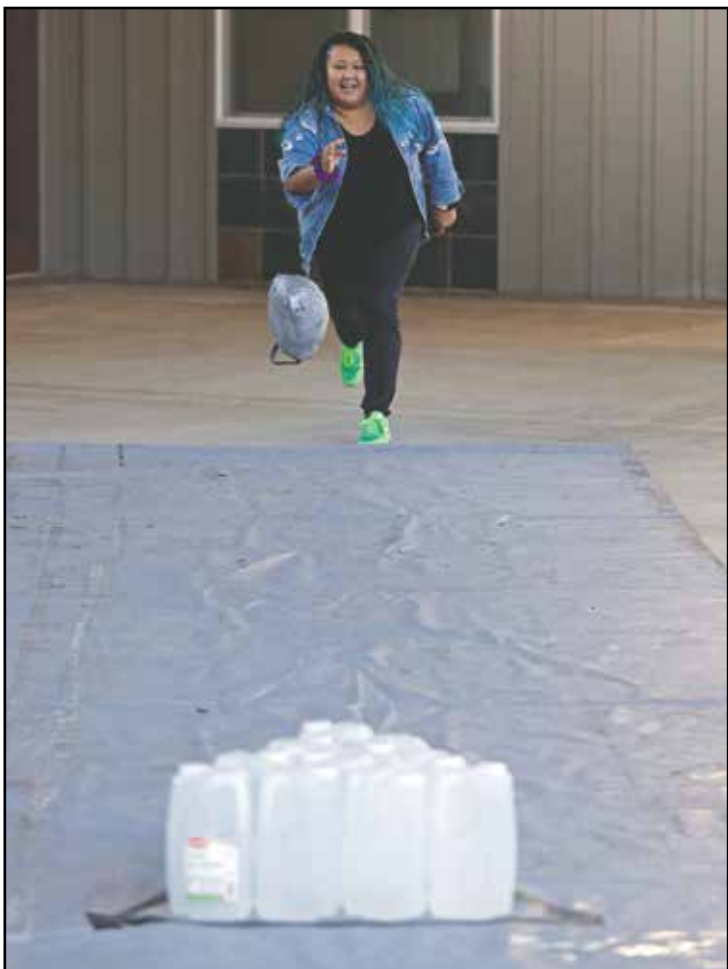


Youth Prevention Grant Coordinator Angey Rideout lets a frozen turkey fly during the 16th annual Turkey Bowling held at the Youth Education building on Thursday, Nov. 21. Winners in the men’s division were Jason Bailey, first; Andrew Freeman, second; and Daniel Hyatt, third. Women’s division winners were Rideout, first; Sisiley Scott, second; and Crystal Bigelow, third. The event was put on by the Tribe’s Human Resources Department.

Tossing a turkey



Maintenance Technician Brent Bruckner lets a frozen turkey fly during the 16th annual Turkey Bowling.



Human Resources Senior Office Assistant Sisiley Scott participates in the 16th annual Turkey Bowling held at the Youth Education building on Thursday, Nov. 21. Scott took second in the women’s division.

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



Cultural Protection Specialist Chris Bailey tosses a frozen turkey.

Photos by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Paper chase



Photos by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Education reporter Natalie Pate talks with a group of middle school students from the Youth Education Department during a visit to the Salem Statesman Journal newsroom on Monday, Nov. 25. The visit was to introduce the students to the news gathering process.



Salem Statesman Journal staff photographer Madeleine Cooks works with Mae Townsend, 14, in the photo studio at the newspaper's newsroom on Monday, Nov. 25. Middle school students from the Youth Education Department visited the Salem newspaper to learn about the news gathering process and perhaps spark an interest in pursuing a journalism career.

Visit Smoke Signals' facebook page to see more photos

Name changes in court

Tribal Court provides both minor and adult name changes to enrolled members for a filing fee of only \$30. If you have any questions or would like to request a packet, contact Tribal Court at 503-879-2303. ■



THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF GRAND RONDE TRIBAL MEMBER REVIEW BOARD (TMRB)

We are looking for volunteers!

