Empey working to increase number of Native physicians

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

For Native American patients, the chances that their doctor would be a Native American or Alaskan Native were never good, but over the last decade those chances have gotten worse.

According to statistics compiled by the Association of American Indian Physicians, the percentage of Native American and Alaskan Native students in medical school decreased from 0.39 percent in 2006-07 to 0.2 percent in 2017-18.

In 2016, there were only 935 Native registered nurse graduates nationwide, a slight decrease from earlier years.

To combat the declining number of Native Americans entering health care professions, the Northwest Native American Center for Excellence at Oregon Health & Science University in Portland was formed as a collaboration between the school, Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board and Portland State University.

Tribal member Allison Empey, who works at the Tribal health clinic part-time as a pediatrician, is the deputy director of the Center for Excellence, which is made possible through a five-year grant from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, OHSU School of Medicine and the support of all 43 Tribes in the Pacific Northwest.

See EMPEY continued on page 6

New Behavioral Health administrator seeks to support program, providers

Danielle Frost
Smoke Signals staff writer

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde has its first Behavioral Health administrator.

Caroline Suiter, 41, began working for the Tribe in November. The new position was created as part of a reorganization within the program.

“This position will support our providers and program so that our providers can focus on great patient care,” Health & Wellness Center Business Office Manager Tresa Mercier says. “I think Caroline’s experience and education makes her a great fit for the Behavioral Health program. She has a calming energy about her with fresh ideas and program so that our providers can focus on great patient care,” Health & Wellness Center Business Office Manager Tresa Mercier says. “I think Caroline’s experience and education makes her a great fit for the Behavioral Health program. She has a calming energy about her with fresh ideas and

See HEALTH continued on page 5

Tribal Council sells, buys land in Portland metro area

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

Tribal Council approved purchasing this 20,000-square-foot lot on Southeast 82nd Avenue in Portland. The purchase price and intended use for the property were not disclosed.

Tribal Council approved the sale of 4.67 acres of the former Multnomah Greyhound Park in Wood Village and the purchase of property along 82nd Avenue in Portland during its Wednesday, Dec. 18, meeting.

The sale of a portion of the former 31-acre Greyhound Park, which the Tribe purchased in December 2015, will be to the city of Wood Village and involves wetlands that cannot be developed because of a conservation easement.

Tribal Lands Manager Jan Michael Reibach said during the Tuesday, Dec. 17, Legislative Action Committee meeting that the property is being sold at fair market value and will benefit whenever eventually develops the property.

After purchasing the Greyhound Park property, the Tribe paid

See LAND continued on page 7
NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings

DATE TIME
Wednesday, Jan. 8 .......................................................... 4 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 22 ......................................................... 4 p.m.

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

General Council meeting
11 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 5
Tribal Community Center

Dear Smoke Signals:

Dear Tribal members and family, with my deepest apology, I am so sorry for my mistake.

In regards to the article in the Dec. 1 Smoke Signals, I did not comment at the time as I had not made a plea as the article claimed. On Dec. 19, I made a plea of guilty.

This last summer, I was under a great deal of stress. I made some poor decisions and my husband didn’t even know. I was an emotional roller-coaster from the first of May through now.

I resigned from the Elders Committee the first part of August and I opened up to my husband. When I resigned, I admitted my guilt and told the committee I would start paying the money I had used back immediately. Two years later, my husband took my first payment of $1,100 to them.

We had to move the first of September because our two grandchildren had been placed with us June 1 and my house was way too small. On Sept. 28, I was cited for Theft I, which is a felony. I fell into a deep hole and wanted to die. I_contemplated suicide. Three days later, I ended up in the hospital. If it wasn’t for my family forcing me to go to the hospital, I might have died.

I just couldn’t figure out why two of my family members at the Elders Center didn’t even try to reach out to me as they knew I was struggling emotionally and why when I agreed to pay them back the money and had already started paying it back they still pressed charges against me.

The first of October, I paid back the balance of what I owed. Then when I went to my first hearing they nailed me with a second felony. Believe me when I say this and other things devastated my life. I lost good friends and family. I have had a mental breakdown. So yes, this article made me look very bad by the comments that were made.

Two weeks before my last hearing, my attorney received the restitution letter form from the Polk County District Attorney that stated I still owed money. The day of my last hearing, I paid the balance of what I owed. I have never been in trouble in my 64 years of life. Believe me when I say I was scared to death. I was facing 10 years in prison. I received two years probation, a fine and 120 hours of community service. When I am well, I plan on doing this community service at the Tribe. The judge did not feel I was capable of doing it in the condition I was in, but I told her when I was well enough that I would try.

So now I’m just trying to put back together what life I have. My mental health has caused me to have to give up my grandchildren that I love with all my heart and they need us right now very badly. They were going through enough without grandma and grandpa falling apart. I am trying to heal mentally and physically.

I want to thank General Manager David Fullerton for clearing up the fact that someone told the DA they wanted me banned from the Elders Activity Center and all Tribal events. I hope I can build trust back up with all my Tribal family! Once again, I am truly sorry!

Julie Little
Roll #1899

(Edited’s note: This letter exceeds the newspaper’s 400-word limit, but we felt it was important to let Mrs. Little have her say unimpeded by the word count.)

Editorial Policy
smok signflz, 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 signflz reserves the right to edit letters and to refuse letters that are determined to contain false 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 signflz.

