



PRESORTED  
STANDARD MAIL  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PORTLAND, OR  
PERMIT NO. 700

# Smoke Signals

An Independent Publication of the Grand Ronde Tribe  [www.smokesignals.org](http://www.smokesignals.org)

DECEMBER 15, 2019

UMPQUA ■ MOLALLA ■ ROGUE RIVER ■ KALAPUYA ■ CHASTA

## On-time graduation rates increase for Native students

By Danielle Frost  
*Smoke Signals staff writer*

The number of Native American students graduating high school within four years has increased in the Willamina and Sheridan school districts.

Willamina saw an 11-percent increase, from 71 percent in 2018 to 82 percent in 2019. Approximately 40 percent of the Willamina student population identifies as Native American/Alaska Native.

In Sheridan, the number increased from 60 percent in 2018 to 75 percent in 2019. Overall, the district has 5 percent Native American/Alaska Native students.

The graduation information was a part of Oregon's annual school report card, which provides a snapshot of the state's education system and includes data about students, teachers and schools. Statewide, the overall four-year graduation rate for all students is 78.7, with minority students at 73 percent.

"We had one of the best (increases) in the state," says Willamina School District Superintendent Carrie Zimbrick. "I would attribute this to the extra effort staff made to ensure students were completing the needed credits to get their diploma."

Sheridan School Superintendent Steven Sugg says the district has worked during the past two years to build stronger relationships with

See STUDENTS  
continued on page 9



Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez

From left, Siletz Tribal Council member Loraine Butler, Siletz Tribal Council Chairwoman Delores Pigsley, Grand Ronde Tribal Council member Denise Harvey and Grand Ronde Tribal Council member Michael Langley don hard hats before the start of a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Chemawa Station in Keizer on Monday, Dec. 9.

## Groundbreaking event

### Chemawa Station development moving forward

By Danielle Frost  
*Smoke Signals staff writer*

KEIZER — It's been 17 years in the making, but the Chemawa Station property will begin its first stage of construction soon.

The Confederated Tribes of

Grand Ronde and Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians marked that milestone on Monday, Dec. 9, with a blessing and groundbreaking event at the Keizer property, complete with golden-tipped shovels and a backhoe.

"Since 2002, Grand Ronde and

Siletz have had a vision for this site," said Grand Ronde Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy in a press release issued by both Tribes. "Today is the first

See CHEMAWA  
continued on page 8

## Community Fund approaches \$83 million mark in giving



Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez

By Danielle Frost  
*Smoke Signals staff writer*

The awarding of 19 large grants and seven small grants totaling \$699,660 on Wednesday, Dec. 11, propelled Spirit Mountain Community Fund to almost \$83 million in giving since it was started in 1997.

The 26 grants also increased the number of grants awarded during

the last 22 years to 2,810. The grants have been distributed to 1,165 nonprofit organizations in 11 northwest Oregon counties.

The Tribe's philanthropic entity held its fourth-quarter check presentation in the Governance Center Atrium. The Community Fund re-

See FUND  
continued on page 8

Constructing Hope Executive Director Pat Daniels accepts a grant from Spirit Mountain Community Fund Director Michael Cherry during the fourth-quarter Spirit Mountain Community Fund check presentation held in the Atrium of the Governance Center on Wednesday, Dec. 11.

# General Council meeting

11 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 5, 2020

Tribal Community Center

## NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings

DATE	TIME
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.

## 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 by calling the SSA at 1-800-772-1213 or go online at [www.ssa.gov](http://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](mailto: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. ■

## 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.

## LISTEN TO SMOKE SIGNALS 54 PODCASTS



“MAT PROGRAM; UNDERSTANDING THE TREATMENT-SEEKERS EXPERIENCE BETTER”

“Linda Gehrke, the new medication-assisted treatment supervisor at the Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Center, provides Smoke Signals podcast with more details on the MAT program from the perspective of a patient.”

To hear Linda Gehrke discuss the program, go to [www.speaker.com](http://www.speaker.com) and search for “Smoke Signals podcasts.”



For more information contact Kamiah Koch at (503) 879-1461 or [kamiah.koch@grandronde.org](mailto:kamiah.koch@grandronde.org)

Ad by Samuel Briggs III

# smok signalz

## PUBLICATIONS OFFICE

9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347

1-800-422-0232, FAX: 503-879-2173

Website: [www.smokesignals.org](http://www.smokesignals.org)

E-mail: [news@grandronde.org](mailto:news@grandronde.org)

Editorial.Board@grandronde.org

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

[www.facebook.com/SmokeSignalsCTGR/](https://www.facebook.com/SmokeSignalsCTGR/)

[www.youtube.com/channel/UCMDXdTzfGjzJ\\_j3NPpCrtcw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMDXdTzfGjzJ_j3NPpCrtcw)

**DEAN RHODES**  
 PUBLICATIONS  
 COORDINATOR  
 503-879-1463  
[dean.rhodes@grandronde.org](mailto:dean.rhodes@grandronde.org)

**DANIELLE FROST**  
 STAFF WRITER  
 503-879-4663  
[danielle.frost@grandronde.org](mailto:danielle.frost@grandronde.org)

**TIMOTHY J. GONZALEZ**  
 PHOTOJOURNALIST  
 503-879-1961  
[timothy.gonzalez@grandronde.org](mailto:timothy.gonzalez@grandronde.org)

**SAMUEL F. BRIGGS III**  
 GRAPHIC DESIGN  
 SPECIALIST  
 503-879-1416  
[samuel.briggs@grandronde.org](mailto:samuel.briggs@grandronde.org)

**JUSTIN PHILLIPS**  
 PAGE DESIGNER  
 503-879-2190  
[justin.phillips@grandronde.org](mailto:justin.phillips@grandronde.org)

**KAMIAH KOCH**  
 SOCIAL MEDIA/  
 DIGITAL JOURNALIST  
 503-879-1461  
[kamiah.koch@grandronde.org](mailto:kamiah.koch@grandronde.org)

DEADLINE DATE	ISSUE DATE
Friday, Dec. 20 .....	Jan. 1, 2020
Monday, Jan. 6 .....	Jan. 15, 2020
Tuesday, Jan. 21 .....	Feb. 1, 2020
Wednesday, Feb. 5 .....	Feb. 15, 2020
Wednesday, Feb. 19 .....	March 1, 2020
Friday, March 6 .....	March 15, 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**.



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

# 2019-20 Tribal Council

[tribalcouncil@grandronde.org](mailto:tribalcouncil@grandronde.org)

■ **Cheryle A. Kennedy**  
 Tribal Council Chairwoman  
 — ext. 2352  
[cheryle.kennedy@grandronde.org](mailto:cheryle.kennedy@grandronde.org)

■ **Jack Giffen Jr.**  
 — ext. 2300  
[jack.giffen@grandronde.org](mailto:jack.giffen@grandronde.org)

■ **Chris Mercier**  
 Tribal Council Vice Chair  
 — ext. 1444  
[chris.mercier@grandronde.org](mailto:chris.mercier@grandronde.org)

■ **Denise Harvey**  
 — ext. 2353  
[denise.harvey@grandronde.org](mailto:denise.harvey@grandronde.org)

■ **Jon A. George**  
 Tribal Council Secretary  
 — ext. 2355  
[jon.george@grandronde.org](mailto:jon.george@grandronde.org)

■ **Michael Langley**  
 — ext. 1777  
[michael.langley@grandronde.org](mailto:michael.langley@grandronde.org)

■ **Kathleen George**  
 — ext. 2305  
[kathleen.george@grandronde.org](mailto:kathleen.george@grandronde.org)

■ **Lisa Leno**  
 — ext. 1770  
[lialeno@grandronde.org](mailto:lialeno@grandronde.org)

■ **Steve Bobb Sr.**  
 — ext. 4555  
[steve.bobb@grandronde.org](mailto:steve.bobb@grandronde.org)



**December**

- Wednesday, Dec. 18 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., Governance Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.
- Saturday, Dec. 21 – Baby Moccasin Class, 11 a.m., Portland Satellite Office, 4445 S.W. Barbur Blvd., Portland. 503-879-2268.
- 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.
- Tuesday, Dec. 31 – Youth Council Youth Party, 9 p.m., Tribal gym, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. For ages 12-18. 503-879-1489.

**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.
- Wednesday, Jan. 15 – Seagrass Skirt Making Class, 5 p.m., Tribal Community Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2476.
- 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.

**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. ■

**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](mailto:court@grandronde.org) or 503-879-2303. ■

**Official Tribal Facebook pages**

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



**Grand Ronde Tribe seeking Reservation Act amendment**

By Dean Rhodes

*Smoke Signals editor*

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde is seeking an amendment to the 1988 Reservation Act that would allow it to bring a land claim within the state of Oregon.

A Tribal contingent of Tribal Council Vice Chair Chris Mercier, Tribal Attorney Rob Greene, Tribal Council Chief of Staff Stacia Hernandez and Summit Strategies partner Mark Dedrick visited Washington, D.C., during the week of Dec. 2-6 to lobby for the amendment.