As a Tribal Member Review Board member, you will review cases assigned by the Tribal Court involving children who are wards of the Tribal Court. You will review the case file; hear from all parties at the review including caseworkers, attorneys and children over 12 years of age, parents, foster parents and providers. The Board makes findings and recommendations to the Court regarding the case.

- Qualifications:
- Tribal member
 - At least 21 years of age
 - Living in the six-county area of: Polk, Yamhill, Tillamook, Washington, Multnomah or Marion counties, and
 - Have special knowledge, background and/or experience in one or more of the following:
 - Parenting or foster care taking; Tribal customs, traditions; Juvenile Law; Health Care; Mental Health Care; Social work; or Education.

For more information, contact Tribal Court Programs Coordinator Ramona Quenelle at CourtPrograms@grandronde.org or call 503-879-4623.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS



The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde offers generous benefits and competitive pay.

Job #	Position Title	Pay Grade	Min. Start Wage	Max Start Wage	Date Posted	Closing Date
1237	Cashier/Fueler Part-Time (Variable Shift)	1	\$11.25/hr.	\$11.45/hr.	11/22/19	12/05/19
1236	Women's Transitional Living Center Case Aide	6	\$15.34/hr.	\$18.44/hr.	11/22/19	12/05/19
1232	Police Officer	11	\$24.20/hr.	\$26.95/hr.	10/25/19	12/05/19
1223	Clinic Systems Coordinator	13	\$29.28/hr.	\$32.61/hr.	10/25/19	12/05/19
1200	Radiology Lab Technician - On Call	8	\$18.18/hr.	\$20.25/hr.	8/02/19	11/28/19
1169	Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner	20	\$112,165.91/yr.	\$128,883.48/yr.	5/24/19	12/05/19
1082	Physician	23	\$143,437.84/yr.	\$168,636.38/yr.	10/4/19	12/05/19
1040	Temporary Pool	2	\$11.25/hr.	\$11.54/hr.	4/16/18	12/31/19

Application materials must be received in Human Resources by 5pm on the closing date.

All positions are located in the greater Grand Ronde area unless specifically noted otherwise.
If you have questions or need more info, please call: 1-800-422-0232 x-2109

Apply online at: www.grandronde.org

INTERVIEWS 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.
3. External candidates.

For additional Career Opportunities with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, please visit: <https://www.spiritmountain.com/careers>

IN THE TRIBAL COURT FOR THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE GRAND RONDE COMMUNITY OF OREGON

In The Matter of:) Case No.: C-19-025
Dylan Knight)
Applicant.) NOTICE OF NAME CHANGE
[ADULT]

NOTICE TO ANY INTERESTED PERSONS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that the above Petitioner has filed a Petition with this Court on the 20th day of November, 2019, requesting that Petitioner's name be changed from Dylan James Knight to Dylan Avery Yates.

The purpose of this Notice is to give all interested persons an opportunity to show cause why the name change should or should not be granted. Any person objecting to the proposed name change may file a written objection with the Court within 14 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as to why the Court should not enter an order granting the proposed change of name.

DATED this 20th day of November, 2019.

Dylan Knight
Petitioner
Dylan Knight [Print Name]

Smoke Signals facebook reviews

Great Tribal newspaper. Have always loved reading front to back and back to front, haven't missed an issue in over 25 years. Keep up the great work of reporting Tribal news for the next 100 years!!!

Like

Comment

Share



Write a comment...

Write a comment...



Great information, a great paper on Tribal life

Like

Comment

Share



Write a comment...

Write a comment...



Friday, Nov. 1

- Traffic stop occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway. The male driver of the vehicle had multiple warrants and was arrested for the warrants and transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.
- Welfare check performed in the 9600 block of Raven Loop.
- Driving complaint reported in the area of milepost 24 on Highway 18.