Tribal Council

TRIBALCOUNCIL@GRANDRONDE.ORG

CHERYLE A. KENNEDY TRIBAL COUNCIL CHAIRWOMAN — EXT. 2352

CHERYLE.KENNEDY@GRANDRONDE.ORG

JACK GIFFEN JR. — EXT. 2300

JACK.GIFFEN@GRANDRONDE.ORG

CHRIS MERCIER TRIBAL COUNCIL VICE CHAIR — EXT. 1444

CHRIS.MERCIER@GRANDRONDE.ORG

DENISE HARVEY — EXT. 2353

DENISE.HARVEY@GRANDRONDE.ORG

MICHAEL LANGLEY — EXT. 1777

MICHAEL.LANGLEY@GRANDRONDE.ORG

JON A. GEORGE TRIBAL COUNCIL SECRETARY — EXT. 2355

JON.GEORGE@GRANDRONDE.ORG

LISA leno — EXT. 1770

LISALENO@GRANDRONDE.ORG

KATHLEEN GEORGE — EXT. 2305

KATHLEEN.GEORGE@GRANDRONDE.ORG

STEVE BOBB SR. — EXT. 4555

STEVEBOBB@GRANDRONDE.ORG

2020
TRIBAL COUNCIL

2020
CHERYLE A. KENNEDY TRIBAL COUNCIL CHAIRWOMAN — EXT. 2352

CHERYLE.KENNEDY@GRANDRONDE.ORG

JACK GIFFEN JR. — EXT. 2300

JACK.GIFFEN@GRANDRONDE.ORG

CHRIS MERCIER TRIBAL COUNCIL VICE CHAIR — EXT. 1444

CHRIS.MERCIER@GRANDRONDE.ORG

DENISE HARVEY — EXT. 2353

DENISE.HARVEY@GRANDRONDE.ORG

MICHAEL LANGLEY — EXT. 1777

MICHAEL.LANGLEY@GRANDRONDE.ORG

JON A. GEORGE TRIBAL COUNCIL SECRETARY — EXT. 2355

JON.GEORGE@GRANDRONDE.ORG

LISA leno — EXT. 1770

LISALENO@GRANDRONDE.ORG

KATHLEEN GEORGE — EXT. 2305

KATHLEEN.GEORGE@GRANDRONDE.ORG

STEVE BOBB SR. — EXT. 4555

STEVEBOBB@GRANDRONDE.ORG

Health & Wellness Center Entrance

Reminder: The drive-through entrance at the Health & Wellness Center is for loading and unloading only.

The entrance was built with our Elders and those with mobility issues and their ease of access in mind.

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

Thank you,
Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Center Administration

Tribal Office Closures

Tribal offices will be closed on Monday, Jan. 20, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

____

2 JANUARY 1, 2020

SMOKE SIGNALS

smok signflz

PUBLICATIONS OFFICE

9615 GRAND RONDE ROAD, GRAND RONDE, OR 97347
1-800-422-0232, FAX: 503-879-2173

WEBSITE: WWW.SMOKE SIGNALS.ORG
E-MAIL: NEWS@GRANDRONDE.ORG
EDITORIAL BOARD@GRANDRONDE.ORG

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

DANIELLE FROST
STAFF WRITER
503-879-4663
 DANIELLE.FROST@GRANDRONDE.ORG

TIMOTHY J. GONZALEZ
PHOTOJOURNALIST
503-879-1964
 TIMOTHY.GONZALEZ@GRANDRONDE.ORG

SAMUEL F. BRIGGS III
GRAPHIC DESIGN SPECIALIST
503-879-1446
SAMUEL.BRIGGS@GRANDRONDE.ORG

JUSTIN PHILLIPS
FACE DESIGNER
503-879-2190
 JUSTIN.PHILLIPS@GRANDRONDE.ORG

KAMIAH KOCH
SOCIAL MEDIA/DIGITAL JOURNALIST
503-879-1446
 KAMIAH.KOCH@GRANDRONDE.ORG

DEADLINE DATE ISSUE DATE
MONDAY, JAN. 6 JAN. 15, 2020
TUESDAY, JAN. 21 FEB. 1, 2020
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 5 FEB. 15, 2020
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 19 FEB. 19, 2020
FRIDAY, MARCH 6 MARCH 15, 2020

2020
Tribal Council
Editorial Board adopts new Smoke Signals logo

The Grand Ronde Editorial Board voted unanimously during its Friday, Dec. 13, meeting to adopt a new logo for Smoke Signals that features a blue jay.

Blue jay is a fitting character to represent the Tribe’s independent newspaper because in oral histories it is known as a teller and conveyer of information.

“You will find stories of blue jay throughout myths and Ikanum connected to Grand Ronde,” says Cultural Resources Manager David Harrelson.

The Editorial Board – Chair Siobhan Taylor, Vice Chair Mia Prickett, Secretary Andy Jenness and members Monty Herron and Ron Karten – considered six logos designed by graphic designer Samuel Briggs III before arriving at a final decision.

The new logo debuts in the Jan. 1, 2020, edition of Smoke Signals, which has a new masthead. It uses the Trajan font, which is one of the oldest fonts known to mankind.

“This is the first significant design change we have made with the newspaper in more than 12 years,” said Editor Dean Rhodes. “However, I think the new masthead is clean, more visually appealing and more modern in its look.”

The new blue jay logo also will be used by the Editorial Board when it orders promotional materials, such as T-shirts, pens and other giveaway items.

Smoke Signals became an independent Tribal newspaper in January 2017 after the December 2016 passage of the Independent Tribal Press Ordinance. “Independent” means that although the newspaper is still funded by the Tribal government, Tribal elected officials and administrative staff cannot dictate news coverage.

The editor makes all editorial decisions and reports to the Editorial Board, which is vested with the responsibility of ensuring the newspaper operates free from undue political influence and adheres to the highest journalistic ethical standards.

Optometry hours

• 7:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday
• 9:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Thursday

Please call to schedule your appointment at 503-879-2079 or 800-775-0095.

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-GrØndøy
• 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/CTGRSocialServices/
• Grand Ronde Children & Family Services: www.facebook.com/GRCFCS/
• Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department: www.facebook.com/GrandRondeTribalPoliceDepartment
• Grand Ronde Cultural Education: www.facebook.com/Grand-Ronde-Cultural-Education

###

In the Future

(kʰapa aʔqi)

January

• Sunday, Jan. 5 – General Council meeting, 11 a.m., Tribal Community Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.
• Wednesday, Jan. 8 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., Governance Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.
• Wednesday, Jan. 15 – Seagress 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. 22 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., Governance Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.

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.

In addition, the annual Agency Creek Round Dance is now scheduled for the weekend of April 3-4.

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 contractor,” Rhodes said.

For more information on the 2020 Contest Powwow, contact Ainam at 503-879-2037 or dana.leno@grandronde.org.
Food Bank provides boxes, seeks help

The Grand Ronde Food Bank -- iskam mak’mak 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.

Recipient 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, Jan. 4;
- 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Jan. 10;
- 2 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 15;
- 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Jan. 24;
- And 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1.

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.