Tribal representatives met with Reps. Suzanne Bonamici and Kurt Schrader and staff for Reps. Peter DeFazio, Greg Walden and Earl Blumenauer and Sens. Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley.

Language in a 1994 amendment to the Reservation Act relinquished the Tribe’s right to bring a land claim within the state of Oregon.

“This waiver was much broader than the parties intended at the time,” said Deputy Press Secretary Sara Thompson. “The Tribe is asking the Oregon congressional delegation to consider legislation that would remedy this injustice.”

In addition to meeting with the Oregon congressional delegation and its staff, the Grand Ronde representatives also met with staff associated with the House Subcommittee on Indigenous Peoples, the Senate Finance Committee, the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs and the House Committee on Natural Resources.

Thompson said the entire Oregon congressional delegation, except for Walden, is sponsoring or co-spon-



Contributed photo

**Tribal Council Vice Chair Chris Mercier visited with Oregon Rep. Suzanne Bonamici during the Tribe’s lobbying visit to Washington, D.C., during the week of Dec. 2-6. The Tribe is seeking an amendment to the 1988 Reservation Act that would allow it to bring a land claim within the state of Oregon.**

soring the legislation. Walden is the only Republican in the Oregon delegation of five representatives and two senators and has already announced his intention not to seek re-election in his district that represents most of eastern and southern Oregon.

Summit Strategies is the Tribe’s Washington, D.C., lobbying firm. ■



Contributed photo

**The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde received a donated restroom from Leach Botanical Garden in Portland on Wednesday, Nov. 20. The donation, valued at approximately \$25,000, was coordinated by Tribal member Kelly Ibabao and Facilities Manager Tyson Mercier.**

**Tribe receives donated restroom**

The Grand Ronde Tribe received a donated public restroom from Leach Botanical Gardens in Portland on Wednesday, Nov. 20.

Tribal member Kelly Ibabao, owner of Eugene William Construction of Salem and a subcontractor under JWF Fowler, coordinated the donation with Facilities Manager Tyson Mercier.

“The restroom is from my first public project where we were awarded the change order to reclaim with the intentions of restoration somewhere; just not demolish,” Ibabao said. “My first thought was our people and the abilities to reuse.”

Eugene William hired Maxim Crane for approximately \$6,000 to transport the 47,000-pound load to the Tribe. Ibabao put the value of the donation at approximately \$25,000.

Mercier said the donation was placed at the Tribe’s equipment storage facility until staff receives direction on where to place it.

Ibabao added that he is looking for a Native American artist to paint murals on the side of two new dump trucks he will be purchasing in March.

To contact Ibabao about painting the murals, send an e-mail to [kelly@ewconstructionllc.com](mailto:kelly@ewconstructionllc.com) or call 971-241-3172. ■

## Food Bank provides boxes, seeks help

The Grand Ronde Food Bank – *iskam məkʰmək 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. 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@marionpolkfoodshare.org](mailto:fambrose@marionpolkfoodshare.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 məkʰmək 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, Jan. 17. The public is welcome to attend. Chair: Siobhan Taylor. Contact: [Editorial.Board@grandronde.org](mailto: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](mailto:dean.rhodes@grandronde.org).

## 2020 Contest Powwow date changes to Aug. 14-16

The 2020 Contest Powwow will be held Aug. 14-16 and not the following weekend as tentatively listed in the recently released Tribal calendar.

Powwow Special Event Board Chair Dana Ainam said the Powwow SEB had been working to confirm the dates of the Siletz Tribe’s annual powwow due to Aug. 1 falling on a weekend. Ainam received confirmation after the calendar was sent to be printed by the Publications Department. The Grand Ronde Contest Powwow will be held Aug. 14-16 instead of the originally estimated date.

Tribal members are encouraged to check *Smoke Signals* for any events listed as “tentative” in the 2020 Tribal calendar as the event date approaches, said Publications Coordinator Dean Rhodes.

“Since we have to work so far ahead when creating the calendar, some event dates were still tentative when we had to send the document to our contactor,” Rhodes said.

For more information on the 2020 Contest Powwow, contact Ainam at 503-879-2037 or [dana.lenograndronde.org](mailto:dana.lenograndronde.org). ■



**2014** – General Council was briefed on the state of Tribal housing. Current housing included 61 Elder apartments, 108 family apartments and a 20-unit low income apartment complex set to open in March. Administrative Program Manager Joani Dugger reviewed the assistance programs administered by the Housing Authority, which included down payment assistance, medical adaptation grants, home repairs, Indian Health Service Water and Sanitation funding, rental assistance and student rental assistance.



2014

File photo

**2009** – Spirit Mountain Community Fund topped the \$49 million mark in giving. The fund awarded \$3.676 million in 2009 in its 11-county service area, with 120 large grants and 37 small grants. “This past year, SMCF experienced a significant increase in the number of grant applicants, which, in part, was reflective of the downturn in our economy,” Community Fund Director Shelley Hanson said.

**2004** – A lucky visitor to Spirit Mountain Casino struck it rich, walking away with \$1.9 million on the Wheel of Fortune machine. The jackpot was the largest in the history of Spirit Mountain Casino and the fourth largest payout in the state of Oregon. The winner, Lorene Alexan Anelon, lived in Alaska. She stopped in at the casino while visiting family. “I’ve never played Wheel of Fortune, but my family loves the game,” she said. “I put in \$100 and had \$66 left when I hit (the jackpot).”

**1999** – Deputy Director of Operations Chris Leno said that in the future he would like to see Tribal members given easier access to information about the various Tribal programs. Leno envisioned that access being available online. Leno used the Member Services program as an example of how technology could improve access. “They could go to a website and download the needed information right there or send information electronically,” he said. “I think we could reduce our administrative cost and allow people to focus on other things.”

**1994** – *Smoke Signals* featured Tribal Elder Nora Kimsey, then 86, referring to her as one of the most active Elders in the Tribe. “Nora can be seen at almost every Tribal function, meeting and event,” the article stated. Kimsey participated in Elders activities, arts and crafts, and at the time was one of the few Tribal members who could speak Chinuk Wawa. She and fellow Elder Ila Dowd traveled to Eugene, where they attended the Windows of the Past exhibit and told stories in their Native language.

**1989** – No December edition available.

**1984** – A health survey was being implemented by outreach workers Kathy Olson, Georgene Gillespie, AnnaBelle Hamm and Diana Harrison. The survey was being implemented to determine the needs of the Grand Ronde Tribe and what health services would be offered. All members were encouraged to participate.

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

# Tribal Council adopts changes to COLA allocations

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

Some Tribal employees received an early Christmas present.

Tribal Council approved final adoption of amendments to three ordinances that will, among other things, ensure that all Tribal employees receive the same cost-of-living adjustments granted to governmental employees during its Wednesday, Dec. 4, meeting.

The amendment to the Governmental Corporations Ordinance mandates that Tribal employees at Spirit Mountain Casino and Grand Ronde Station receive the same COLA as governmental employees.

In the last couple of years, Tribal governmental employees have received 2.5 percent COLAs in 2019 and 2018 and a 1.7 percent COLA in 2017. The largest COLA ever granted Tribal employees was 4.1 percent in 2004.

COLAs are not guaranteed, however. During the depths of the recent recession, COLAs were not granted in 2009 and '12.

Tribal Council also adopted the new General Welfare and the Elders' Retirement and SSI Program ordinances that make benefits under the Elders' and SSI programs available on a tax-free basis and the new ordinance affirms the Tribe's inherent sovereign right to promote the general welfare of the Tribe and provide qualifying assistance and program benefits on a tax-free basis to the fullest extent permitted by law.

In other action, Tribal Council:

- Approved a \$350 timber revenue member benefit distribution that accompanied the Dec. 13 per capita distribution of \$1,650;
- Approved an agreement that transferred an unspecified amount of Tribal funds into the

Baird Venture BVP V limited partnership investment;

- Approved a membership roll correction that corrected a number assigned in error;
- Approved the enrollment of an infant into the Tribe because he or she meets the requirements outlined in the Tribal Constitution and Enrollment Ordinance;
- Approved applying for two grants from the Environmental Protection Agency. The first grant, for \$350,000, would fund further environmental assessment work of remediation areas at the former Blue Heron Paper Mill site in Oregon City purchased by the Tribe in August. The second, valued at \$500,000, would fund cleanup of the Water Street block of the Blue Heron property;
- Approved applying for a \$25,000 Business Oregon Brownfields Redevelopment Fund integrated planning grant that would help fund brownfields planning activities at the Blue Heron site;
- Approved a contract with Whisler Construction for siding and roof repair work at the Noble Oaks conservation property outside of Willamina;
- And approved applying for federal Title VI Older Americans Act funding that would help pay for Elder site and home-delivered meals and caregiver services for Tribal members suffering from arthritis, high blood pressure, obesity and diabetes. During the last three-year funding period, the Tribe received \$348,840 for meals and \$134,430 for caregiver services.