Saturday, Nov. 2

- Found property in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Driving complaint reported at milepost 20 eastbound on Highway 18.
- Traffic assist performed in the area of milepost 22 on Highway 18.
- Theft complaint reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Assist outside agency with locating person in the area of milepost 24 on Highway 18.
- Drug complaint reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway. A female was arrested for unlawful possession of methamphetamine and transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.
- Assist outside agency with a vehicle crash in the area of milepost 26 on Highway 18.

Sunday, Nov. 3

- Trespass reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Assist outside agency with a reported suspicious vehicle in the 29300 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Suspicious activity reported in the 8700 block of Grand Ronde Road. A male was arrested for possession of forged documents and identity theft, and transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.
- Suspicious activity reported in the area of Agency Creek Road. A male was arrested for a probation violation.

Monday, Nov. 4

- Assist outside agency with a domestic disturbance in the 29900 block of Newsome Drive. A male was arrested for harassment, strangulation and felon in possession of firearms, and transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.
- Assist outside agency with a civil issue in the 29300 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Assist outside agency with a reported stolen vehicle in the Willamina area. A male was arrested for stolen vehicle and unlawful possession of methamphetamine.
- Assist outside agency with a reported trespass in the area of milepost 24 on Highway 18.

Tuesday, Nov. 5

- Citizen contact occurred in the 28000 block of Andy Riggs Road.
- Warrant attempt occurred in the 28000 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Warrant arrest performed in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway. A female was transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.
- Assist outside agency with suspicious activity in the 7900 block of Fire Hall Road.
- Emotionally distressed person reported in the 9500 block of Raven Loop. The female was transported to a hospital for evaluation.
- Theft reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

Wednesday, Nov. 6

- Citizen contact occurred in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Suspicious activity reported in the 26600 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Welfare check performed in the 48700 block of Dragonfly Drive.
- Assist outside agency with reported suspicious activity in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 9600 block of Raven Loop.
- Theft reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

Thursday, Nov. 7

- Traffic stop occurred in the area of milepost 22 on Highway 18. A male driver was in possession of marijuana and under the age of 21. He was cited and released.
- Suspicious vehicle reported in the 9600 block of Raven Loop.
- Warrant attempt occurred in the 28400 block of McPherson Road.

Friday, Nov. 8

- Assist outside agency with standby for the Department of Human Services in the area of Grand Meadows.
- Assist outside agency in serving an eviction notice in the 48800 block of Blacktail Drive.
- Assist outside agency with citizen contact that occurred in the 26600 block of Hwy 18B.
- Reported theft in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

Saturday, Nov. 9

- Assist outside agency with a reported driving complaint in the area of milepost 15 on Highway 18.
- Found property in the 9600 block of Raven Loop.
- Reported theft in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

- Suspicious activity reported in the 9700 block of Tilixam Circle. A male was arrested for trespass, failure to report as sex offender and on a valid warrant. He was transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.

Sunday, Nov. 10

- Suspicious person reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Assist outside agency with reported abuse in Lincoln County and the suspect was in the Willamina area. A male was contacted and cited into Lincoln County Juvenile Court for assault and harassment. He was released to family.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 25300 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Civil dispute reported in the 28600 block of A Ackerson Road.
- Assist outside agency with reported assault in the area of highways 18 and 18B. Two males were transported to the hospital.
- Assist outside agency with a domestic disturbance in the 28800 block of Salmon River Highway.

Monday, Nov. 11

- Assist outside agency with a single vehicle crash in the area of milepost 17 on Hebo Road.
- Reported theft in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Reported trespass in the area of Highway 18 and Fire Hall Road.
- Assist outside agency with reported suspicious activity in the Sheridan area.
- Assist outside agency with reported missing persons in the area of milepost 17 on Highway 18. Both people were located.
- Domestic disturbance reported in the 28000 block of Andy Riggs Road.