The Food Bank will be closed on Monday, Jan. 20, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

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 5:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at the Grand Ronde Food Bank/iskam mak’mak haws, 9675 Grand Ronde Road.
  - Chair: Francene Ambrose

- **Editorial Board**
  - meets monthly. Next meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m. Friday, Jan. 17, in the Employment Services Building conference room.
  - The public is welcome to attend.
  - Chair: Siobhan Taylor
  - Contact: EditorialBoard@grandronde.org

- **Education Committee**
  - meets 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 HoBo 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 HoBo 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.
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.

Your current benefit award 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 SSA/SSDI 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.simii@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.

Traffic Reimbursement Programs:
Medicare Part "B"
Supplemental Security & Disability Income & Medicare Part “B” Reimbursement

Healthcare services.

WALK-IN DENTAL APPOINTMENTS FOR KIDS <6

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

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

Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Dental Clinic
Phone 503-879-2020

Hours: Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri 8:00–5:00; Thur 9:30-5:30

CTGR TERO Announcement
Traffic Control Flagger Training Certification

When:
Thursday, February 13th, 2020
Where:
Employment Services Center in Training
Rooms A & B
Time: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Registration is limited to 25

No cost for enrolled Tribal members from federally recognized Tribes and $30 for non-Tribal members.
Register with the TERO office by calling 503-879-2188 or Email - TERO@grandronde.org

WIC visits Community Center on monthly basis

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

Yes, 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.

WIC representative visits the Tribal Community Center on the third Tuesday of the month, which will be Jan. 21.

Walk-ins are welcome between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.
For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 503-879-2034.

‘Treating the whole person is emphasized’

HEALTH continued from front page

Suiter applied for the position after earning her master’s degree in public health from the University of Arizona in Tucson.

“I’ve always been interested in working for a Tribe and this position is ideal to me,” Suiter says. “Treating the whole person is emphasized.”

Native Oregonian, Suiter grew up attending powwows because her father’s side of the family is from the Comanche Tribe.

She graduated from South Eugene High School in 1997 and earned a bachelor of arts degree in English and psychology from the University of Oregon in 2004. She is a first-generation college student, although her mother eventually earned a Ph.D. while Suiter was in her 30s.

For more than 10 years, she worked in outpatient behavioral health services in Lane County as an administrator, with a primary focus on supporting efforts to integrate behavioral health into primary care by having those services in the same office.

After moving to Tucson in 2016 to pursue her master’s degree, Suiter worked as a consultant for a private company that contracted with Indian Health Service and the Bureau of Indian Affairs to assess how to design their medical clinics to improve care.

Most recently, she lived in Bend and worked on two projects with Deschutes County as part of an internship. Those included a community health needs assessment and creating a health education program for individuals with severe mental illnesses and chronic diseases such as diabetes.

As the Grand Ronde Tribe’s new Behavioral Health administrator, Suiter says she is hoping to learn extensively about the Health & Wellness Center’s goals for 2020.

“I want to figure out how to design our medical clinics to improve care,” she says. “I want to make sure we serve the community to the best of our ability.”

In the future, Suiter says she would like to see more Behavioral Health therapists and integrate peer services.

“Peer services are having someone in recovery who has had life experiences and can work and relate with what people have gone through,” she says.

Suiter lives in Lincoln City with her husband, Jeff, and two dogs: Spencer, an Italian greyhound, and Sadie, a whippet. In her spare time, she enjoys training for triathlons and is a sponsored member of Team Zoot.

Elder pleads guilty to theft of Tribal funds

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke signalz editor

Former Elders Committee Treasurer Julie Ann Little pleaded guilty to two felony counts of theft from the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde in Polk County Circuit Court on Thursday, Dec. 19.

Little, 64, was indicted in October on the two counts for allegedly taking more than $1,000 on two occasions from the Elders’ fund account at First Federal Savings & Loan between March and July of 2019. The money was raised from bingo, bake sales and fundraisers that were sponsored by the Elders Activity Center.

Pro Tem Judge Diane M. Morse sentenced Little to 24 months of supervised probation, ordered her to perform 120 hours of community service, and ordered her to pay $2,898.72 in restitution to the Tribe and a $100 fine to the court.

According to Polk County Circuit Court, she paid her restitution and fine in total after her sentencing.

She was represented by Salem attorney Arthur B. Cummins Jr.
Nine students are enrolled in the pathway

Reichbe to be featured on ‘Oregon Art Beat’
By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

Jan Michael Looking Wolf Reichbe, a Grand Ronde Tribal member of Kalapuya descent and world-renowned Native American flutist, will be featured on Oregon Public Broadcasting’s “Oregon Art Beat” at 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 30, and 1 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 2.

The episode is titled “Circles of Life” and profiles Looking Wolf, who is a “master of Native American flute.”

Looking Wolf also recently received a Lifetime Achievement Award from One World Music Radio, the No. 1 radio station in Europe that plays instrumental music. In early September, he joined fellow honoree Medwyn Goodall, Miriam Stockley and David Lanz on the radio station’s Roll of Honor.

Looking Wolf started playing Native American flute on the Grand Ronde Reservation. Over two decades, he has released 23 albums that have earned his bachelor’s degree from Stanford University in 2006 and attended medical school at the University of California San Francisco from 2009 to 2013. Her residency program was at Oregon Health & Science University from 2013 to 2016. After her pediatrics residency program was complete, Empey was accepted to serve an additional year as a chief resident.

Currently, Empey works in the academic pediatrics field, which is when a doctor works at a university and has interests in scholarly work such as research, advocacy and medical education in addition to working with residents who treat patients. She also works with outpatients as well as patients in the OHSU newborn nursery.

Looking Wolf started playing Native American flute on the Grand Ronde Reservation. Over two decades, he has released 23 albums that have earned his bachelor’s degree from Stanford University in 2006 and attended medical school at the University of California San Francisco from 2009 to 2013. Her residency program was at Oregon Health & Science University from 2013 to 2016.

After her pediatrics residency program was complete, Empey was accepted to serve an additional year as a chief resident.

Currently, Empey works in the academic pediatrics field, which is when a doctor works at a university and has interests in scholarly work such as research, advocacy and medical education in addition to working with residents who treat patients. She also works with outpatients as well as patients in the OHSU newborn nursery.

Looking Wolf started playing Native American flute on the Grand Ronde Reservation. Over two decades, he has released 23 albums that have earned his bachelor’s degree from Stanford University in 2006 and attended medical school at the University of California San Francisco from 2009 to 2013. Her residency program was at Oregon Health & Science University from 2013 to 2016.