The entire meeting can be viewed by visiting the Tribal government's website at [www.grandronde.org](http://www.grandronde.org) and clicking on the Government tab and then Videos. ■



Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez

**The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde officially took over ownership of the 62-acre Ahsney conservation property within the Rickreall Creek watershed in Polk County on Thursday, Dec. 5.**

## Tribe takes possession of Ahsney conservation property

RICKREALL – The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde officially took over ownership of the 62-acre Ahsney conservation property within the Rickreall Creek watershed in Polk County on Thursday, Dec. 5.

As with other conservation properties acquired by through Bonneville Power Administration's Willamette Wildlife Mitigation Program, the acquisition is funded by the BPA and includes funds for the Tribe to manage the properties ranging from Rattlesnake Butte in Lane County to Noble Oaks property outside of Willamina.

The Tribe's ownership of externally funded conservation lands now encompasses 1,885.33 acres.

Tribal management of the property will protect savanna and oak woodland habitat, native birds and threatened native plants.

The Power Administration acquires conservation properties as partial mitigation for wildlife habitat losses caused by the construction and operation of hydroelectric facilities in the Willamette River Basin.

Tribal Council approved acquiring the conservation property during its Sept 11 meeting. "Ahsney" means coyote in the central Kalapuya language.

The Ahsney property is less than a mile from the Basket Slough Wildlife Refuge north of Highway 22 between Grand Ronde and Salem.

"There are many benefits to Mother Earth, our relations, communities and the Tribe from this effort which, under the leadership of Tribal Council, is administered through the Tribal Lands and Natural Resources departments with the support from the Tribal Historic Preservation Office, Facilities, Finance and Tribal Attorney's Office," said Tribal Lands Manager Jan Looking Wolf Reibach. ■

### Attention: Native American Artists Hatfield Fellowship Logo Contest

Prize: \$500

Logo designs must be submitted in .JPEG file format to [info@thecomunityfund.com](mailto:info@thecomunityfund.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.thecomunityfund.com](http://www.thecomunityfund.com)

**QUESTIONS?** Please call 503-879-1400 or email us at [info@thecomunityfund.com](mailto:info@thecomunityfund.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.

## 'Tis the season



Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez

**Tribal member Veronica Gaston decorates a tree she named Ponderosa Pine Sol outside of the Grand Ronde Tribal Police Station on Grand Ronde Road on Wednesday, Dec. 4. Gaston donated the tree three years ago and has been decorating it for the past two years. She said that she spent \$100 on decorations.**

# General Council briefed on education issues

By Danielle Frost

*Smoke Signals staff writer*

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde has some of the highest rates of members with doctoral degrees among Native American Tribes.

"We have 13 doctors in our Tribe that we have helped fund," Education Committee Chair Tammy Galligher Cook said. "That is amazing."

Cook gave General Council an annual report on the Education Committee's work and Angela Fasana briefed them on the Education Department's programs during a meeting held Sunday, Dec. 1, at the Tribal Community Center.

"Our students are successful and we like seeing what is happening," Cook said.

Among 2018 higher education statistics, there are 105 Tribal members with certificates, 193 with associate degrees, 352 with bachelor's degrees, 107 with master's degrees and 13 with a Ph.D.

Other Education Committee highlights included having 680 children participate in the School Is Cool dance held during the Tribe's annual Contest Powwow in August and Western Oregon University being on-site that weekend. The college waived application fees and awarded scholarships to all Native American students who applied for admission at the powwow.



Photo by Danielle Frost

**Education Committee Chairwoman Tammy Galligher Cook addresses General Council during the Sunday, Dec. 1, meeting held in the Tribal Community Center.**

"This was a great opportunity to advance our mission to offer education to all Tribal members no matter what their age," Cook said. "This Tribe has incredible students and great staff members who help them out."

Fasana, who was named Education Department manager in September, touched on each program within the Education Department: Early Childhood Education, Youth Education, the Chinuk Language Program, Higher Education and the Tribal Library. Currently, the Education Department has 68 staff members and a budget of \$7.4

million.

"We have some great program managers within the department," Fasana said.

Highlights included:

- All spots within the five preschool programs are filled and the waiting list is small. This meets the goal of serving Tribal members and the community.
  - The Chinuk Language Program serves students from preschool to high school. There are currently 24 students enrolled in Willamina High School's Chinuk language class. If they successfully complete two years, students receive 24 linguistics credits from Lane Community College.
  - Summer Youth Employment had 59 students participating in 2019. They also attended five mandatory financial planning sessions and were offered job readiness training and skills.
  - The Youth Scholarship program offers \$100 per student in school supply funds. In 2018, \$69,800 was awarded.
  - There are currently 111 full-time college students among Tribal members, one of whom is studying abroad in Spain.
  - The Tribal Library had 5,491 patrons visit and the computers were used 597 times.
- "Some people don't have great

Internet at home or no Internet at all, so this is a good way for them to utilize the library," Fasana said.

Fasana took seven questions from the audience and Cook fielded one question.

Following the two presentations, Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy announced that the meeting would end promptly at 11:10 a.m. so that attendees could walk over to the Tribal Council Christmas Party occurring simultaneously in the Tribal gym.

The next General Council meeting will be held at 11 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 5, in the Tribal Community Center.

Serena Layman, Dawson Partridge, Dorene Gillespie, James Partridge and Leah Villa won the \$50 door prizes and Francene Ambrose, Virginia Kimsey-Roof and Shane Partridge won the \$100 door prizes.

In addition, nominations were held for four open seats on the Elders Committee. Julie Duncan, Cherie Butler, Virginia Kimsey-Roof and Serena Layman were nominated.

Voting will occur during the Elders Christmas Party on Wednesday, Dec. 18, at the Elders Activity Center and during the Jan. 5 General Council meeting.

The meeting can be viewed in its entirety by visiting [www.grandronde.org](http://www.grandronde.org) and clicking on the Government tab and then Video. ■

**Former Tribal Council Chairman Reyn Leno takes a photo of his grandchildren, Bailey Leno and Bryson Leno, with Santa Claus at the Tribal Council Christmas Party held on Sunday, Dec. 1, in the Tribal gym.**

Visit [Smoke Signals' facebook](https://www.facebook.com/smokesignals) page to see more photos



## Seasonal celebration

**Logan LaChance wears a holiday hat to the Tribal Council Christmas Party.**



**Photos by Kamiah Koch**



**Tribal Council Vice Chair Chris Mercier serves gravy during the meal portion of the Tribal Council Christmas Party.**

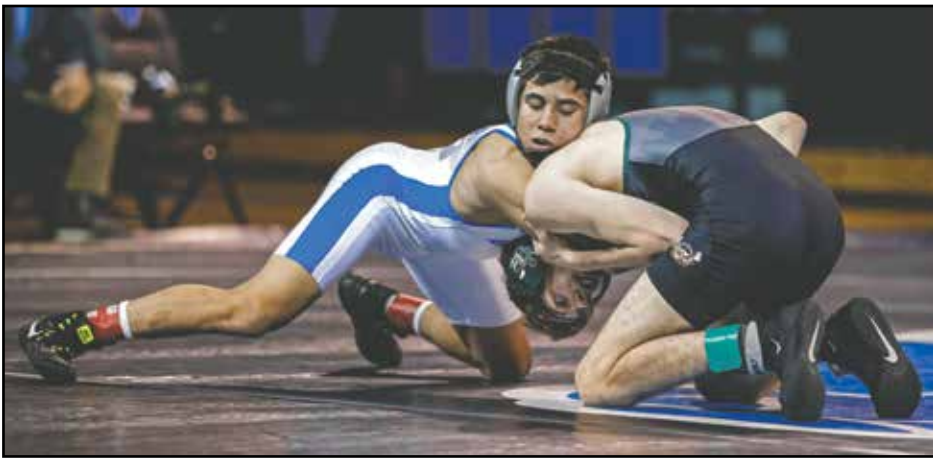


Photo by Paul Hokanson/UBBulls.com

**Tribal member and University at Buffalo freshman wrestler Jordan Reyes competes against Cleveland State's Logan Heil in a 125-pound match on Friday, Dec. 6.**

## Reyes wrestling as a freshman for University at Buffalo Bulls

By Dean Rhodes

*Smoke Signals editor*

Tribal member Jordan Reyes, a two-time Oregon state champion in wrestling at Willamina High School, is wrestling at the 125-pound weight class during his freshman year at the University at Buffalo in New York, a Division I school.

Head Coach John Stutzman said he has had to use Reyes right away on the team despite the coaching staff's desire to build him up to wrestle in the weight class. Reyes wrestled at 106 pounds in high school.

"He's been working hard and is an overachiever," Stutzman said in a phone interview. "He's got a great work ethic and is a super kid and a great student. At 125 pounds, he is a little fireplug and is battling hard."

Reyes won his second Oregon state wrestling championship in February as a senior in the 106-pound weight class. He also won the state title during his junior year in the same weight class and finished second during his freshman and sophomore years. He went 122-10 during his four years of wrestling at Willamina with six of his 10 losses occurring during his freshman year.

The University at Buffalo Bulls wrestling team is 2-5 in the early part of the season with duals losses to Purdue, Wisconsin, Cal State Bakersfield, Cal Poly and Cleveland State, and wins over Long Island University and West Virginia. The West Virginia win was the Bulls' first victory over a Big 12 school.

Reyes is 2-10 overall and 0-4 in duals so far in his college wrestling career. In duals, he has lost close matches to Cal Poly's Benny Martinez 2-0 and 4-3 to Cal State Bakersfield's Alejandro Hernandez-Figueroa. He lost 15-2 to Cleveland State's Logan Heil on Friday, Dec. 6, and 8-1 to West Virginia's Joey Thomas on Sunday, Dec. 8.

Upcoming duals will include the University of Missouri on Sunday, Dec. 15, and George Mason University on Sunday, Dec. 22.

To follow Reyes' college wrestling career, visit <https://ubbulls.com/sports/wrestling>. ■



Jordan Reyes

## 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, 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](mailto:editorial.board@grandronde.org)

## COME PARTY WITH YOUTH COUNCIL!

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2019 • 9 p.m. to Midnight

Tribal gymnasium • Ages 12 to 18

Lite snacks all night • Awesome door prizes  
Competition prizes • Giant board games  
Bouncy house competitions



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.

## 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. ■



### 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](mailto:CourtPrograms@grandronde.org) or call 503-879-4623.

# Chemawa Station located in prime spot

**CHEMAWA continued  
from front page**

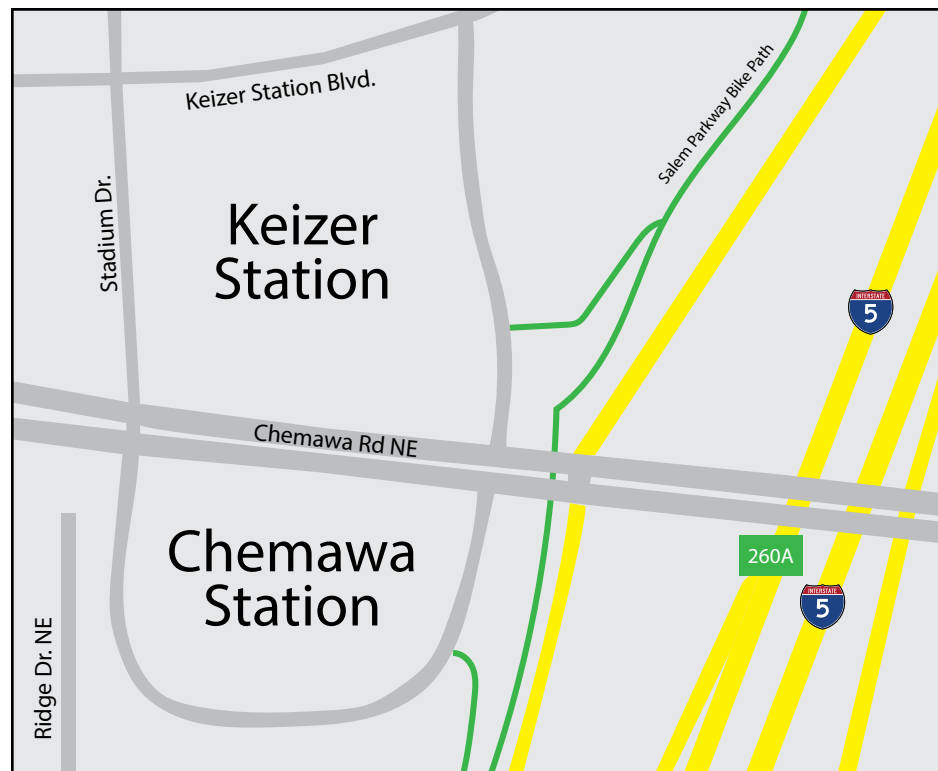
step in bringing that vision to life. Soon, families will gather here, dine here and work to support their families through the jobs that these businesses will provide. We couldn't ask for anything more."

The Chemawa Station site is located in a prime spot bordering Interstate 5 and Chemawa Road. To the north is the 237-acre Keizer Station development that includes transportation, retail shops, dining and a sports complex.

Grand Ronde Tribal Council members Jon A. George, Steve Bobb Sr., Denise Harvey and Michael Langley attended. They were joined by Chief of Staff Stacia Hernandez, Finance Officer Chris Leno, Engineering and Public Works Manager Jesse White, Senior Staff Attorney Jennifer Biesack and Deputy Press Secretary Sara Thompson.

The ceremony opened with a blessing and drum song by Cultural Advisor Bobby Mercier, Tribal Council Secretary Jon A. George, Harvey, Cultural Policy Analyst Greg Archuleta, Cultural Education Coordinator Jordan Mercier, Cultural Resources Department Manager David Harrelson and Prevention Coordinator Cristina Lara.

Members of the Chemawa Station Board of Directors were introduced by Siletz Tribal Chairwoman Delores Pigsley. They include Bobb



Map created by Samuel Briggs III



Sr., Harvey and Langley. Siletz members are Reggie Butler Sr., Loraine Butler and Lillie Butler.

"This has been a difficult and long process that began many years ago," Pigsley said. "This is the former Chemawa Indian School property. I used to pick fruit and play here as a child. ... It is quite historic that the land was given to us."

In 2002, the Federal Highway Administration transferred ownership of the 15.7-acre property to the Siletz and Grand Ronde Tribes under the Indian Self-Determination Act. The area is a part of the Grand Ronde Tribe's ceded homelands.

The two Tribes initially broke ground on the project in 2005, but couldn't finance it because of a pro-

vision within the act that permitted the federal government to take the property back if it were not used for economic development or natural resources. The clause caused concern among lenders who might potentially finance the project.

In 2007, President George Bush signed Public Law 110-78, which removed that provision. Since then, the two Tribes have been working together to further refine their collaborative vision for the development. They created Chemawa Station LLC to manage and explore options.

At its Nov. 6, 2019 meeting, the Grand Ronde Tribal Council approved an approximately \$1 million capital contribution to the Chemawa Station phase one development. Infrastructure improvements will support a gas station, a quick service restaurant and additional tenants.

Keizer Mayor Cathy Clark credited the Tribal leadership for bringing more economic opportunities to the community.

"We are very excited," Clark said. "Many people will be served by this and will benefit from it."

Langley said the Siletz Tribe is Grand Ronde's "closest cousins."

"I look forward to these projects, both now and in the future," he said.

Harvey recalled when the property was first given back to the Tribes in 2002.

"This is a very meaningful day for me," she said. "It's always been a passion and goal of mine to see this develop." ■

## Community Fund distributes 2,810 grants in 22 years

**FUND continued  
from front page**

ceives 6 percent of Spirit Mountain Casino proceeds to distribute to charitable groups in the areas of health, education, public safety and environmental preservation, among others.

The presentation opened with an invocation by Tribal Council member Steve Bobb Sr. and a prayer song by Tribal Council Secretary Jon A. George. Tribal Council member Denise Harvey, who served on the Community Fund Board of Directors, also attended.

Afterward, a video was shown that highlighted the history of the Tribe and Community Fund, as well as the work done by some past and current grant recipients.

"It is such an honor and a privilege to partner with you," Community Fund Executive Director Michael Cherry said.

This quarter's highlighted grant recipient was Lutheran Community Services Northwest of McMinnville, which received \$48,000 for its expansion of A Family Place Relief Nursery in Willamina. The nursery offers respite care to underserved children from birth to age 5 and their families through utilizing a specialized classroom, offering parent education and home visitations.

Harvey thanked the nonprofit

organizations for their work.

"The people of Oregon are so lucky to have you here," she said. "I truly appreciate the work you do."

Community Fund Program Coordinator Angela Sears announced grantees' names while Cherry, Board of Trustees Chair Chip Lazenby and Harvey shook recipients' hands.

"The joy of doing this is making the community and state a better place to live," Lazenby said.

Following the check presentation, Oasis Ministries of Portland won a Pendleton blanket that was raffled off.

Large grant recipients during the Dec. 11 event were:

- Falls City School District, \$50,000, for its FACES After-school Program;
- Neighbors For Kids of Depoe Bay, \$49,000, for its Family & Community Support project;
- Lutheran Community Services Northwest of McMinnville, \$48,000, for A Family Place Relief Nursery expansion;
- Mental Health For Children Inc. of Springfield, \$50,000, for its ABA-Autism Research and Treatment Clinic capital construction project;
- CASA For Children Inc. of Portland, \$36,539, for its Strategies for Strengthening Diversity, Equity & Inclusion project;
- Bridge Meadows of Beaverton,

\$38,500, for Strengthening Communities Through Intergenerational Health and Well Being program;

- One Hope, \$9,711, for reducing trauma of vulnerable children in Florence;
- Advantage Smiles for Kids of Portland, \$44,000, for providing necessary orthodontic treatment for under-resourced youth;
- Oregon Health & Science University Foundation of Portland, \$38,500, for OHSU Wy'East Pathway: Increasing Native American Physicians;
- Benton Furniture Share of Corvallis, \$15,400, for its Life is Better When a House is a Home program;
- Albertina Kerr Centers Foundation Inc. of Portland, \$38,500, for Albertina Kerr program operations support;
- Volunteers of America Inc. of Portland, \$38,500, for its Family Relief Nursery;
- Lines For Life of Portland, \$40,000, for its YouthLine suicide prevention effort in schools;
- Perrydale Domestic Water Association, \$38,500, to repair the Decade-Brown Road drinking water booster;
- College Possible of Portland, \$15,400, for its intensive summer transition programming for graduating high school seniors;
- Verde of Portland, \$38,310, for

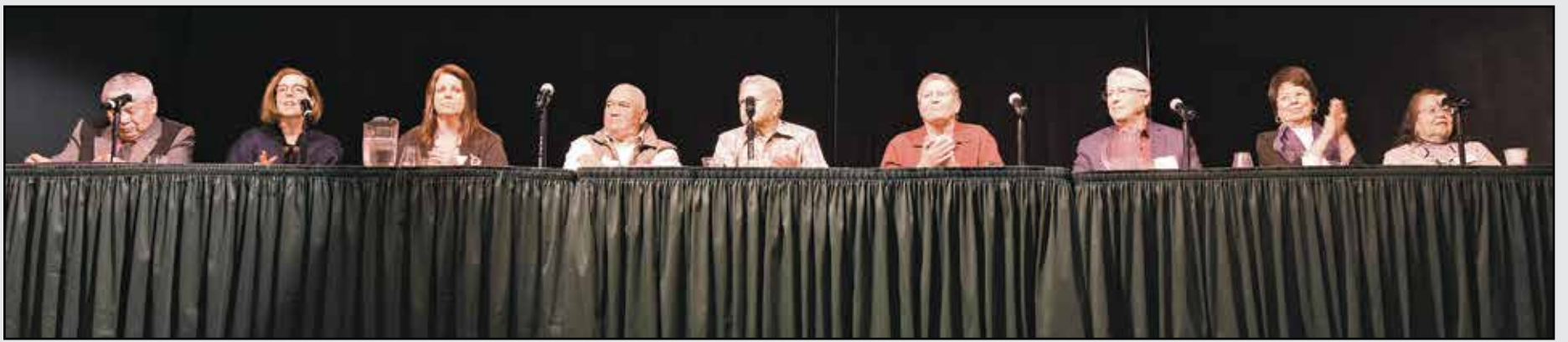
community-led action for environmental justice in Cully;

- Constructing Hope of Portland, \$30,000, for a job developer for construction career placement and retention;
- Dundee Fire-Rescue Volunteers, \$19,250, for extrication equipment;
- And CAUSA Oregon of Salem, \$11,550, for immigrant family community navigation and resources.

Small grant recipients during the Dec. 11 event were:

- American Military Encouragement Network of Damascus, \$7,500, for feeding military families and support for veterans, soldiers' families and children;
- Oasis Ministries Portland, \$7,500, for Homeless Life Packs;
- Our House of Portland Inc., \$7,500, for Esther's Pantry expansion project;
- Solar Energy International of Portland, \$7,500, for solar job readiness women's training;
- The ALS Association Oregon and Southwest Washington Chapter, \$5,000, for its ALS medical support program;
- Volunteer Caregivers of Albany, \$7,500, for transportation services;
- And World Stage Theatre of Portland, \$7,500, for the greater Portland region August Wilson Monologue competition. ■





Photos courtesy of Wil Phinney/Confederated Umatilla Journal

**Grand Ronde Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy, right, joined other Tribal leaders at the annual Tribal-State Summit held Tuesday, Dec. 3, at the Wildhorse Resort & Casino on the Umatilla Indian Reservation outside of Pendleton. Gov. Kate Brown, second from left, attended the summit, which discussed issues of importance to and cooperation between Oregon’s nine federally recognized Tribes and the state. It was the first time in 10 years that the summit has been hosted by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. Kennedy said the value of the summit occurred in the networking with other Tribal heads and state department employees.**

# Eastern Oregon summit

**Tribal Council member Jack Giffen Jr., fourth from left, brought in the Grand Ronde Tribal flag during the annual Tribal-State Summit held Tuesday, Dec. 3, at the Wildhorse Resort & Casino on the Umatilla Indian Reservation outside of Pendleton. Giffen joined Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy, Secretary Jon A. George and Tribal Council members Kathleen George and Michael Langley at the summit.**



## ‘We know we must support students from day one’

**STUDENTS continued from front page**

the Tribe.

For example, teachers and administrators meet several times a year to discuss student progress and how to best support each student. In January, the Tribe’s Education Department will speak at assemblies at Faulconer-Chapman and Sheridan High School.

“We are planning events to educate all of our students about Tribal traditions and helping them feel comfortable and supported in our schools,” Sugg says.

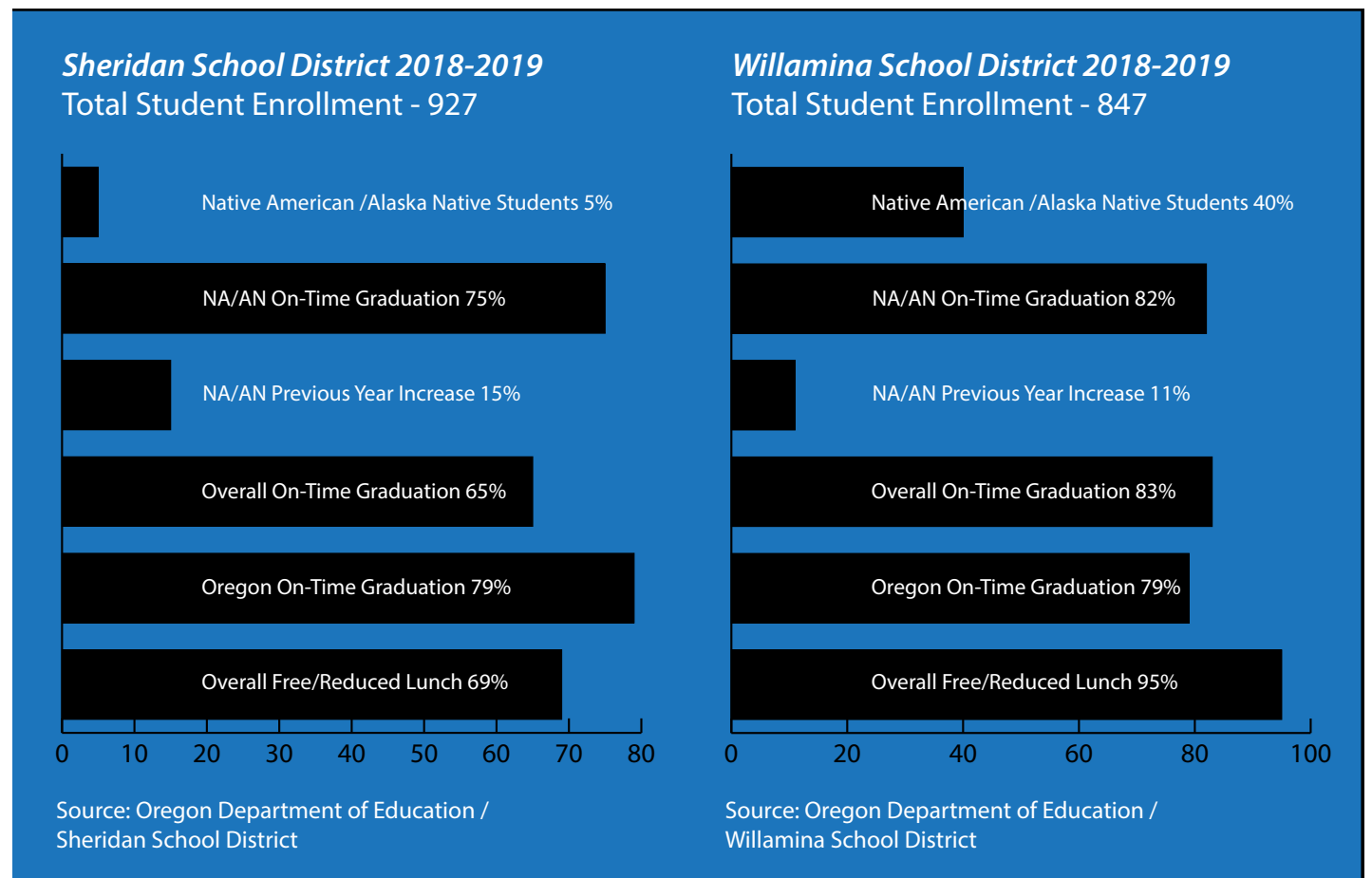
Historically, on-time graduation rates for Native Americans and Alaska Natives have lagged behind white students, but this is changing.

“Overall our (Native) students have performed relatively equal to all other subgroups,” Zimbrick says. “I would point out the strong investment the (Grand Ronde) Tribe has made in education overall: Quality preschool programs, afterschool programs, tutors during the school year and summer programs.”

She notes that Willamina High School’s Life Education for Alternative Directions also has been instrumental.

“Mrs. (Heather) Hughes, who runs our alternative education program has done an amazing job building relationships with students in her program,” Zimbrick says. “She has helped students that are credit deficient get back on track and graduate.”

Willamina has three goals district-wide to improve graduation outcomes for all students. These



Graph created by Samuel Briggs III

are focusing on core academics such as math and reading, improving school culture by creating an atmosphere where students are cared for and want to attend class, and addressing equity concerns by defining what it means and how current policies and procedures have an effect.

“Graduation is the most important goal for all students and it begins in kindergarten,” Zimbrick says. “We know we must support students from day one upon entering our schools.”

To encourage on-time graduation,

the district developed an “early warning system” of monitoring attendance, behavior and course performance. The district also has placed emphasis on the career technical education options, and notes that students who participate in those classes have a higher graduation rate.

“Last year our CTE participants had a graduation rate of 97 percent and our CTE completers who take five or more classes had a 100-percent graduation rate,” Zimbrick says.

Studies have shown that proper

nutrition has a direct effect on school performance. In Willamina, more than 95 percent of the student population receives free and reduced lunches.

“Poverty is definitely a challenge, but it is possible to be a high poverty and high performing district,” Zimbrick says. “We know we need to meet basic needs in order to educate our students. We feed student four to five times a day at no cost to any student, offer school supplies and clothing as needed, and most importantly build relationships that are genuine and caring.” ■

# Elders' open house



Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez

**Nutritional Assistant Patti LeClaire offers cookies during the Elders Activity Center open house on Monday, Dec. 2. The Elders festively decorated the building and offered baked cookies and hot cocoa to attendees.**

# St. Michael's offers brunch

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

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

Respect yourself. Protect yourself.  
**Get yourself tested.**

### Polk County Public Health services:

#### Reproductive Health Clinic

- Personalized birth control options based on your needs
- Annual exams
- Pap and breast exams
- Pregnancy planning and testing

#### Other Services:

- STD screening, testing and treatment
- Immunizations
- Home visiting program for children
- HIV Case management



182 SW Academy St., Suite 302  
Dallas, OR 97338

Details at: [www.co.polk.or.us](http://www.co.polk.or.us) • Call for appointment: 503-623-8175

Paid ad

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Powwow Special Event Board is seeking Native Artists for the 2020 Annual Contest Powwow logo.

**Please submit your logo designs in black and white & full color.**

Mail or email designs to:

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Powwow SEB  
9615 Grand Ronde Road  
Grand Ronde, OR 97347

Email: [shannon.simi@grandronde.org](mailto:shannon.simi@grandronde.org)



**Deadline to submit designs is  
Friday, January 31st, 2020 by 5:00 p.m.**

Questions: please contact Dana Ainam at 503-879-2037 or Shannon Simi at 503-879-1358.

## Become a Tribal Water Operator

### Keeping Tribal Communities Safe One Drop at a Time

For more information, please contact your local tribal utility or the ITCA Tribal Water Department at 602-258-4822.

This is based upon work supported under a grant by the Rural Utilities Service, United States Department of Agriculture. Any opinions, findings and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Rural Utilities Service.

Paid ad

# SEAGRASS SKIRT MAKING CLASS

**WHEN**  
January 15<sup>th</sup>  
5pm – 7pm

**WHERE**  
Grand Ronde  
Community Center

Indigenous Project LAUNCH Parent Partner, Brian Krehbiel, is offering a mother/daughter grass skirt making class. This will be for children ages 0-9 and a mother or mother figure; grandma, auntie, sister, etc. if possible.

Please RSVP with Keri Kimsey @ 503-879-2476 or email [keri.kimsey@grandronde.org](mailto:keri.kimsey@grandronde.org)



**FREE CLASS**

**FIRST COME  
FIRST SERVE.  
LIMITED TO 10  
SPOTS**

**DINNER WILL  
BE PROVIDED**

# Attention All Artisans

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde 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 July 1, 2020



Must submit photos of progress when requested

Bid Deadline is Jan. 31, 2020 (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 Road  
Grand Ronde, OR 97347

Questions: Call Chelsea at 503-879-1418 or email [chelsea.clark@grandronde.org](mailto:chelsea.clark@grandronde.org)

\*Bids and designs can be sent to the above email address.

Ad by Samuel Briggs III

# Fee assistance

Enrolled Tribal members can request assistance with test fees (i.e. GRE, SAT, LSAT, ACT) and admissions application fees. Contact Higher Education for more information at 1-800-422-0232, ext. 2275. ■

## 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...

Great information, a great paper on Tribal life

Like Comment Share

Write a comment...

# Free Playgroup in Grand Ronde!



**When:** First Thursday of each month 10:00 am-11:30 am

**Where:** CTGR – Community Service Center 9615 Grand Ronde Road Grand Ronde, OR 97347

**Who:** Parents and Caregivers of children under 5 years.

**Why:** Come to play, have a snack and have fun!



# Your health insurance could be free.



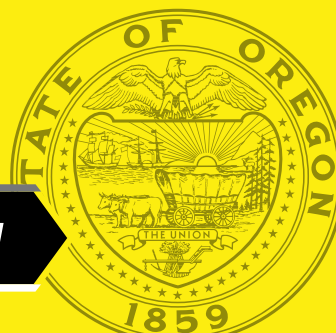
Health insurance can expand your options for getting the care you need. It covers a wide variety of providers and services. If you're a member of a federally recognized tribe, you can sign up anytime, year-round. If you qualify, your insurance may even be free.

### 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**



## USDA Distribution

### ~ 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.*

Are you or is someone you love at risk of suicide?

**NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE™**

**1-800-273-TALK**  
www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Get the facts and take appropriate action.



### **Friday, Nov. 22**

- Citizen contact in the area of milepost 21 on Highway 18. It was a single vehicle crash of a car vs. deer.
- Reported theft in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Criminal mischief reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Citizen contact occurred in the area of Highway 18 and Hebo Road.
- Suspicious vehicle reported in the area of Hebo and Old Fort roads.
- Traffic stop occurred in the area of Grand Ronde and McPherson roads. The male and female in the vehicle were in violation of a restraining order. The male was arrested and transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.

### **Saturday, Nov. 23**

- Counterfeit bill reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Suspicious activity reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Theft reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway. The suspected male had a valid warrant. He was issued a citation for the warrant and released.

### **Sunday, Nov. 24**

- Assist outside agency in locating a person in the Sheridan area.
- Assist outside agency with a reported domestic disturbance in the Willamina area. A male was arrested by a Yamhill County Sheriff's Office deputy and transported to the Yamhill County Jail in McMinnville.
- Assist outside agency with a reported disturbance in the 27600 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Assist outside agency with reported suspicious activity in the Willamina area. A male was arrested for unauthorized use of a vehicle and other charges out of Tillamook County. He was turned over to Tillamook County deputies.
- A vehicle crash occurred in the area of milepost 12 on Highway 18. The driver was determined to be intoxicated and she was transported to Polk County Jail in Dallas for DUII.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 100 block of Wind River Drive.
- Assist outside agency in an attempt to locate an individual.

### **Monday, Nov. 25**

- Assist outside agency with a person found floating in the river near Sheridan. The male was deceased.
- Assist outside agency with a reported burglary in the Willamina area. The suspects could not be located.
- Assist outside agency with a reported hit-and-run in the 25700 block of Yamhill River Road. The suspect vehicle could not be located.
- Assist outside agency with a traffic stop in the area of milepost 24 on Highway 18. A male was arrested for DUII and transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.
- Assist outside agency with a reported domestic disturbance in the Willamina area.

### **Tuesday, Nov. 26**

- Assist outside agency with a reported assault in the Grand Ronde area. A male was arrested by Polk County deputies.
- Check welfare in the 24700 block of Grand Ronde Road. A male was found in his home in need of medical attention. He was transported to hospital.

### **Wednesday, Nov. 27**

- Assist outside agency with an information request in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Reported telephonic harassment in the Grand Ronde area.
- Assist outside agency with a crash in the area of milepost 20 on Hebo Road. The road was closed for short time while the vehicles were removed from roadway.
- Assist outside agency with a traffic stop in the area of Hebo Road and Highway 18. A passenger in the vehicle had a valid warrant from Lane County. A Yamhill County deputy transported the male to the Yamhill County Jail in McMinnville.
- Reported domestic disturbance in the 9600 block of Tilixam Circle.
- Disorderly conduct reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway. A female was transported to the Polk Coun-

ty Jail in Dallas.

### **Thursday, Nov. 28**

- Assist outside agency with a welfare check in the 27600 block of Andy Riggs Road.
- Assist outside agency with a vehicle fire in the area of milepost 25 on Highway 18.
- Driving complaint received in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway. A male driver was arrested for driving under the influence of marijuana, reckless endangering and on a valid warrant. He was transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.
- Driving complaint reported in the area of milepost 15 on Highway 18.
- Driving complaint received in the area of milepost 5 on Highway 18.

### **Friday, Nov. 29**

- Illegal parking reported in the area of milepost 21 on Highway 18.
- Traffic stop occurred in the area of milepost 28 on Highway 18. The female driver was driving while suspended (misdemeanor) and transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.
- Assist outside agency with a westbound pursuit on Highway 22 from the Salem area.
- Driving complaint received in the area of milepost 26 on Highway 18.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

### **Saturday, Nov. 30**

- Assist outside agency with citizen contact that occurred in the area of milepost 24 on Hebo Road.
- Reported trespass in the 9500 block of Raven Loop.
- Warrant attempt in the area of Highway 18 and AR Ford Road. The suspect was not caught.
- Citizen contact occurred in the area of milepost 20 on Highway 18.
- Reported trespass in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway. A male was transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.

### **Sunday, Dec. 1**

- Reported criminal mischief in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Welfare check performed in the 9600 block of Tilixam Circle.

### **Monday, Dec. 2**

- Assist outside agency with a vehicle crash in the area of milepost 3 on Highway 22.
- Traffic stop occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway. A male driver led officers on pursuit. The vehicle was eventually stopped and male driver was transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas for valid warrants and elude and theft charges.
- Assist outside agency with an armed robbery in the area of milepost 12 on Highway 18. A male suspect was arrested and handed over to Lincoln County deputies.
- Assist outside agency with a reported crash somewhere on Highway 18. Officers were unable to locate the crash site.
- Assist outside agency with reported shots fired in the area of Coast Creek Road.

### **Tuesday, Dec. 3**

- Illegal parking reported in the area of Tye Road.
- Drug complaint reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway. A male suspect was transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas and a female suspect was issued criminal citation for possession.

### **Wednesday, Dec. 4**

- Reported theft in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway. Keys were taken from the victim. The suspect was issued a criminal citation for theft and the keys were recovered.
- Assist outside agency with an attempt to locate a road rage driver.
- Reported hit-and-run in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 26800 block of Salmon River Highway. A male was transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas for restraining order violation.

### **Thursday, Dec. 5**

- Assist outside agency with a civil issue in the 27600 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Assist outside agency with cover on traffic stop in the area of milepost 20 on Highway 18.
- Assist outside agency with reported disorderly conduct in the area of Grand Ronde and Andy Riggs roads.

*Compiled by Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department Officer Clint Cardwell.*

*Walking On...*

**Roy Walter Zimbrick**

Dec. 19, 1933 – Nov. 26, 2019

Roy Walter Zimbrick was born Dec. 19, 1933, to Matt and Marie Zimbrick in Portland, Ore. He passed on Nov. 26, 2019.

He is survived by his wife, Joyce Zimbrick of Grand Ronde; son, Grant Zimbrick and his wife Dorothy of Denver, Colo.; daughter, Dana Wilson of Grand Ronde; grandchildren, Chris (Maria), Emily (Charles), Anna (Jono), Lee (Amanda), Vince (Candi), Max (Louisa and Oksana) and Karley (Cody); great-grandchildren, Austin, Ethan, Elias, Ava, Louisa, Nora and two on the way; brother, Richard Zimbrick and wife Violet of Grand Ronde; and many nieces, nephews, cousins and countless friends.



He was preceded in death by his daughter, Cristi Scholten; father, Matt Zimbrick; and mother, Marie Amacher.

Roy was raised on Rowell Creek Road in Valley Junction, Ore., and attended school in Valley Junction and Willamina. He excelled in every sport in school and was recruited to play college football, but due to a knee injury was not able to play.

He married the love of his life, Joyce Huddleston, on March 14, 1953. They raised their children in Willamina and later moved to their home on Rowell Creek in Valley Junction.

Roy had logged with his father Matt during his high school years and later started Zimbrick Logging with his brother Richard. They operated the company for 50 years.

Roy was an avid hunter, fisherman, "Legendary Logger" and one of a kind. He was a lifelong Bulldog supporter and was inducted into Willamina High School Hall of Fame in the spring of 2019. He was also a member of Willamina Christian Church.

He loved his family, community and all school sports. He gave freely to so many and will be remembered always for his generosity, love for his family and unforgettable stories.

Services were held at the Willamina High School gym on Saturday, Dec. 7. A reception followed.

In lieu of flowers, the family would like contributions be made to the sports and vo-ag programs at Willamina High School in Roy's memory. Make checks payable to Willamina High School.

**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. ■

**Baby Moccasin Class**



**Saturday  
December 21<sup>st</sup>  
11 AM to 4 PM**

**Portland Satellite Office  
4445 SW Barbur Blvd.  
Portland, OR 97347**

Instructor Joe Martineau is teaching a class on how to make baby moccasins in Portland on December 21st, this is a great class for beginners or anyone needing to refresh their moccasin making skills.

Spaces are limited to 12 participants, to sign-up: contact Flicka Lucero at 503-879-2268 or [flicka.lucero@grandronde.org](mailto:flicka.lucero@grandronde.org).

Youth 14 and under must be accompanied by an adult or guardian to assist with their projects.

Potluck style lunch, please bring a side dish, drinks, snacks or dessert.

**Afterhours health line**

Tribal members can contact the Afterhours Health Line for questions about health care concerns you may have when the clinic is not open.

You can reach the Afterhours Health Line by calling 503-879-2002 and follow the prompts.

The Afterhours Health Line will coordinate care and communicate with Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Center providers. ■

**ATTENTION**

**Grand Ronde Community and Employees**

**The CTGR Domestic Violence Program is looking for a NEW name!!**

**We need your help!**

Participants will receive a raffle ticket to be entered into a drawing. Prize will be distributed after NEW NAME has been chosen.

Please have your entry in by Friday, Jan. 10.

**How to Enter: Email [cassie.dandy@grandronde.org](mailto:cassie.dandy@grandronde.org) or [danielle.murrell@grandronde.org](mailto:danielle.murrell@grandronde.org) or stop by the Community Center and drop your entry into the box at the front desk!**

**Please be sure to include YOUR name and contact information so that you will receive your raffle ticket!!**

**We are asking that you only submit a word or words that you feel would be the best and most appropriate name for our program**



**DONATIONS REQUESTED**  
**Grand Ronde Language Education Building Project**

Funding obtained to date:	HUD ICDBG	\$500,000
	HUD IHBG	\$167,000
	BIA	\$70,000
		<b>\$737,000</b>

The Tribe is pursuing a new language building on the Tribal campus. While our current grant funding is for K-4, a larger building could serve both younger and older children. The new building would allow the Tribe to move the Lilo preschool class out of the rented modular classroom and give them room for more children.



The Tribe is reaching out to different foundations to help fund this endeavor. Foundations may contribute to the project but they want to see local community participation before they do. The Tribe would love to show these foundations how much the tribal community supports this effort through its willingness to donate. Please consider donating \$1, \$5, \$10 or \$20 to help give our students the space and the classrooms that they need. While a dollar here and there adds up, it also gives us a list of people who have donated and helps demonstrate our community support for the project.

Donations can be made by sending a check to the Tribe's Finance Department. The check should be made out to the "Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Tribe" with "for Language Bldg" specified on the notes line. Donations can be mailed to the Finance Department, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347. For more information please call Angela Fasana, Education Department manager, at 503-879-2284.






## 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.

**For any questions or comments, contact the Tribal Library at 503-879-1499 or e-mail [crystal.bigelow@grandronde.org](mailto:crystal.bigelow@grandronde.org)**

## UofO teaching program recruiting for Class of 2021

EUGENE – The šapsikwala 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 šapsikwala 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](http://education.uoregon.edu).

For help through the application process, send an e-mail to [sapsikwala@uoregon.edu](mailto:sapsikwala@uoregon.edu) or call 541-346-2454.



## Native Youth Night Out

“A great way to start out the new year!”

---

This is a CTGR Prevention Department activity in collaboration with the Youth Education Department. This will be a fun-filled & educational overnight event with Native students coming this January!

The overnight will include relevant youth workshops, team-building activities, visiting food carts and much more!

## Jan. 2-3, 2020

**For who?**

Native students who are currently in 8th through 12th grade.  
 Limited Openings!!! 12 girls and 12 boys!

Permission slips will be accepted starting on Dec. 10 through Dec. 27. This is a first-come, first-served sign-up! After the deadline, confirmation calls will be made for attendance and open spots will be filled. In addition, a full YED application must be on file. Permission slips and applications must be turned into the Youth Education Department.

For more information or to sign-up, please call the YED office at 503-879-2101

Ad by Samuel Briggs III

## Student Spotlights

### Reed Kyllonen

For first-grader Reed Kyllonen, life is a full plate of school, sports and family time. As one of the great-grandsons of the late Tribal leader Marvin Kimsey, Reed displays the personality traits one would wish for in any of our Tribal youth.

At home, Reed spends time with his mother, Tribal member Keri Kimsey, father Sean Kyllonen, brother Ben and the family dog Riley. Reed says that he likes to have family time, which includes going places together and doing fun stuff like watching movies and playing games.

Keri said that she and Sean are always amazed with his ability to pick up sports. The family also appreciates his caring attitude toward others, persistence in keeping up with his older brother and cousins, as well as his inquisitive nature.

At Willamina Elementary School, Reed is in T.J. Vice’s classroom. His favorite classes at Willamina are technology and physical education. His favorite game is dodgeball. When the school day ends, Reed attends the K5 Afterschool Program in Grand Ronde. As part of the Ina K/2 classroom, Reed enjoys gym and library time, hanging out with his friends and playing in the Youth Education covered area with the older boys.

Reed’s favorite colors are green and red. He roots for the Portland Trail Blazers, Minnesota Vikings and University of Oregon Ducks, likes to play baseball and football, loves to eat sloppy Joes, pepperoni pizza and bananas, and Batman is his favorite superhero.

It is an honor to recognize first-grader Reed Kyllonen in this Student Spotlight. We, along with teachers and his family, look forward to seeing Reed’s continued excellence in the classroom at Willamina, in the many athletics that he participates in and as a young leader in the Grand Ronde Tribal community.



Reed Kyllonen

*By Matt Bucknell,  
 CTGR K5 Elementary Supervisor*

### Vivyan Lopez

Youth Education is honored to recognize Vivyan Lopez for this month’s Student Spotlight.

Vivyan is a junior at Willamina High School and a Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Tribal member. She is involved in various activities including cheerleading and Club Med all while maintaining a high GPA and staying focused in school.

Even before her senior year, Vivyan is already looking ahead and working diligently so that she can pursue her dreams after high school. When asked about the reason for her academic success, she said, “I want to get into a good college, so I try hard to get good grades.”

Her motivation is incredible as she has already decided that she wants to be a veterinarian for her career and has made goals for herself to plan for her future. She hopes to specifically focus on animal rescue as a veterinarian.

Vivyan joins Youth Education in Guided Study at Willamina High School at the end of the day and is a positive role model and peer to everyone she encounters.


Youth Education High School Lead and Guided Study Teacher Kaylee Oakes said: “Every day Vivyan walks into school with a smile on her face. She works hard, is friendly to everyone she encounters, and strives for excellence. It has been really fun getting to know Vivyan and she is a joy to have in class.”

Vivyan’s advice to other students is, “Ask questions and try to stay focused while you are in class.”

*By Kaylee Oakes, Lead High School Tutor/Guided Study Teacher*



Vivyan Lopez



# TEACH

our children  
our stories

**BECOME A TEACHER.  
 APPLY TO AITP**

[www.pdx.edu/aitp](http://www.pdx.edu/aitp)

AMERICAN INDIAN TEACHER PROGRAM



# 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.*

## Appointments available in Optometry at the Health & Wellness Center

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

## Are you prepared for the Holidays?



- 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**

## Pharmacy pricing

The Grand Ronde Pharmacy has made several adjustments to drug pricing to better align with regulatory rules of the drug subsidies used in the Pharmacy. The change will only affect patients who are seen in the clinic and are on the Tribal spouse or employee plan. Other Natives and those without insurance seen in clinic also will see a change. The expected change on a 90-day supply of a generic medication is about \$4. In cases where a generic is not available, Pharmacy staff is trained to help identify less expensive alternatives or use manufacturer's coupons to help patients keep their drug costs down as much as possible. Please plan ahead and if you are likely to be affected. Contact Pharmacy staff to explore ways to keep your costs down.

## Free Holiday Pictures!!!

**Friday, Dec. 20th, 2019, 1-3 p.m. at the Clinic**  
**Pictures with all the characters and Santa!!!**  
**Call 503-879-2078 for questions**



- Know when to quit
- Don't chase your losses

Prevention, harm reduction, treatment and safe gambling



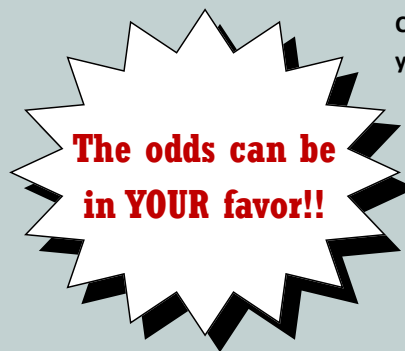
We can help with responsible gambling

### Are you having problems with gambling?

Please meet Sergio Gutierrez, CADC-1, CGAC-1 Chemical Dependency and Gambling Addiction Counselor. Sergio works at the CTGR Behavioral Health Department twice a month from 8:00-5:00pm. Sergio has been practicing since 1997 and is versatile in his knowledge pertaining to gambling addiction. He is ready and eager to help our members in any way he can.

Call now for availability and to make your appointment:

**503-879-2026**



Gambling Hotline:  
1-877-MY-Limit (1-877-695-4648)  
or Text 503-713-6000

## Native Wellness Women's Retreat

*Women Inspiring Women, Personal Growth and Development*

12/20/2019

Location: CTGR Community Center 9615 Grand Ronde Rd. 97347

Time: Friday December 20th, 2019

9am- 4pm

Topics include empowerment, healthy relationships, self-care tools, and CRAFTS!

Breakfast and Lunch Provided!!

Please RSVP by Wednesday December 18th

RSVP:

Cassie.dandy@grandronde.org

503-879-1487

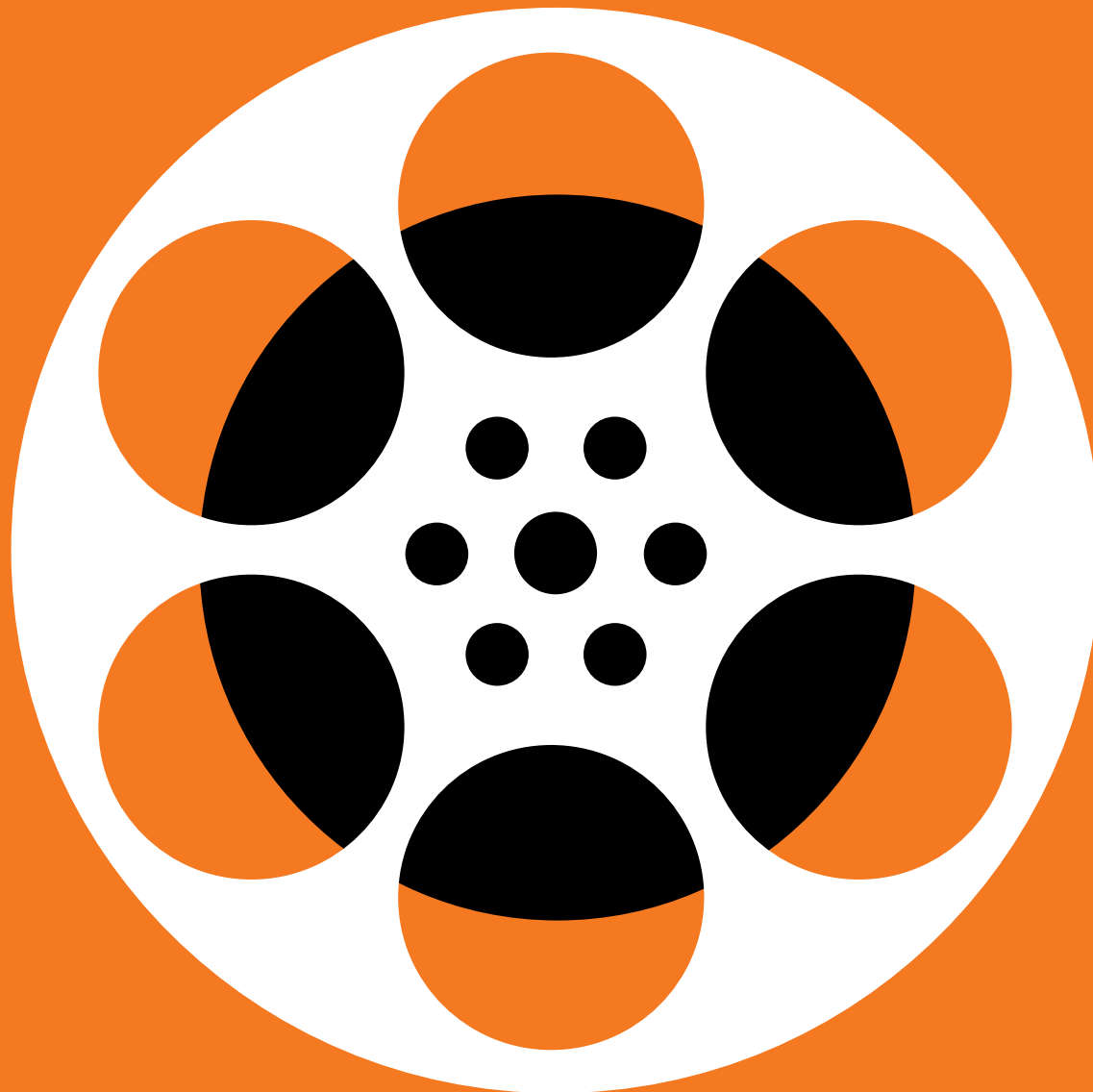
Danielle.murrell@grandronde.org

503-879-1660

NO CHILDCARE AVAILABLE

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

Open to CTGR Tribal  
Member Families.

Plus one additional  
guest per family.

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

Do not enter theater  
before 5 p.m.

Families will have three  
movie options

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

All movies will end at  
the same time.  
You will get a \$10  
concession coupon  
per person & pop &

popcorn combo  
coupon per person.

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