Tuesday, Nov. 12

- Citizen contact occurred in the 28000 block of Andy Riggs Road.
- Assist outside agency with reported suspicious activity in the Sheridan area.
- Domestic disturbance reported in the 48700 block of Eagle Loop.
- Assist outside agency with a vehicle crash in the area of milepost 29 on Highway 18.
- Assist outside agency with a probation violation in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway. A female was arrested for probation violation.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 9400 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Assist outside agency with a reported domestic disturbance in the 33000 block of Highway 18B.
- Assist outside agency with a reported assault in the Willamina area.
- Assist outside agency with a two vehicle crash in the 8500 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Reported domestic disturbance in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

Wednesday, Nov. 13

- Assist outside agency with citizen contact that occurred in the 28200 block of Andy Riggs Road.
- Suspicious person reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Citizen contact occurred in the Willamina area.
- Emotionally distressed person reported in the 29800 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Attempt to locate in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Assist outside agency with a traffic assist in the area of milepost 16 on Highway 18.

Thursday, Nov. 14

- Report of littering in the area of 9615 Grand Ronde Road. A male was cited for offensive littering and released.
- Report of trespassing in the 9600 block of Tilixam Circle. A female was arrested and transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.
- Assist outside agency with requested cover in the 23500 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Reported trespass in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Traffic stop performed in the area of milepost 21 on Highway 18. A male was cited and released for failure to carry and present.
- Citizen contact occurred in the area of milepost 23 on Highway 18.
- Suspicious vehicle reported in the area of highways 18 and 18B.

Friday, Nov. 15

- Assist outside agency with a reported domestic disturbance in the 25600 block of Yamhill River Road.
- Assist outside agency with reported abuse in the 9600 block of Tilixam Circle.
- Assist outside agency with a cover request on a pursuit in the area of Fort Hill Road.
- Assist outside agency with a reported suicidal male in the Willamina area. A male was contacted and later arrested for a domestic disturbance and transported to the Yamhill County Jail in McMinnville.

Saturday, Nov. 16

- Citizen contact occurred in the area of Salmon River Highway and Fire Hall Road. A female had a warrant out of Clackamas County and she was transported without incident to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.
- Assist outside agency with citizen contact that occurred in the area of highways 18 and 18B

See POLICE LOG
continued on page 17



POLICE LOG
continued from page 16

- Assist outside agency with reported abuse in the 28800 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Assist outside agency with civil contact in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Reported hit-and-run in the 9500 block of Raven Loop.
- Traffic stop occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway. The driver had a warrant out of Polk County and she was transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.
- Assist outside agency with a deceased person in the 28800 block of Salmon River Highway. The person died from natural causes.

Sunday, Nov. 17

- Citizen contact occurred in the 28600 block of Ackerson Road.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Trespassing reported in the 9600 block of Hebo Road. A male had warrants out of Marion and Polk counties and transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.

Monday, Nov. 18

- Driving complaint received in the area of Highway 22 and Harmony Road.
- Suspicious person reported in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Reported domestic disturbance in the 9500 block of Raven Loop.
- Found property in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.

Tuesday, Nov. 19

- Assist outside agency with an attempted suicide in the 28800 block of Salmon River Highway. A male was determined to be OK.
- Ordinance violation reported in the area of Raven Loop.
- Reported criminal mischief in the area of Andy Riggs Road.
- Counterfeit bill reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Reported theft in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Assist outside agency with a single vehicle crash in the area of Hebo Road at milepost 18.

Wednesday, Nov. 20

- Assist outside agency with reported trespassing and trash cleanup in the area of Salmon River Highway and AR Ford Road.
- Drug complaint received in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Disturbance reported in the 28800 block of Blacktail Drive.
- Citizen contact occurred in the area of Salmon River Highway and Grand Ronde Road.

Thursday, Nov. 21

- Assist outside agency with reported trespassing and trash cleanup in the area of Salmon River Highway and AR Ford Road.
- Traffic assist occurred in the area of milepost 19 on Highway 18.
- Assist outside agency with a standby in the Willamina area.
- Assist outside agency with a single vehicle crash in the area of milepost 12 on Hebo Road.
- Reported crash in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Reported fraud in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway. A male was in possession of forged documents. He was arrested and transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.
- Assist outside agency with a report of a vehicle fire in the 8500 block of Grand Ronde Road.