After her pediatrics residency program was complete, Empey was accepted to serve an additional year as a chief resident.

Currently, Empey works in the academic pediatrics field, which is when a doctor works at a university and has interests in scholarly work such as research, advocacy and medical education in addition to working with residents who treat patients. She also works with outpatients as well as patients in the OHSU newborn nursery.

Looking Wolf started playing Native American flute on the Grand Ronde Reservation. Over two decades, he has released 23 albums that have earned his bachelor’s degree from Stanford University in 2006 and attended medical school at the University of California San Francisco from 2009 to 2013. Her residency program was at Oregon Health & Science University from 2013 to 2016.

After her pediatrics residency program was complete, Empey was accepted to serve an additional year as a chief resident.

Currently, Empey works in the academic pediatrics field, which is when a doctor works at a university and has interests in scholarly work such as research, advocacy and medical education in addition to working with residents who treat patients. She also works with outpatients as well as patients in the OHSU newborn nursery.

Looking Wolf started playing Native American flute on the Grand Ronde Reservation. Over two decades, he has released 23 albums that have earned his bachelor’s degree from Stanford University in 2006 and attended medical school at the University of California San Francisco from 2009 to 2013. Her residency program was at Oregon Health & Science University from 2013 to 2016.

After her pediatrics residency program was complete, Empey was accepted to serve an additional year as a chief resident.

Currently, Empey works in the academic pediatrics field, which is when a doctor works at a university and has interests in scholarly work such as research, advocacy and medical education in addition to working with residents who treat patients. She also works with outpatients as well as patients in the OHSU newborn nursery.

Looking Wolf started playing Native American flute on the Grand Ronde Reservation. Over two decades, he has released 23 albums that have earned his bachelor’s degree from Stanford University in 2006 and attended medical school at the University of California San Francisco from 2009 to 2013. Her residency program was at Oregon Health & Science University from 2013 to 2016.

After her pediatrics residency program was complete, Empey was accepted to serve an additional year as a chief resident.

Currently, Empey works in the academic pediatrics field, which is when a doctor works at a university and has interests in scholarly work such as research, advocacy and medical education in addition to working with residents who treat patients. She also works with outpatients as well as patients in the OHSU newborn nursery.

Looking Wolf started playing Native American flute on the Grand Ronde Reservation. Over two decades, he has released 23 albums that have earned his bachelor’s degree from Stanford University in 2006 and attended medical school at the University of California San Francisco from 2009 to 2013. Her residency program was at Oregon Health & Science University from 2013 to 2016.

After her pediatrics residency program was complete, Empey was accepted to serve an additional year as a chief resident.

Currently, Empey works in the academic pediatrics field, which is when a doctor works at a university and has interests in scholarly work such as research, advocacy and medical education in addition to working with residents who treat patients. She also works with outpatients as well as patients in the OHSU newborn nursery.

Looking Wolf started playing Native American flute on the Grand Ronde Reservation. Over two decades, he has released 23 albums that have earned his bachelor’s degree from Stanford University in 2006 and attended medical school at the University of California San Francisco from 2009 to 2013. Her residency program was at Oregon Health & Science University from 2013 to 2016.

After her pediatrics residency program was complete, Empey was accepted to serve an additional year as a chief resident.

Currently, Empey works in the academic pediatrics field, which is when a doctor works at a university and has interests in scholarly work such as research, advocacy and medical education in addition to working with residents who treat patients. She also works with outpatients as well as patients in the OHSU newborn nursery.
Grand Ronde Tribal Council. It oversees the editor of Smoke Signals, the free press for the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.

Also preferred, as well as dedication to protecting and advancing a Tribal Cultural Coordinator. Jordan Mercier, left, and Tribal Policy Analyst Greg Archuleta prepare a Coho salmon over an open fire to mark its return to Agency Creek, a 215-mile journey from the Pacific Ocean, on Monday, Dec. 23. Approximately 25 Tribal members and employees attended the ceremony held at the Agency Creek fish weir. After an invocation by Cultural Advisor Bobby Mercier, attendees ate the salmon and then placed the bones in a cedar bark tray to be deposited back into the creek. “Today we are being thankful to the salmon for returning,” Bobby Mercier said. “It is something big for them to make this journey back and I’m praying that they continue to return here.”

‘It’s a good deal for the Tribe’

have the dilapidated glass-encased grandstands demolished and removed. The Tribe is currently attempting to sell the remainder of the property.

Reibach said Wood Village, which plans to use the wetlands property as a park, still has due diligence duties to perform and the sale should close in January.

“It’s a good deal for the Tribe, it’s a good deal for the city and it’s a good deal for the wetlands,” Reibach said.

On the buying end, Tribal Council approved the purchase of a building at 5580 S.E. 82nd Ave. in Portland. The 20,000-square-foot lot includes a former dental office and parking lot, and is located west of Interstate 205 and southeast of Mount Tabor Park.

The proposed use and purchase price for the property were not disclosed during either the Legislative Action Committee or Tribal Council meetings. It will join the Portland Area Office on Southwest Council meetings. It will join the Portland area.

Also included in the Dec. 18 Tribal Council packet were approved authorizations to proceed that will consist of a 215-mile journey from the Pacific Ocean; • Approved a $200,000 grant application for Environmental Protection Agency Tribal Brownfield Response Program funding for the Blue Heron property in Oregon City that the Tribe purchased in August. A brownfield is a former industrial or commercial site where future use is affected by possible environmental contamination;

• Approved an approximately $174,000 contract with Portland architectural firm GBD for evaluation of the riverside approach at the Blue Heron property in Oregon City;

• Approved the fiscal year 2020 funding agreement with the Bonneville Power Administration for a maximum $132,711, which funds the Tribe’s participation in the administration’s processes;

• And approved the Fawn Thin Logging Unit that will consist of 13 cutting blocks and bring the Tribe an estimated $91,200 in revenue. Also included in the Dec. 18 Tribal Council packet were approved authorizations to proceed that nominated Tribal Council member Jack Giffen Jr. to the Oregon Board of Forestry and increased the Medicare Part B payments to Tribal members to $145 monthly and $454 quarterly beginning in January.

To view the entire meeting, visit the Tribal government’s website from front page.

• Approved the 2020 budget, which outlines governmental spending for the next calendar year;

• Appointed Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheyrelle A. Kennedy to the Spirit Mountain Gaming Inc. Board of Directors, filling the seat previously held by Vice Chair Chris Mercier;

• Approved an agreement with Dropbox, which will allow the Tribe to obtain an Enterprise Account for the more than 20 Tribal accounts that are currently active. Dropbox is a file hosting service located in San Francisco;

• Approved a $200,000 grant application for Environmental Protection Agency Tribal Brownfield Response Program funding for the Blue Heron property in Oregon City that the Tribe purchased in August. A brownfield is a former industrial or commercial site where future use is affected by possible environmental contamination;

• Approved an approximately $174,000 contract with Portland architectural firm GBD for evaluation of the riverside approach at the Blue Heron property in Oregon City;

• Approved the fiscal year 2020 funding agreement with the Bonneville Power Administration for a maximum $132,711, which funds the Tribe’s participation in the administration’s processes;

• And approved the Fawn Thin Logging Unit that will consist of 13 cutting blocks and bring the Tribe an estimated $91,200 in revenue. Also included in the Dec. 18 Tribal Council packet were approved authorizations to proceed that nominated Tribal Council member Jack Giffen Jr. to the Oregon Board of Forestry and increased the Medicare Part B payments to Tribal members to $145 monthly and $454 quarterly beginning in January.

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

Land continued from front page.
Christmas ...

Elder Annabelle Layman delivers a gift during the annual Elders Activity Center Christmas Party held on Saturday, Dec. 21.

From left, Jennie VanAtta, Star Thomas, Mary Cook, Kathie Ray and Charlie Whittinger enjoy a conversation during the annual Elders Activity Center Christmas Party held on Saturday, Dec. 21.

Vocational Rehabilitation Case Worker Amber Yates and Youth Prevention Program Coordinator Angey Rideout admire each other’s ugly sweaters.

Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde employees enjoy a buffet lunch during the annual Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Holiday Party and Years of Service Employee Recognition ceremony held at Spirit Mountain Casino on Thursday, Dec. 19.

Photos by Timothy J. Gonzalez and Kamiah Koch
Sok signflz

Kailiyah Krehbiel makes a sale at the Holiday Market held in the Tribal gym on Friday, Dec. 13. Her booth displayed bracelets, lip balms and woven reindeers made by herself, while the larger items like the woven hats were made by her father, Brian.

The Turquoise Gems booth displayed a variety of antique turquoise jewelry and trinkets at the Holiday Market held Friday, Dec. 13, in the Tribal gym.

Cedar Goodenough, 6, walks down an aisle with Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department Officer JJ Flynn during the Shop With a Cop event held at the Walmart in Dallas on Saturday, Dec. 14. The event gives children a chance to interact with police officers in a non-enforcement situation and allows the children to purchase Christmas gifts for their family members. Twenty children participated in the event and the funding came from the Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department’s budget.

Records and Evidence Technician Egypt Leno uses her phone as Grand Ronde Tribal Police Chief Jake McKnight bags items to purchase during the Shop With a Cop event held at the Walmart in Dallas on Saturday, Dec. 14.

Spirit Mountain Casino Marketing Director Shawna Ridgebear talks to members of the media about Spirit Mountain Casino’s annual Holiday Toy Drive donations at Doernbecher Children’s Hospital in Portland on Monday, Dec. 16. For more than 10 years, the casino has held the toy drive to encourage casino guests to bring in new, unwrapped toys in exchange for free slot play. The toy drive starts in mid-November and wraps up in early December.

Spirit Mountain Casino Marketing Department members, from left, Sales Representative Jenny Moore, Events Coordinator Naomi Clink, Event/Entertainment Manager Cathy Wright and Sponsorships Administrator Jocelyn Huffman pack up toys after the media portion of Spirit Mountain Casino’s annual Holiday Toy Drive donation at Doernbecher Children’s Hospital.

... Wrap

Gonzalez and Kamiah Koch
50 employees honored for 678 years of service

Tresa Mercier marks 35 years with the Tribe

By Danielle Frost

Fifty Tribal employees, all hired in the last quarter of their respective year, were honored for a combined 678 years of service to the Grand Ronde Tribe at a Years of Service awards ceremony held Thursday, Dec. 19, during the staff Christmas party at Spirit Mountain Casino.

Health & Wellness Center Business Office Manager Tresa Mercier continued to set the longevity record of employment with the Tribe with 35 years of service.

One other Mercier – Public Works Coordinator John – was honored for reaching his 29th year of service to the Tribe.

Tribal Council member Steve Bobb Sr. led the invocation and then thanked employees for their collective efforts.

“It’s our time to put our hard work throughout the year! Sending a big thank you for all of you,” he said. “You are the backbone of this organization. Whether you’ve been here 20 years or 20 days, you are valued.”

Tribal Council Vice Chair Chris Mercier said that Tribal Council members get a lot of the credit, but a majority of that is due to the dedication and hard work of Tribal employees.

Some of the skills and talents you have I could never learn,” he said. “I say I deeply appreciate all of you.”

Other Tribal Council members in attendance included Denise Harvey, Michael Langley, Kathleen George, Jack Giffen Jr., Secretary Jon A. George and Lisa Leno.

Ailing 24-year mark in employment were Social Services Department Manager Dana Ainanm, Facilities Senior Administrative Assistant Daphney Colton, Asset Inventory Specialist Jerry George, Employee Benefits Administrator Tammy Gould, Records Clerk Hollie Mercier and Compensation/HRIS Administrator Candy Scrapton.

Ceded Lands Manager Michael Karnosh reached 23 years of service. Rounding out employees reaching or exceeding two decades with the Tribe were Dental Assistant Donnette Spaulding, Cultural Education Specialist Crystal Szepanski and Tribal Court Judicial Assistant Julie Boeckhoff with 22 years of services, and Procurement Department Manager Nathan Rolston with 20 years.