Compiled by Grand Ronde Tribal Police
Department Officer Clint Cardwell.

Police award



Photo by Kamiah Koch

Grand Ronde Police Officer James Flynn received the Medal of Valor from the Oregon Peace Officers Association on Friday, Nov. 15, in the Spirit Mountain Casino Event Center. He was selected as the award recipient because of his actions in a May 20, 2018, Sheridan hostage situation where he acted to remove the victim. To hear more about the incident and the award, listen to the *Smoke Signals* podcast at www.spreaker.com/user/smokesignals.



Drop box installed

The Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department, 9655 Grand Ronde Road, now has a medication drop box located in the front lobby. Lobby hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The drop box is for any prescribed or over-the-counter medication. If the containers are too large to fit in the drop box, please repackage them in a zip-lock plastic bag. Tribal Police employees cannot handle the medications so the person dropping them off must repackage them. Needles and liquids are not allowed in the drop box. Tribal Police suggest mixing liquid medications with cat litter or coffee grounds and then throwing them away with the household trash. For more information, call 503-879-1821. ■

IF YOU SEE SOMETHING
SAY SOMETHING

Non-Emergency Text Number:
541-921-2927

Potential reasons to use the text line:
Bullying/On-line harassment • Domestic violence questions
Suspicious persons • Tips for ongoing police cases
Depression • Legal age to consent questions


IF IT'S AN EMERGENCY CALL 911

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!



LIBRARY HOURS:

Monday – Friday: 9 A.M. – 6 P.M.
(Monday closed from noon – 1 P.M.)
Saturday: 10 A.M. – 2 P.M.

“Little Library” locations: The Tribal Library oversees the 14 Little Library locations in and around Grand Ronde. Feel free to stop by any of these locations and grab a book for free. Please remember that you cannot return your library items to the Little Library locations. Library materials that have been checked out must be returned in person or dropped off via the book return located on the left side of the Tribal Library entrance.

New Native elementary level books: “Bull Trout’s Gift” (Salish-Kootenai), “First Laugh, Welcome Baby!” (Navajo), “I Am Dreaming of ...” (Northwest Native), “My Heart Fills With Happiness” (First Nations), “Speak Our Language” (Tututni, Upper Coquille, Tolowa, Galice, Athabaskan) and “Little You” (First Nations).

DVD selection: Come check out the Tribal Library’s growing movie collection, with more than 1,900 DVDs/Blu-rays to choose from.

Recent DVD arrivals: “Toy Story 4,” “Spiderman: Far From Home,” “The Secret Life of Pets 2,” “Aladdin,” “The Wizard of Lies,” “Driving Miss Daisy” and more!

Requests: The Tribal Library provides recommendation forms in order to provide patrons with an outlet to request book/media content we may not currently have.

Book Review: “Summer of 69” by Elin Hilderbrand.

Elin Hilderbrand does a great job of transporting her readers back to the summer of 1969 (yes, like the Bryan Adams song): a time of hippies, Woodstock, the first moon landing, anti-war rallies and the Nixon presidency.

We spend the summer with the Levin family, who take their vacation on Nantucket every year. Only this year oldest sister Blair is staying home pregnant with twins; middle sister Kirby is a passionate civil rights activist, which takes her to Martha’s Vineyard for the summer; Tiger, the only son of the family, has been drafted to Vietnam; and the youngest of the children, Jessie, is stuck by herself on Nantucket. We watch these characters navigate family struggles and grow during a time when change was happening in this country.

I am a fan of historical fiction books and I enjoyed this book. The characters were well-developed and the family drama helped keep me engaged. It is an easy read and I breezed through it quickly. It would be a good one to take with you to the beach or on vacation.

— *Reviewed by Crystal Bigelow*

Donations: A special thank you to Sam George, Kailiyah Krehbiel and others for their contributions to the Tribal Library. We appreciate it.

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

For any questions or comments, contact the Tribal Library at 503-879-1499 or e-mail crystal.bigelow@grandronde.org

UofO teaching program recruiting for Class of 2021

EUGENE – The šapsikʷalá Teacher Education Program and the UOTeach Program are looking for Native American and Alaska Native students who have a desire and passion to become elementary or middle/high school teachers.

Applications for the 2020-21 academic year are due Jan. 15, 2020.

The šapsikʷalá Teacher Education Program offers full financial assistance to eligible Native American/Alaska Native students. The program is 12 months long, beginning in June and participants graduate with a master’s degree and teacher licensure in June 2021. It is fully funded by a federal grant with a total support package of approximately \$50,000 per student.

The program requires students to live in Eugene while completing classes at the University of Oregon and Tribal placements for student teaching will be considered and encouraged.

Prospective students must have completed their undergraduate education and apply through the admissions process of UOTeach.

To apply and review the admission requirements, visit the UOTeach website at education.uoregon.edu.

For help through the application process, send an e-mail to sapsikwala@uoregon.edu or call 541-346-2454.

Happy 1st birthday to the most courageous and strongest little boy around! You fought so hard and surprised everyone by beating the odds. You truly are amazing! You are going to do big things and become a great leader for your people! Thank you for choosing us to be your parents.

Love, Dad, Mom and your angel sissy



Memorial and stone setting for Hattie Craig, naming for William Craig followed by a meal and giveaway on Saturday, Dec. 14, at Agency Cemetery and Nixyaawii Longhouse on the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

We Pledge To Drive Safely With You!!


CTGR Community Health Medical Transportations

Call Community Health at 503-879-2078

if you need help getting to

- Doctor Appointments
- Addiction Recovery
- Dental Appointments
- Physical Therapy
- Behavioral Health
- Optometry Appointments
- Dialysis

Capacity is limited, please call at least five business days before your appointment.



Thank You, Community Health Department



HEALTH & WELLNESS NEWS

Health & Wellness Center closures

- Thursday, Dec. 19 — Closing at 11 a.m.
- Tuesday, Dec. 24 — Closing at noon
- Wednesday, Dec. 25 — Christmas
- Tuesday, Dec. 31 — Closing at noon
- Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2020 — New Year's Day

Be sure to request your prescriptions early to cover closure days.

Are you prepared for the Holidays?

Pharmacy Holiday Hours!!!

- ~~Monday 11/11/2019 Closed All Day~~
- ~~Friday 11/22/2019 Closed All Day~~
- ~~Wednesday 11/27/2019 (Open 8:30am-12pm) Closed 1-5pm~~
- ~~Thursday 11/28/2019 Closed All Day~~
- ~~Friday 11/29/2019 Closed All Day~~
- Monday 12/9/2019 Closed All Day
- Thursday 12/19/2019 (Open 8:30am-11am) Closed 11-5pm
- Tuesday 12/24/2019 (Open 8:30am-12pm) Closed 1-5pm
- Wednesday 12/25/2019 Closed All Day
- Tuesday 12/31/2019 (Open 8:30am-12pm) Closed 1-5pm

Free Holiday Pictures!!!

Friday, Dec. 6, 2019 1-2:30 p.m. at the Clinic

**Come have your picture with The Grinch and/or Olaf
Polaroid pictures so you can take them with you!!!**

Friday, Dec. 13, 2019 1-2:30 p.m. at the Clinic

Pictures with Rudolph and/or The Elf

Friday, Dec. 20th, 2019 1-3 p.m. at the Clinic

Pictures with all the characters and Santa!!!

Call 503-879-2078 for questions



Survey results

Greetings Tilixam,

The Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Center is happy to announce the results of the annual 2018 Patient Satisfaction Survey. The survey was conducted beginning in June and ended in October with 300 surveys completed. We want to thank each of you for your feedback as this will help us provide better services for you and your loved ones.

We initiated a committee to construct the survey, using the Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems survey as our base model. The overall average satisfaction rating of the clinic out of 300 responses was 80 percent with more than 70 percent of the responses remarking that they were happy with the clinic. We also were able to calculate that the patient satisfaction with overall access to care through the clinic was 80 percent with more than 70 percent of the responses stating that they were pleased with their access to current services.

Each of the departments was represented in the survey as patients were able to select the services that they were utilizing that day with the results mainly being Medical and Pharmacy services. We also included within the survey four narrative questions that allowed patients to comment on the types of services that they would like to see added, expanded or improved, and also included the opportunity to give feedback about our current providers.

Overall we received more than 300 comments and presented these to our Quality Improvement Committee. Each department was tasked with the goal of finding different ways in which they could improve their areas of specialty and provide better services to our patients based on what our patients requested or commented on. Each of the departments have provided the following action plan items:

➤ Pharmacy: Wait time improvement was the most commented on issue from our patients. Our pharmacy heard our patients' concerns and in efforts to improve this they have vetted a new tracking company and have recently implemented a pager system to give patients a worry-free option when picking up their prescriptions.

➤ Medical: Patients primarily requested in this area a reduction in the time it took to book appointments and also requested medication-assisted treatment options, as well as pediatric services. In response to all three of these needs, the Medical Department has met each of these challenges by reducing the appointment time slots to make room for additional appointments, introducing a medication-assisted treatment program, and has also brought on a Tribal member pediatrician.

➤ Quality: The goal of quality was to decrease the amount of patient complaints and we have by 40 percent from 2018-19 through each of the departments taking an active stance in strategizing how to resolve patient concerns. Quality also achieved reaccreditation for the clinic through the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care. Quality also has made valiant strides at communicating with patients better through the access, usage and education of our Patient Portal system. Patients had commented on the clinic maintaining the longevity of our medical providers within the clinic and we are happy to report that all of our medical providers have remained within the clinic for two years.

➤ Lab/X-ray: Patients commented on wanting to have radiology services fully functioning again and this has been accomplished through creating a new contract in 2018. Since then we have been able to provide radiology services and have reduced the amount of external referrals for these services. We also have provided an opportunity for an on-call radiology technician position to open so that our patients will be able to receive services consistently.

➤ Community Health: Our patients requested more services focused on maternal/child health services as well as home visits and we've been able to increase those services significantly by bringing on additional staff, taking on new grants and providing more family-focused events.

➤ Dental: Patients requested that we have more pediatric dental services provided at the clinic and we've been able to assist with that through bringing on additional techniques and materials focused on pediatric care, thus reducing the need for as many external pediatric referrals.

➤ Behavioral Health: Our patients requested quite a few services to be expanded and added in this department, and as a result we have helped this through improving and expanding services in child and adolescent therapy, psychiatry, as well as gambling services. This is being accomplished through our current building expansion as well as hiring several new team members. The department also achieved recertification through the state of Oregon for the Behavioral Health Alcohol & Drug Treatment Program.

In the end, there were 15 different Tribes represented in this survey and we are happy to know that we serve such amazing patients. We thank you for your feedback and ask that you would continue to provide us with it as we conduct future surveys. Your feedback makes it possible for us to provide better services for you and your loved ones.

hayu-masi (much thanks)
Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Center

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde's Tribal Youth Prevention and Behavioral Health Programs invite you to take a healthy risk...

NEW YEAR'S EVE SOBRIETY EVENT



Frozen II
Jumanji 3
Spies of Disguise

McMinnville Cinema 8,
300 NE Norton Ln.,
McMinnville OR. 97128

There are 300 seats
available on a first-
come, first-served basis.

to choose from,
longest movie will start
first at 6 p.m.

popcorn combo
coupon per person.

Open to CTGR Tribal
Member Families.

Do not enter theater
before 5 p.m.

All movies will end at
the same time.

You MUST RSVP by
Dec. 21 with Shannon
Stanton at 503-879-1489

Plus one additional
guest per family.

Families will have three
movie options

You will get a \$10
concession coupon
per person & pop &

or email
Shannon.stanton@
grandronde.org.

This is a smoke-free event.

Thank you for respecting Grand Ronde's Tribal community and our culture by not displaying gang affiliation or by bringing alcohol or weapons to this event.