Other employees recognized for their service of five years or more during the ceremony included:

19 years: Planning & Grants Development Manager Kim Rogers.
18 years: Home Improvement Coordinator Donald Coo.
17 years: Police Chief Jake McKnight and Web Designer Willie Mercier.
16 years: High School/Adult Education Chinuk Wawa Teacher Kathy Cole.
15 years: Early Childhood Education Cook Rebecca Goesserich.
14 years: Home Improvement Coordinator Local Hamilton, Gaming Commission Compliance Manager Rose Smith and Post Treatment Counselor Christopher Holliday.
13 years: Technology Technician Joe Loomis and Chachalu Museum & Cultural Center Senior Administrative Assistant Tauni McCammon.
12 years: Senior Staff Attorney Jennifer Biesack, Housing Administrative Program Manager Joan Dugger and Community Health Events Coordinator Kandee Little.
11 years: Billings/Audit Specialist Desiree Allen, Cultural Education Specialist Flicka Lucero and 6-12 Tutor Isiah Sherwood.
10 years: X-ray Technician Niki Mosley and Swing Shift Housekeeper Levi Liebelt.
8 years: Security Officer Daniel Hyatt, Engineering and Public Works Manager Jesse White, Pharmacy Technician Stephanie Wolfe, Senior Applications Administrator Jose Cervantes, Benefit Specialist Marty Burrage.
7 years: Maintenance Technician/Groundskeeper Nicholas Kimsey, Pharmacy Technician Cindy Brickel, Secretary/Medical Assistant Jamie Adams and K5 Tutor/Advisor Lead Devin Beckhoff.
6 years: HVAC Technician Daron Pond Jr., Payroll Administrator Michelle Peterson, Groundskeeper Anthony Henry, Youth Education Tutor/Advisor Emily Rawls and Housing Groundskeeper Edward Denham.
5 years: Day Shift Housekeeper Shelly Fox, Medical Assistant Amanda Walker, K5 Tutor/Advisor Santzi Anasnito, Community Fund Administrative Assistant Marissa Leno and Chinuk Immersion Preschool Classroom aide Shantell Entsalas.

General Manager David Fuller announced names while Tribal Council Chief of Staff Stacia Hernandez handed out certificates of appreciation and Tribal Council members shook employees’ hands.

Tribal employees were treated to a catered lunch, which included prime rib, salmon, turkey, sage stuffing, mashed potatoes, fresh vegetables, green salad, pasta salad, fruit salad, rolls and several dessert options. Raffles were conducted throughout the event that included gift cards to Best Buy, Target, Walmart, Home Depot, Dutch Bros. and Cabelas, as well as tickets to see the Portland Trail Blazers and Winter Hawks.

The event also included an ugly sweater contest. Winners were Housing Maintenance Technician Anthony Quenelle, Preschool Substitute Teacher Amber Purcell and Youth Prevention Program Coordinator Angry Rideout.

All employees received a holiday bonus check of $200 on Dec. 18 and a water bottle, insulated cup and mug at the event.

Employees recognized during the Years of Service awards received an additional bonus check and those reaching the 10-year mark also received a Tribal Pendleton blanket or extra $100.

After the Years of Service event concluded, employees were granted paid administrative leave for the remainder of the day.
Native Wellness Women’s Retreat seeks to empower attendees

By Danielle Frost
Smoke Signals staff writer

Empowerment, self-care and healthy relationships were the focus of a one-day Native Wellness Women’s Retreat held at the Tribal Community Center on Friday, Dec. 20.

“Winter presents a time of reflection,” Native Wellness Institute Executive Director Jillene Joseph said. “Think of your vision for 2020 and what you want it to look like.”

The 16 attendees were asked to pick a partner, introduce themselves and think of 10 reasons why they were worthy of self-care.

“As I reflect on something that you learned or were reminded of during this past year,” Joseph said. “In keeping with the self-care theme of the retreat, stations were set up throughout the Community Center with activities such as beadings, Pendleton bag making, essential oils, makeup, vision board creation, hair styling, a photo booth, coloring books and Christmas cookie baking.

“When we do things like we are doing today, we are filling ourselves up and making ourselves feel better,” Joseph said. “It’s Friday, it’s the holiday season and time to do self-care.”

Joseph encouraged attendees to think about negative thoughts and emotions they were holding on to and to let those go.

“Since we are only human, a lot of times we let them go, then we decide to pick them back up again,” she said. “If you think about it again, you let it go again. Then, if you fill that space with good things instead, those negative things are less likely to come back.”

Before the women began rotating through the self-care stations, they each gave each other affirmations.

“This is another tool you can use to help let negative things go and fill up your mind and heart with good stuff,” Joseph said.

The retreat was organized by Domestic Violence Program Coordinator Danielle Murrell.

“I’ve been planning this for the last few months,” she said. “It’s all about health, self-care and empowerment. It’s always nice to come together and have the opportunity to chat more. I always love my conversations talking to different people.”

Murrell said she is hoping to host another retreat in the spring.

“Pampering yourself is nice and realizing you can create something new is awesome,” she said.
Friday, Dec. 6
- Assist outside agency with a two vehicle injury crash in the area of milepost 2 on Highway 22.
- Assist outside agency with reported trespassing in the area of Yamhill River and Gold Creek roads.
- Assist outside agency with a report of shots fired in the 25600 block of Yamhill River Road.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Suspicous vehicle reported in the 8500 block of Salmon River Highway.

Saturday, Dec. 7
- Reported trespassing in the area of Big Buck Campground.
- Suspicous activity reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

Sunday, Dec. 8
- Suspicous vehicle reported in the 25000 block of Yamhill River Road.
- Suspicous activity reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

Monday, Dec. 9
- Reported trespass in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Illegal camping reported in the area of Big Buck Campground.
- Assist outside agency with a warrant arrest in the 24000 block of Yamhill River Road.
- Assist outside agency with a reported arson in the Willamina area.
- Assist outside agency with a reported medical issue in the Sheridan area.
- Assist outside agency with a reported robbery in the Willamina area.
- Vehicle crash reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

Tuesday, Dec. 10
- Assist outside agency with a reported domestic disturbance in the 25600 block of Yamhill River Road.
- Welfare check performed in the 48700 block of Dragonfly Drive.
- Reported suspicious activity in the area of Tiltam Circle.
- Vehicle crash reported in the area of highways 22 and 18B.
- Reported trespass in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Assist outside agency with a reported trespass in the area of Salmon River Highway and Hebo Road.
- Driving complaint received in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway. A female driver was contacted and arrested for driving while intoxicated.

Wednesday, Dec. 11
- Assist outside agency with a 911 hang-up in the area of Highway 18 and Hebo Road.
- Criminal mischief reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

Thursday, Dec. 12
- Assist outside agency with a driving complaint in the area of milepost 20 on Hebo Road.
- Reported assault in the 8200 block of Grand Ronde Road.

Friday, Dec. 13
- Assist outside agency as stand-by cover in the 8600 block of Fort Hill Road.
- Alarm went off in the 8600 block of Fort Hill Road.
- Assist outside agency with a structure fire in the 8200 block of Rowell Creek Road.
- Theft reported in the 27000 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Trespassing reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway. A male was arrested and transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.

Saturday, Dec. 14
- Reported theft in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Welfare check performed in the 100 block of Wind River.
- Assist outside agency with a domestic disturbance in the 27000 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Assist outside agency with a domestic disturbance in the 17000 block of Pleasant Hill Drive.
- Assist outside agency with a domestic disturbance in the area of Bridge and Main streets in Sheridan.
- Assist outside agency with a crash in the Sheridan area.
- Assist outside agency with a cover request on a traffic stop in the area of milepost 33 on Highway 18.
- Assist outside agency in locating a stolen vehicle in the area of Highway 18 and Grand Ronde Road.

Sunday, Dec. 15
- Assist outside agency with an attempt to locate a stolen vehicle in Willamina.
- Assist outside agency with a cover request on suspicious activity in the Willamina area.
- Assist outside agency with a 911 hang-up call in the area of Hebo and Grand Ronde roads.
- Assist outside agency with reported shots fired in the 7500 block of Sawtell Road.
- Assist outside agency with a vehicle crash involving a deer in the area of milepost 1 on Highway 22.

Monday, Dec. 16
- Assist outside agency with a cover request for vehicle tow in the 23000 block of Yamhill River Road.
- Assist outside agency with a welfare check performed in the 25000 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Counterfeit bill reported in the 26000 block of Salmon River Highway.

Tuesday, Dec. 17
- Counterfeit bill reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Report of criminal mischief in the 24000 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Reported theft in the area of Eagle Loop.

Wednesday, Dec. 18
- Assist outside agency with a 911 hang-up call in the 25000 block of Yamhill River Road.
- Assist outside agency with a 911 hang-up call in the 30000 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Trespass reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway. A male was cited and released for trespass.
- Warrant attempt occurred in the 28100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Suspicous activity reported in the 8400 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Trespass reported in the 9600 block of Hebo Road.

Thursday, Dec. 19
- Trespass reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway. A male was cited and released for trespass.
- Reported sex abuse in the 7200 block of Ash Road.
- Reported suspicious activity in the 7600 block of Birch Road.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 26800 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Reported theft in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway. A male was cited and released for second-degree theft.
- Assist outside agency with an attempt to locate an intoxicated driver in the 7100 block of Ash Road.

Compiled by Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department Officer Clint Cardwell.

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

Free Fitness & Self Defense Seminars
Grand Ronde Tribal Gymnasium
January 6th @ 9615 Grand Ronde Rd, Grand Ronde, OR 97347
Seniors Fitness & Fall Prevention: 10:00am - 11:00am
Kids Yoga: 3:30pm - 5:00pm
Adult Self-Defense: 8:30pm - 7:00pm

Sponsored by Grand Ronde Tribal Police, and provided by Combat Sports Center and Undershield Boxing.
Call or email to RSVP: 503-716-2042 or undershield@comcast.com

Save the Date
Agency Creek Round Dance
April 3-4, 2020
grandronde.org

Ad by Samuel Briggs II
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.

We encourage all Tribal youth ages 4 – 18 to join.

Participants must be within the following age categories by Saturday, Aug. 1, 2020:

Warriors: 4 – 8 years of age
Tiny Tot (Honorary): 4 – 6 years of age
Little Miss Grand Ronde: 7 – 10 years of age
Junior Miss Grand Ronde: 11 – 13 years of age
Senior Miss Grand Ronde: 14 – 18 years of age

General Requirements:
1. Enrolled Grand Ronde Tribal member
2. Must be drug, alcohol and tobacco free
3. Attend school regularly and be in good standing
4. Must be single with no dependents
5. Sign and comply with Royalty Guidelines and Agreement

The Grand Ronde Royalty

If you are interested in participating in the 2020 – 21 Grand Ronde Royalty please take the following steps:
1) Come in, write, or e-mail — Give your name and address so we can send you the application.
2) Complete the application with a parent and/or sponsor and return before Friday, March 27, 2020.
Public Notice
Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) Program
Community Development Statement
Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
Grand Ronde Community Service Center Addition Project

The Tribe held a 2019 Tribal community input meeting in June and many Tribal programs were displayed at open house tables, including Social Services and the Domestic Violence program, and comments and suggestions for the Housing and Urban Development - Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) program were taken. Following HUD’s Notice of Funding Availability in November, the Tribe solicited for ICDBG project suggestions from all Tribal managers. This was followed by discussions and updates with the General Manager and Tribal Council. Council reviewed several eligible ICDBG project suggestions and construction of an addition to the Community Service Center in support of the Domestic Violence program received the most support.

ICDBG is a competitive grant program whose funds are intended to meet an essential community development need and to benefit the neediest segment of the population. The proposed construction of this addition to the Community Service Center will primarily serve women and children from low- to moderate-income households.

The Tribe’s Community Service Center was initially built in 1991 and was added on to for the Children Family Services Program in 2010. Client needs have continued to grow with domestic violence and veteran services among the most recent additions. The proposed project will construct a 2,800-square-foot building addition with staff offices for client services and small meetings. The proposed development cost in support of the domestic violence program is $1 million and would be covered by $750,000 from this ICDBG grant and $250,000 from eligible local matching funds. Building operation and maintenance costs are estimated at $20,000 a year.

To comment on the proposed application, please contact Kim Rogers, Planning & Grants Development manager, at 503-879-2250 or send your comments to him at 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347. Written comments should be provided by 8:30 a.m. Jan. 21, 2020. Tribal Council will review comments collected to date at its Jan. 21, 2020, Legislative Action Committee meeting and again at its Jan. 22, 2020, Tribal Council meeting at which time it will consider authorizing this application. Tribal Council also will consider comments provided by Grand Ronde community members in determining whether to make any modifications to the application. The resulting application will be available for review.

The ICDBG grant application is due on Feb. 3, 2020.

Ag Department accepting Tribal Scholars applications

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. Department of Agriculture is seeking applications for its 2020 Tribal Scholars scholarship program.

The program was established in 2008 and provides full tuition, fees, books and workforce training to students pursuing degrees in agriculture, food, natural resources sciences and related academic disciplines. When a student has completed the academic and summer work requirements for the scholarship, the department may convert the student to a permanent employee without further competition.

The program is available for high school seniors entering their freshman year of college and current freshmen, sophomores or juniors. General requirements include a GPA of 3.0 or higher and acceptance to or currently attending Tribal college or university. The scholarship is renewable each year and is contingent on satisfactory academic performance and progress toward an associate or bachelor’s degree.

Application materials must be postmarked by Feb. 9. For more information, send an e-mail to 1994@usda.gov.
Health & Wellness Center closures

• Monday, Jan. 20 — Martin Luther King Jr. Day

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

Inclement weather alert!

Please be sure to call the Health & Wellness Center before traveling in to appointments at the clinic during inclement weather. Health & Wellness Center staff will make every attempt to call patients during closures. Also, please sign up for emergency notifications about Tribal campus closures on the Tribal website at www.grandronde.org or follow the Tribe’s primary page on Facebook.

Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Pharmacy

Please be advised for: Refill Requests

In order to best serve you, please note the following time requirements for your refill requests:

(Valid) Refills remaining – Called in between 8:30 to 11 a.m., anticipated pickup/send out by 5 p.m. Called in after 11 a.m., 12:30 p.m. next day pickup, excluding holidays and weekends.

NO refills remaining – up to 7 days*

*This allows us time to coordinate and correct any needs that may exist for your refill.

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU WILL BE OUT BEFORE THIS TIME FRAME ON A MAINTENANCE MEDICATION SO THAT WE CAN BEST ACCOMMODATE YOUR NEEDS.

Thank you for allowing us to serve your prescriptions needs.

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.

Mobile Mammography

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

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

To schedule an appointment please call:

Kandee Little 503-879-2089

Date: Thursday, March 19, 2020
Location: CTGR Clinic upper parking lot

Prevention, harm reduction, treatment and recovery services

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 versed 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

The odds can be in YOUR favor!!
**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.

**Elders cookbook now on sale**

Tribal Elders have created a cookbook that includes many recipes submitted earlier in the year. Elders had 200 cookbooks printed and they are available for sale for $15 each. The cookbooks are available for purchase at the Elders Activity Center, 48840 Blacktail Drive, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Checks or cash will be accepted. All proceeds will go back into the Elders budget.

**Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Volunteers**

What is a CASA volunteer? Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) volunteer to advocate for an abused or neglected child in their local community. The special trained volunteers are appointed by local courts to advocate for the best interests of children who have experienced abuse or neglect. CASA volunteers add a layer of stability to children’s lives. CASA can stay with their client through the duration of their dependency case adding a sense of certainty for children when nothing else in their life is certain.

The first CASA program was created in 1976 because a judge needed an advocate who could see the situation from the eyes of the child and make recommendations with an adult perspective. CASA volunteers advocate for the best interests of their child. They also pay attention to the child’s interests, their lives and are there with their child every step of the way.

**What are the benefits for children who have a CASA?**

Children do better in school, they spend less time in foster care and they reach stability and permanency faster.

**What do I have to do?**

CASA volunteers receive about 40 hours of in-depth training and are sworn in by a judge before being assigned a case. To ensure the integrity of the CASA program, the volunteer goes through a background check, personal interview and reference checks. The average case assignment is around two years. The number of hours per month ranges from 10 to 15 hours for writing reports, investigating and meeting with their client.

**Who can apply?**

- At least 21 years of age
- Successfully complete an application and pass a screening process
- Demonstrate the capability to effectively advocate for a child or children
- Have not been convicted of a felony and have no criminal or civil record or history with child protective services
- Demonstrate knowledge of Tribal history, culture and awareness of Tribal events, ceremonies and celebrations
- Successfully complete 40 hours of initial training

**Who do I contact for more information or an application?**

Ramona Quinnelle, Tribal Court Programs coordinator
Located at Tribal Court
9615 Grand Ronde Road
Grand Ronde, OR 97347
Phone: 503-879-4623
E-mail: CourtPrograms@grandronde.org

**Volunteers Wanted**

Do you want to contribute to making our Tribal Children’s lives better?

We are seeking volunteers for two of our volunteer programs:
If you would like to volunteer 1) mark one of the boxes below 2) fill out the information 3) send into Court Programs Tribal Court Programs will contact you about your interest in volunteering!

Court Appointed Special Advocate □ Tribal Member Review Board □

Name: __________________________________________ Phone Number: _______________________

Address: __________________________________________ Street/PO Box __________________________________________ City __________________________________________ State ______________________ Zip ______________________

Email Address: __________________________________________

Return to:
Tribal Court Programs Coordinator
Attn: Ramona Quinnelle
Tribal Court
9615 Grand Ronde Rd.
Grand Ronde, OR 97347
(503) 879-4623
CourtPrograms@grandronde.org

Visit our website for more information and the qualifications for each program:

**SEAGRAASS SKIRT MAKING CLASS**

**WHEN**
January 15th
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 8-9 and a mother or mother figure: grandma, auntie, sister, etc., if possible.

Please RSVP with Kent Kimsey at 503-879-2476 or email Kent.kimsey@grandronde.org

**DINNER WILL BE PROVIDED**

**Volunteers Needed**

We are seeking volunteers for two of our volunteer programs:
If you would like to volunteer 1) mark one of the boxes below 2) fill out the information 3) send into Court Programs Tribal Court Programs will contact you about your interest in volunteering!

Court Appointed Special Advocate □ Tribal Member Review Board □

Name: __________________________________________ Phone Number: _______________________

Address: __________________________________________ Street/PO Box __________________________________________ City __________________________________________ State ______________________ Zip ______________________

Email Address: __________________________________________

Return to:
Tribal Court Programs Coordinator
Attn: Ramona Quinnelle
Tribal Court
9615 Grand Ronde Rd.
Grand Ronde, OR 97347
(503) 879-4623
CourtPrograms@grandronde.org

Visit our website for more information and the qualifications for each program: