

Tribal Council OKs three fall rounds of virus relief payments— pg. 5



SEPTEMBER 15, 2020

SMOKE SIGNALS

UMPQUA · MOLALLA · ROGUE RIVER · KALAPUYA · CHASTA

AN INDEPENDENT PUBLICATION OF THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF GRAND RONDE · SMOKESIGNALS.ORG

Incumbents reign again

Voters return Mercier, Langley and Leno to the 2020-21 Tribal Council

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

For the second year in a row, Tribal voters said they like the status quo on Tribal Council and returned all three incumbents to their seats for three-year terms, according to official results released by the Tribe's Election Board.

Vice Chair Chris Mercier and Tribal Council members Michael Langley and Lisa Leno were the top three vote recipients out of a field of only five candidates – the smallest field since 1983's Restoration – during the Sept. 12 Tribal Council election.

Former Tribal Council Chairman Reyn Leno, who was making his second attempt at returning to Tribal Council after retiring in 2017, finished a distant fourth. Peter "Boon" Grout, who was making his second run for Tribal Council, finished fifth.

Mercier, Langley and Lisa Leno set new benchmarks for the most votes received in a Tribal Council election, surpassing Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy's 712 votes received in 2018.

Mercier, who received 966 votes, will begin his sixth term on Tribal Council and will become the third longest-serving Tribal member on council at the conclusion of his term in September 2023.

See ELECTION continued on page 6

Smoky skies



Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez

The new Spirit Mountain Casino message board glowed under the smoky sky that hung over the Grand Ronde Valley on Wednesday, Sept. 9. The smoke was the result of numerous wildfires in western Oregon. To read more about the Tribe's response to last week's wildfire emergency in western Oregon, turn to pages 8-9.

Tribe moving forward with home-ownership development



Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez

By Danielle Frost

Smoke Signals staff writer

As early as December, the Tribe could break ground on its second single-family housing development in Grand Ronde.

It's been 23 years since Grand Meadows, located on Tribal property at McPherson and Grand Ronde roads, opened a 36-lot manu-

factured home subdivision to Tribal families. Housing Department officials say a second development is long overdue.

"Home ownership has been in the Community Development Plan for some time, but hasn't gotten prioritization until recently,"

See HOMES continued on page 7

Farm equipment sits on the Rink 2 property where Tribal members will eventually be able to purchase a lot to build a home. The property encompasses approximately 86.5 acres and is east of the Grand Meadows development.

General Council meeting

11 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 4

Being held remotely using the Zoom teleconferencing (tentative) program.
503-879-2304.

NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings

DATE	TIME
Wednesday, Sept. 16.....	11 a.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 30.....	10 a.m.

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



COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL EVENT BOARD VACANCIES

The following Committees and Special Event Boards have vacant positions.

- Housing Grievance Board – 1 vacancy
- Ceremonial Hunting Board – 2 vacancies
- Culture Committee – 2 vacancies
- Enrollment Committee – 2 vacancies
- Fish & Wildlife Committee – 3 vacancies
- Powwow Special Event Board – 1 vacancy

Please send completed applications to
Stacia Hernandez, 9615 Grand Ronde Road,
Grand Ronde, OR 97347

Letters welcome

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

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

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

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

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 Sept. 15.

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

Correction — Ryland Keber was misidentified and his mother's, Denise Keber, last name was incorrect on page 12 of the Sept. 1 issue of *Smoke Signals*. The newspaper corrected the online version and regrets the errors.

Tribal Office Closures

Tribal offices will be closed on Friday, Sept. 25, in observance of National Native American Day.

smok signalz

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DEADLINE DATE	ISSUE DATE
MONDAY, SEPT. 21.....	OCT. 1, 2020
MONDAY, OCT. 5.....	OCT. 15, 2020
MONDAY, OCT. 19.....	NOV. 1, 2020
FRIDAY, NOV. 6.....	NOV. 15, 2020

EDITORIAL POLICY

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

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



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IN THE FUTURE



(k^hapa atqi)

September

- Wednesday, Sept. 16 – Tribal Council swearing-in ceremony, 10 a.m., Governance Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.
- Wednesday, Sept. 16 – Tribal Council meeting, 11 a.m., Governance Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.
- Friday, Sept. 25 – Tribal offices closed in observance of National Native American Day.
- Wednesday, Sept. 30 – Tribal Council meeting, 10 a.m., Governance Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.

October

- Sunday, Oct. 4 – General Council meeting, 11 a.m., Community Center or Zoom teleconference (tentative), 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.
- Monday, Oct. 12 – Tribal offices closed in observance of Indigenous Peoples' Day.
- Wednesday, Oct. 14 – Tribal Council meeting, 10 a.m., Governance Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.
- Wednesday, Oct. 28 – Tribal Council meeting, 10 a.m., Governance Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.

(Editor's note: All events are tentative depending on the status of the Tribe's COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic response throughout 2020.)

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 503-879-2097 or 800-775-0095. ■

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Member Services Department
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Grand Ronde, OR 97347
503-879-2116
memberservices@grandronde.org

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. ■

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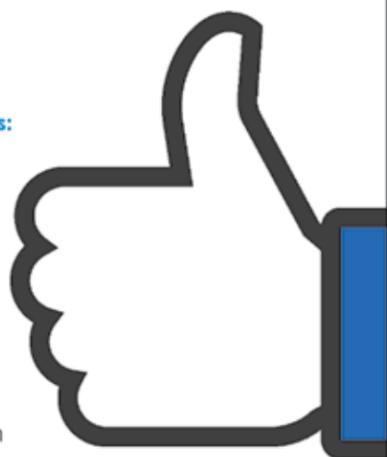
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Toward Spirit Mountain
At the Big Cross - Lighthouse Church • A-Ho-
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Food Bank providing boxes on Fridays in September

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.”

In reaction to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic, the Food Bank will be holding September food distributions from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fridays.

“We are asking clients to not come for a food box if they are having any symptoms or concerned about their health,” Ambrose said. “We are limiting our geographic service area to Sheridan to Otis on Highway 18 and Sheridan to Hebo on Highway 22. We are asking clients and volunteers to wash their hands immediately upon entry to the building. Our lobby is closed until further notice.

“Food box distribution is happening outside while maintaining a safe distance between clients. We are sanitizing and keeping the food quarantined for three days before distribution. Pre-made boxes are available on distribution days, limited to two days of food for two adults. Clients within our geographic service area are still welcome to visit us weekly.”

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 designated person can pick up a food box on your behalf. The authorization is good for one year.

The Food Bank is continuing the Farm Share Rx program with 35 farm shares being distributed from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesdays. It is a first-come, first-served distribution until the shares are depleted.

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

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

The Food Bank is an equal opportunity provider.

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

Committee & Special Event Board meeting days and times

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

- **Ceremonial Hunting Board** meets as needed. Chair: Marline Groshong.
- **Culture Committee** meets at 5:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at the Grand Ronde Food Bank/*iskam məkʰmək haws*, 9675 Grand Ronde Road. Chair: Francene Ambrose.
- **Editorial Board meets monthly.** The next meeting will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, Sept. 18, using the Zoom conferencing program. Chair: Siobhan Taylor. Contact: Editorial.Board@grandronde.org.
- **Education Committee** meets at 5:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month in the Adult Education building. Chair: Tammy Cook.
- **Elders Committee** meets at 10 a.m. the third Wednesday of the month in the Elders Activity Center. Chair: Penny DeLoe.
- **Enrollment Committee** meets quarterly in Room 204 of the Governance Center. Chair: Debi Anderson.
- **Fish & Wildlife Committee** meets at 5:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at the Natural Resources building off Hebo Road. Chair: Bryan Langley.
- Health Committee meets at 10 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month in the Molalla Room of the Health & Wellness Center. Chair: Bernadine Shriver.
- **Housing Grievance Board** meets at 3 p.m. the third Thursday of the month in the Housing Department conference room. Chair: Simone Auger.
- **Powwow Special Event Board** meets monthly at noon at the Community Center. Dates vary. Contact Dana Ainam at 503-879-2037. Chair: Dana Ainam.
- **TERO Commission** meets at 10 a.m. the first Monday of the month in the Employment Services building. Chair: Russell Wilkinson.
- **Timber Committee** meets at 5 p.m. the second Thursday of the month at the Natural Resources building off Hebo Road. Interim Chair: Jon R. George.
- **Veterans Special Event Board** meets at 5:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month in the old Elders Craft House. Chair: Rich VanAtta.

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

(Editor's note: All committee and special event board in-person meetings have been suspended during the Tribe's reaction to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic.)



2015 – Tribal members, who were descendants of the original tilixam “people” of the Portland area, led the way at the grand opening of the new Tilikum Crossing Bridge in Portland. In the interest of giving the general public a word that was easy to pronounce, the Tribe proposed spelling the word with a “k” instead of an “x” as it is in Chinuk Wawa. The Grand Ronde Honor Guard led the procession of Tribal members alongside the first ride of TriMet’s Orange Line during the grand opening celebration. “This is truly a wonderful moment, a blessed time,” Tribal Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy said.



2015 File photo

2010 – The Grand Ronde Tribe submitted a 155-page comment on the Cascade Locks resort and casino project proposed by the Warm Springs Tribe to the Bureau of Indian Affairs. “Grand Ronde is significantly affected and very concerned by the Cascade Locks Resort and Casino Project and is troubled by the Bureau’s failure to address Grand Ronde DEIS comments,” wrote Tribal Attorney Rob Greene. More than two years after holding public comment sessions in Oregon and Washington in 2007, the BIA issued an Aug. 6 final environmental impact statement naming Cascade Locks as the preferred alternative for the Warm Springs Tribe to build an off-Reservation casino in the Columbia River Gorge.

2005 – The Tribe and Portland State University were planning to offer a class called “Great Tribal Leaders of Modern Times” and hold it in the Education Building on the Tribal campus. The series would present videotaped interviews with modern Tribal leaders, and span the fields of political science, American history, Native American studies, U.S. government, multi-cultural studies and sociology. Almost 30 Tribal leaders had been interviewed for the series, including Grand Ronde Tribal Elder Kathryn Harrison.

2000 – The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde hosted a group from Willamette National Forest for a tour of the Reservation and Tribal campus. The five ranger districts and the Tribe came together for two days of team building and learning. The event followed a memorandum of understanding that was signed earlier in the year. Under the agreement, the Forest Service and Tribe agreed to work together on projects and gain input on ideas that affected all parties involved.

1995 – Kathryn Harrison and Ed Larsen were re-elected to Tribal Council for three-year terms. Margaret Provost took Andy Jenness’ seat as he opted not to run for another term. More than 600 Tribal members voted in the election, making it the most widely participated one the Tribe had ever had.

1990 – Tribal youth Shonn Leno traveled to the National High School Wrestling Championships. He was one of the team members representing Oregon. Of 40 wrestlers in his bracket, Leno placed 10th. He qualified for the national tournament by placing second in the state for Freestyle and Greco Roman wrestling at a private competition, and third in the state for high school championships as a freshman.

1985 – The Western Oregon Unit of the Indian Health Service needed to keep current information on those who used it. Those who had not completed an application for 1985 were encouraged to do so as soon as possible. All health care funding was dependent on the number of Tribal members participating.

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

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Tribal Council votes to add 23 names to Restoration Roll

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

The Grand Ronde Tribe's effort to ensure that all Tribal members who should have been on the Restoration Roll are eventually placed on the historically important list continued as Tribal Council approved adding 23 more names to it during its Wednesday, Sept. 2, meeting.

The addition of 23 more names brings the total for this year to 78 additions to the Restoration Roll. In 2019, Tribal Council added 204 Tribal members to the roll.

The Restoration Roll was the first roll compiled of Grand Ronde Tribal members after Nov. 22, 1983. However, because the membership had become so dispersed during the 29 years of Termination, all those who should have been included could not be identified at the time or were unaware that they should have had their names on the roll.

The current process, which requires Tribal members apply for addition to the Restoration Roll, allows a Tribal member who was living on Aug. 13, 1954, and born to a member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde to be added.

In November 2018, Tribal Council approved a resolution that established criteria for consistently applying the phrase "entitled to be on the membership roll of the Tribe on Aug. 13, 1954" as meaning that the person was entitled to be on the roll if that person was alive on that date and born to a Tribal member.

The 23 names now move forward to the Department of the Interior for approval.

Tribal Council also approved the agenda for the Sunday, Sept. 13, General Council meeting that was held remotely using Zoom. Spirit Mountain Casino General Manager Stan Dillon delivered his annual report in executive session.

In other action, Tribal Council:

- Approved a \$209,223 contract with Scholten Construction of Willamina to expand the arbor at uyxat Powwow Grounds off Hebo Road. Tribal Council member Kathleen George said during the

Tuesday, Sept. 1, Legislative Action Committee hearing that the expansion of the dancing circle is the first phase of a larger project to make the powwow grounds big enough to accommodate the crowds that participate during the August Contest Powwow;

- Approved an emergency amendment to the Tribal Housing Ordinance that will allow the Tribe to use a Housing & Urban Development program to expedite the foreclosure process for homes in Grand Meadows should a tenant be in default of their lease at the 36-lot manufactured home subdivision;
- Approved the Sawtooth timber harvest as presented by the Natural Resources Department that is projected to net the Tribe approximately \$302,000 after expenses and fees;
- And approved the enrollment of one infant into the Tribe because he or she meets the requirements outlined in the Tribal Constitution and Enrollment Ordinance. Also included in the Sept. 2 Tribal Council packet were approved authorizations to proceed that:

- Allows Health Services Executive Director Kelly Rowe to petition the Indian Health Service to expand the Tribe's Contract Health Service Delivery Area to include Clackamas County, which is home to 170 enrolled Tribal members;
- Allows the hiring of a temporary position within the Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department that will be dedicated to patrolling Tribal lands;
- Hires Reece and Associates of Albany for engineering, design and construction services on the home ownership project;
- And approves the hiring of 11 Education Department staff members and funding the positions with CARES Act monies through the end of the year.

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

Tribal Council OKs three fall rounds of virus relief payments

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

Adult Tribal members will see another series of three virus relief payments totaling \$1,800 from September through November.

Because of extreme fire danger in western Oregon that closed the Tribal Government Center for five consecutive days, Tribal Council met virtually and approved a fourth supplemental budget on Wednesday, Sept. 9, that will allocate \$7.5 million that the Tribe received in federal funding to pay for the virus relief payments.

The approximately 4,500 adult Tribal members will receive \$600 each month.

The funding comes from the Tribe's share of Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act monies. Although the Tribe has not disclosed exactly how much it has received in CARES Act funding, a Harvard study estimated the amount is approximately \$33 million based on the U.S. Treasury's public formula for determining allocations to Tribes.

Tribal Council Vice Chair Chris Mercier announced the extension of the Tribe's COVID-19 Payment Relief Program during the Wednesday, Aug. 19, Tribal Council meeting. Using CARES Act funding, the Tribe will have dispersed \$4,400 in relief funding to adult Tribal members since

March, which is \$250 less than all of the per capita payments distributed in 2019.

Tribal Council Chief of Staff Stacia Hernandez said Tribal members will have to fill out another application to receive the October and November payments and that the application will be available in mid- to late September.

The fall disbursements will bring the total number of coronavirus relief payments to eight and help Tribal members affected by the pandemic and the absence of June and September per capita distributions because Spirit Mountain Casino was closed from mid-March through May 31.

The payments are classified as general welfare disbursements and are not taxable.

Tribal Council approved the first supplemental \$1.8 million budget on April 23 and \$400 payments were mailed out and deposited directly into Tribal members' bank accounts on April 29.

Tribal Council approved a second \$1.9 million supplemental budget on May 21 that sent another \$400 virus relief payment to adult Tribal members.

The third \$8.1 million supplemental budget was approved on June 18 and allocated \$600 to each adult Tribal member in June, July and August. ■

General Council briefed on Spirit Mountain Casino in virtual executive session

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

Spirit Mountain Casino General Manager Stan Dillon and Spirit Mountain Casino Executive Marketing Director Shawna Ridgebear gave the first presentation of the new General Council meeting cycle on Sunday, Sept. 13, via the Zoom teleconferencing program.

The presentation before approximately 80 Tribal members was in executive session, which *Smoke Signals* was not allowed to attend.

Spirit Mountain Casino, the Tribe's primary economic engine, has been open since June 1 following an unprecedented 74-day closure that started in mid-March.

September's meeting marked the second time that General Council has been held virtually. The April General Council meeting scheduled to be held in Eugene was canceled after the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic erupted in Oregon and the May General Council meeting was held using Zoom.

Large indoor gatherings are

still being discouraged because of the continuing COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic.

In other action, Election Board Vice Chair Michael Mercier delivered the Tribal Council election results from Saturday, Sept. 12, that saw all three incumbents – Chris Mercier, Michael Langley and Lisa Leno – re-elected to three-year terms.

The next General Council meeting will be held at 11 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 4, in the Tribal Community Center or, more likely, using the Zoom teleconferencing program.

General Council opened with an invocation delivered by Tribal Council Secretary Jon A. George.

The non-executive session portion of the meeting can be viewed by visiting the Tribal government's website at www.grandronde.org and clicking on the Government tab and then Videos. Tribal members wanting to see the executive session portion should contact Tribal Council Chief of Staff Stacia Hernandez at stacia.martin@grandronde.org or by calling 503-879-2304. ■



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Tribal Calendar // www.grandronde.org/tribal-calendar

Turnout was best percentage since 2008

ELECTION continued from front page

Langley received 981 votes and Lisa Leno received 1,047. Both return to Tribal Council to begin serving their second consecutive three-year terms.

"I think it shows that we're doing a good job and the membership is pleased with the direction of Tribal Council," Mercier said about the results.

"I am, of course, pleased with the results," Langley said. "I like to believe the message is one of confidence. Confidence in how we handled a crisis. Confidence that we are a group that will work to move things forward in a good way. Confidence that we will continue to let our Indigenous values lead the way in our decision making and in bringing healing to our members. Those values pre-date any of us, but live through all of us. Those values have guided us here to this point in time and will continue to do so in the future. That's how I choose to see these results."

Reyn Leno, who served seven consecutive terms on Tribal Council from 1996 to 2017, received 597 votes – 22 less than in 2019 – and Grout chalked up 423 votes.

Mercier, Langley and Lisa Leno will be sworn in during a 10 a.m. ceremony on Wednesday, Sept. 16, in the Governance Center. Atten-

dance will be limited to comply with COVID-19 health precautions.

Adult Tribal members who cast ballots numbered 1,496, an increase from the 1,350 ballots cast in 2019. Turnout was 34.8 percent of eligible Tribal voters, the best percentage turnout since 2008.

In addition to voting for three Tribal Council members, Tribal voters were asked for the fourth consecutive year their opinions regarding five advisory topics on the Sept. 12 ballot. Four of the five topics received a thumbs up from Tribal voters.

Topics and results were:

- Holding a constitutional amendment election to remove the enrollment requirement of having a parent on the roll at the time of birth: 781 yes, 551 no. The 58.6 percent approval rate is far short of the two-thirds majority needed to change the Tribe's Constitution.
- Evaluating the installation of a walking path from Grand Meadows in Tribal housing to Spirit Mountain Casino: 763 yes, 586 no.
- Increasing Tribal investments in environmental stewardship, such as becoming a carbon neutral Tribe or retrofitting Tribal buildings for solar energy: 775 yes, 551 no.
- Allowing electronic voting options: 566 yes, 777 no.
- Evaluating the establishment of a child care facility in Grand Ronde: 826 yes, 515 no. ■

SEPT. 12, 2020 ELECTION RESULTS

CANDIDATES FOR COUNCIL

LISA MARLENE LENO	1047
MICHAEL A. LANGLEY	981
CHRISTOPHER G. MERCIER	966
REYN L. LENO	597
PETER (BOON) GROUT, JR.	423

ADVISORY VOTE QUESTIONS

QUESTION #1

SHOULD THE TRIBE MOVE FORWARD WITH A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT REMOVING PARENT ON THE ROLL AT TIME OF BIRTH AS A REQUIREMENT FOR ENROLLMENT?
YES - 781 / 58.634% NO - 551 / 41.366%

QUESTION #2

SHOULD THE TRIBE CONSIDER BUILDING A WALKING PATH TO THE CASINO FROM GRAND MEADOWS?
YES - 763 / 56.560% NO - 586 / 43.440%

QUESTION #3

SHOULD THE TRIBE INCREASE OUR INVESTMENT IN ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP?
YES - 775 / 58.634% NO - 551 / 41.554%

QUESTION #4

SHOULD THE TRIBE CONSIDER ALLOWING ELECTRONIC VOTING?
YES - 566 / 42.144% NO - 777 / 57.856%

QUESTION #5

SHOULD THE TRIBE EVALUATE ESTABLISHING A CHILD CARE CENTER IN GRAND RONDE?
YES - 826 / 61.596% NO - 515 / 38.404%

Graphic created by Samuel Briggs III

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sheridanfd.org – swpolkfd.org – westvalleyfd.org

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AMERICAN INDIAN TEACHER PROGRAM

First phase will have approximately 20 single-family homes

HOMES continued from front page

Tribal Housing Department Manager Shonn Leno said.

Housing Department officials provided Tribal Council with potential options for a future development. The 86-acre Rink 2 property east of Grand Meadows was identified as the most suitable housing site location.

Reece and Associates of Albany has been selected to conduct a property development plan for the new site. The first phase will have approximately 20 single-family homes.

The Tribe's current housing options typically have occupation rates of 94 percent or higher, and lack of available market-rate homes has been a sticking point in Tribal members moving home to Grand Ronde and working in the community.

Leno and Housing Administrative Program Manager Joan Dugger said that new home ownership opportunities will help fill a void in the local housing market. The Tribe currently offers low-income housing, market-rate rental units and Elder housing. The home ownership piece will fill that void where a person can buy their own house and move out of a rental, which also creates room for other renters.

"We have several market-rate units and we have people who want to move on. ... It was a logjam here at Housing so we needed to free up space for people who wanted to take that next step of living in their own home," Leno said.

"More housing options are something we have really needed for years," Dugger said. "There are people who are ready to move now."

According to the 2019 Housing Department annual report, it operates 61 low-income Elder units, 100



rental housing low-income units and 36 market-rate units.

Before the Housing Department began actively pursuing home ownership, a survey was sent out in June and July of 2019. Out of 222 Tribal members who answered the question regarding whether they were interested in buying land and building a home in Grand Ronde, 142 said yes. Of those, 69 indicated they would be interested in leasing land and building a home, and 71 said they are interested in buying a home and have the financial resources to do so. Thirty people were re-interviewed over the phone.

The survey also found that the most popular new home option would be stick-built homes and the most popular lot size was between a half-acre to an acre.

The Housing Department used the survey results to determine a target population for the phase one housing

development and found there were 20 families that were ready to buy whenever housing became available, and that they were willing to go through the pre-qualification process to obtain a loan.

"That gave us a firm idea of what kind of interest we had in the area," Leno said.

Dugger says all loans will have to be made through the Section 184 Indian Home Loan Program. It is a federal program specifically designed for American Indian and Alaska Native families, Alaska villages, Tribes or Tribally designated housing entities. Congress established the program in 1992 to increase homeownership and access in Native communities. With Section 184 financing, borrowers can get into a home with a low down payment and flexible underwriting.

"It's the only kind of qualified loan you can get for Trust lands," Dugger said. "It's open to any Tribal member

that has the ability to get a mortgage and finance a home."

The next step in the process is to put out a service request for proposals, seeking a company that will guide potential homebuyers through the entire process.

"They would do everything from helping find a lender and assisting buyers with fixing their credit to the purchase of a home," Leno said. "We want them to be the main point of contact, so we could send people to one group who will take them from start to finish. That in itself is unique. ... We don't want empty houses, so we will build according to what our interest currently is. We can have people transition from low-income rentals to market rate to owning their own home. That has always been the goal and for it to work we had to create more ownership opportunities here in Grand Ronde."

Increased options also will help with recruiting and retention of Tribal members working for the Tribal government.

"One of the things we have run into with some of the professional fields like doctors and lawyers, some of the employment positions that would require someone to live out here, lack of housing has been one of the roadblocks. This would possibly bring back our educated Tribal members to take those positions if they were able to purchase a home," Leno said.

A price point for homes has not been set. The Housing Department is hoping to have multiple plans to suit a variety of budgets.

"Depending on the size and house layout, Tribal members would then finance the amount that was needed for that," Leno said. "I want our Tribal members to be able to have the ability to buy something they want, and not what we think they want." ■

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NEW!

SMOKESIGNALS.ORG

Wildfire effects force five-day closure of Tribal government

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

Tribal offices in Grand Ronde remained closed for the fifth work day in a row on Monday, Sept. 14, because of poor air quality, General Manager David Fullerton announced Sunday, Sept. 13.

According to the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, air quality in most of the Willamette Valley remained at hazardous levels on Monday. Clearing is not expected until late Monday and Tuesday as a weather front moves in bringing rain and favorable winds.

Although the Grand Ronde area did not have any wildfires that plagued the rest of western Oregon, it did have to deal with the smoke created by those wildfires for most of the Labor Day week.

As a precaution, Grand Ronde Police Chief Jake McKnight announced that all gates to the Reservation are closed because of the extreme fire danger in western Oregon.

On Tuesday, Sept. 8, primary phone and Internet service for the Tribal government went down due to a disruption with Wave Broadband. The disruption affected all incoming e-mail, web and remote desktop functions. That, in turn, forced the Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Center to close since it could not receive calls and Pharmacy computers were inoperable.

Health Services Executive Director Kelly Rowe said on Thursday, Sept. 10, that patients needing refills can obtain them at any pharmacy by presenting the outside pharmacy with a prescription label. Gov. Kate Brown has authorized the emergency pharmacy rules and pharmacies can contact the Board of Pharmacy with any questions. Patients will still need to present



The Tribal Governance building was shrouded in the smoke and haze that hung over the Grand Ronde Valley on Wednesday, Sept. 9.



Photos by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Highway 18 was closed in both directions west of Grand Ronde because of two wildfires burning near the highway in the Otis area in Lincoln County.

insurance information and pay any co-pays.

Patients also can contact Shasta Customer Service at 800-880-5877 if they have any problems getting their prescription filled.

“The Grand Ronde Pharmacy, though closed, is working behind the scenes to help patients obtain their medications without disruption,” Rowe said. “The Pharmacy hopes to open soon, and we want to ensure patient needs are met until then.”

Rowe announced on Friday, Sept. 11, that the Pharmacy would begin processing prescriptions and mail them out. However, since campus

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phones remain down, the only way to order prescriptions is through the web refill site at <https://cyberscript.ais-rx.com/Independents/Login.aspx?IndependentStoreNumber=3843150&ImageLib=GrandRonde> or through the phone app, both of which have continued to track requests since the Pharmacy has been closed. The phone app can be downloaded by searching for “Grand Ronde Pharmacy” in your phone’s app store.

“If patients have an urgent need for something to be filled the same day, filling at an outside pharmacy is still allowed and recommended as the Pharmacy catches up from the backlog of this week’s request,” Rowe said. “All previous requests are expected to be mailed out by Monday evening at the latest. The staff is relieved to be filling prescriptions again and looks forward to helping patients through this difficult time.”

Although the Tribe’s Information Systems staff was able to bring many of the Tribe’s important Internet services back on line by switching to a backup link, phone services remained down on Monday until Wave Broadband can re-establish the primary connection that runs through the coast range and has been affected by the wildfire near Otis.

On Monday morning, the Grand Ronde area and Spirit Mountain remained shrouded in a thick smoky haze as Highway 18 — the Salmon River Highway — was closed just west of the Grand Ronde Road intersection because of wildfires. Signs situated just west of the Grand Ronde Road intersection warned travelers of the closure at milepost 5.

The Echo Mountain Fire started on the north side of Highway 18 near mile marker 7-8 and crossed over and was burning in a southward direction. The Kimberling Fire is located on Highway 18 near mile marker 3-4 near Otis. Highway 18 remains closed for travel between Highway 101 and Grand Ronde.

The Grand Ronde Tribe opened its campus to a fire camp that provided a staging ground for firefighters battling the blaze outside of Lincoln City.

Communications Director Sara Thompson said that the scheduled Wednesday, Sept. 9, Facebook Live event was canceled because of the Tribal office closures. However, the 10 a.m. Tribal Council meeting to approve a fourth supplemental budget was still held virtually.

According to the Oregon Department of Forestry, all state forests were designated to be in extreme fire danger starting on Monday, Sept. 7.

One bit of good news for the Grand Ronde area was announced on Friday, Sept. 11, when Grand Ronde Station re-opened after being closed for a deep cleaning on Aug. 27 after contact tracing found positive COVID-19 connections to the facility. “We would like to thank all of you who helped during the closure,” General Manager Tim Jackson said in an e-mail.

The Saturday, Sept. 12, Tribal Council election also proceeded as planned. Voters were able to visit the Tribal Community Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. to cast their ballots in person. According to the Tribe’s Election Board, 126 Tribal voters braved the conditions to vote. ■

Tribal crews assisting in efforts

By Danielle Frost

Smoke Signals staff writer

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde’s Silviculture/Fire Protection Department focused its efforts to keep the Reservation safe while also assisting other rural departments in the region during last week’s wildfire emergency in western Oregon.

“We are focusing on protecting the Grand Ronde area, but are also engaged in mutual aid efforts with local departments,” Silviculture/Fire Protection Supervisor Jim Pinder said on Wednesday, Sept. 9.

The Tribe worked with the West Valley Fire District and also reached out to the Tillamook Fire Department to see what needs are there.

Additionally, a Tribal fire engine was sent to Otis, 21 miles west of Grand Ronde, to help contain the Echo Mountain Complex Fire. Officials from the Oregon Department of Forestry said approximately 300 acres had burned as of Tuesday, Sept. 8. That and other wildfires in Lincoln County forced residents to evacuate and created hazardous air quality conditions.

The Grand Ronde area and Spirit Mountain remained shrouded in a smoky haze most of last week as Highway 18 — the Salmon River Highway — was closed at milepost 10 in Lincoln County because of the wildfires. Signs situated just west of the Grand Ronde Road intersection warned travelers of the closure.

The U.S. Weather Service issued an air quality alert on Monday, Sept. 7, that remained in effect for the Oregon Coast, Willamette Valley, southwest Washington and southern Oregon.

“Wildfires burning in the region combined with forecasted conditions will cause air quality to reach unhealthy levels at times,” the alert stated. “Pollutants in smoke can cause burning eyes, runny nose, aggravate heart and lung diseases, and aggravate other serious health problems.”

In addition to battling blazes locally, Grand Ronde fire crews are also assisting in regional efforts.

“We have one engine in Warm Springs at the Lionshead Fire, one in the Medford area and we have a hand crew on the Colville Reservation in eastern Washington helping with efforts there,” Pinder said.

The 91,754-acre Lionshead Fire

spread through Marion and Clackamas counties, prompting numerous evacuations. The Almeda Fire resulted in level 3 evacuations in south and central Medford. Level 3 evacuations also were issued for the Inchelium Highway Fire, part of a larger blaze that burned more than 12 square miles of the Colville Reservation.

“We’re really just kind of holding things down here,” Pinder said. “Tonight is the end of the red flag warnings, but we will still have engine patrols in place until further notice. We are keeping on the lookout and are creating a presence to let people know the Tribal engines are around here and can respond to something.”

With four engines and a water tender at the ready, Pinder added the Grand Ronde Reservation will be protected.

“If anyone sees a fire, do not call the Natural Resources Department,” he said. “Call 911 and that will be immediately routed to us.”

To help safeguard against additional wildfires, the Reservation gates were closed on Tuesday, Sept. 8, and Police Chief Jake McKnight said that he expected the closure to last for at least a week. ■



Tents were set up in the campground in a fire camp established by the Grand Ronde Tribe and Oregon Department of Forestry for firefighting crews and first responders on Thursday, Sept. 10. The camp was being used as a base for those working on the front lines of an Otis area fire. The camp allowed firefighters to eat, sleep and recharge.



Food boxes awaited firefighters at a fire camp set up by the Grand Ronde Tribe and Oregon Department of Forestry for firefighting crews and first responders on the Grand Ronde campus.

Tribe provides respite for firefighters battling blazes

By Danielle Frost

Smoke Signals staff writer

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde partnered with the Oregon Department of Forestry to provide a safe place for firefighters to rest and recharge after unprecedented wildfires swept across the Willamette Valley and coast last week.

The camp came about after state forestry officials reached out about needing a safe location to stage a camp for its crews battling blazes near Otis, according to the Tribe's Communications Director Sara Thompson.

"We were happy to accommodate their needs," she said. "It will be up and running for as long as it is needed."

The fire camp started on Wednesday, Sept. 9, and was located in the Tribal gym as well as the campground behind the Clothes Closet on Blacktail Drive. These areas are closed to the public until further notice.

The camp can accommodate 150



A sign directs firefighters to a sleeping area inside the Tribal gym as part of a fire camp established by the Grand Ronde Tribe and Oregon Department of Forestry for firefighting crews and first responders.

to 200 people. Social distancing and other precautions were taken to keep fire crews safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Tribe meets with the Department of Forestry as a part of its ongoing emergency management planning.

"It's that planning that paves the way for us to work with our partners for an immediate response in a situation like this," Thompson said.

Jason Cox, a public affairs specialist with the Department of Forestry, said that Oregon Tribes have been a valuable partner in statewide firefighting efforts.

"We appreciate everything that they bring to the table," he said. "The word 'unprecedented' doesn't do justice to the wildfires happening now. The Grand Ronde's generosity is much appreciated. That morale boost is just as important to our fire crews as the opportunity to rest and recover."

Thompson said there is no need for volunteers to help at the fire camp, but any future volunteer opportunities will be posted on the Tribe's Facebook page.

For more information about the wildfires and current conditions, visit wildfire.oregon.gov. ■



Spirit Mountain was shrouded in the smoke and haze that hung over the Grand Ronde Valley on Wednesday, Sept. 9. The smoke was the result of numerous wildfires in western Oregon.

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Photos by Timothy J. Gonzalez

TERO Worker of the Month August 2020

Name: Robert Rife

Employer: Freyssinet Inc.

Position: Heavy construction/
flat work

Robbie first applied to the TERO Skills Bank in 2015, initially getting dispatched to a Spirit Mountain Casino kitchen remodel happening at the time.

Since then, Robbie has been dispatched to numerous successful projects, building his skill set in multiple facets including paving, plumbing, flagging and bridge work. Robbie was chosen as August's TERO Worker of the Month due to his consistent attendance record, positive outlook on new challenges he encounters and an overall good attitude.

When asked how TERO has helped him, Robbie said, "TERO has provided me with a safe place to work and amazing job opportunities. A big thank you to TERO and its employees. Most of my success has come from TERO. Thank you."

Way to go Robbie. Keep it up!



Robert Rife

Education Department develops plan for fall services

By Danielle Frost

Smoke Signals staff writer

Just as public school districts have been doing around the state, the Grand Ronde Education Department has grappled with how to best serve students during the continuing COVID-19 pandemic.

After being closed to in-person services since March 16, the department has developed a response plan after consulting with General Manager David Fullerton and Tribal Council.

"Throughout the spring and summer, each program within the department has worked to provide as much service as possible while balancing the safety of employees, students and families," Education Department Manager Angela Fasana said. "The Education Department realizes this school year will pose new challenges for our students and families, (so) we are excited to announce the highlights for the newly adopted Education Department COVID Response Plan."

The plan became effective on Sept. 1 and will remain in place for the 2020-21 school year. Some of the highlights include:

- Technology Assistance Program: Allocation of \$500 to assist with the purchase of technology equipment to support Tribal member students in kindergarten through college.
- Distance learning with weekly physical distance visits for all preschool students.
- Internet classrooms for kindergarten through third-grade Chinuk Immersion Program students as well as kindergarten through 12th grade students in the community. The classroom will be on the



Angela Fasana

Tribal campus where students can bring their own devices to access the Internet.

- Academic coaching services for kindergarten

through 12th grade Tribal member students regardless of location, and academic advising services for kindergarten through 12th grade Tribal member students in the Grand Ronde, Willamina and Sheridan areas. This will be a combination of virtual and physically distanced, in-person services.

- Continuation of activity boxes for Tribal member students, regardless of location, on a monthly basis.
- Adult Chinuk language classes offered weekly on a virtual platform.
- Education/career coaching services offered through Higher Education with a focus on assisting Tribal members with preparing for their education or careers. Virtual, as well as in-person options, will be available as long as it is safe to do so.
- Enhanced family support services with expansion of home visits.
- Continuation of literacy programs such as the Summer Reading Program. The Tribal Library will be offering a fall, winter and spring reading programs as well.
- Implementation of a mobile library for the local community.

"We are working diligently to develop these services and will roll out delivery as soon as possible, so stay tuned for more information on the CTGR Education Programs Facebook page," Fasana said. ■

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. ■

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ROCK SCAVENGER HUNT

...W/ CTGR YOUTH COUNCIL



We put 9 painted rocks out in the community that each council member has painted.

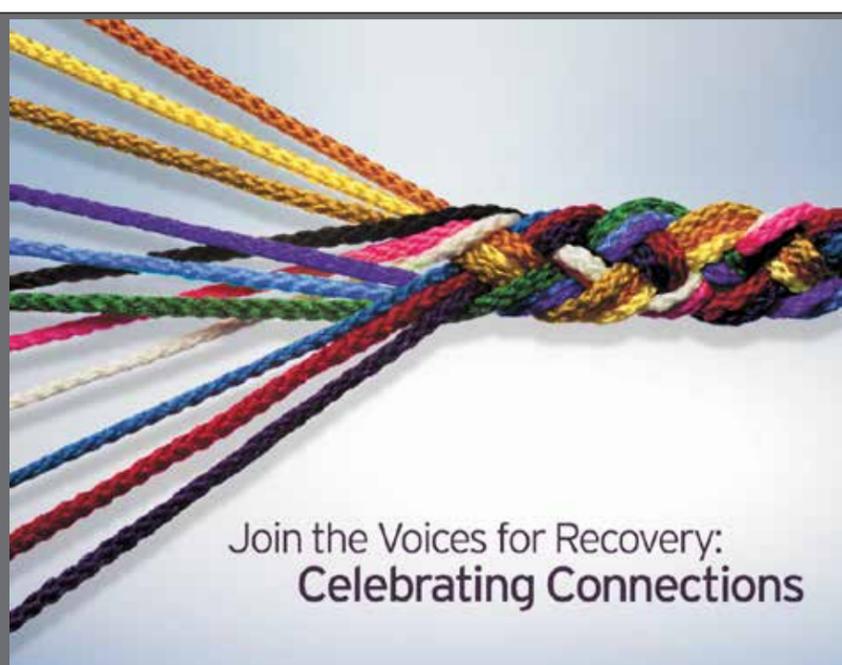
One rock will lead to the next with riddles. Follow our Instagram to find the riddles.

September 15th - 30th

- First 3 people to find all the rocks, post selfies w/ our #ctgryouthcouncilevents, & tag our Instagram @CTGRyouthcouncil will receive a special prize.
- All participants who post a selfie with the painted rock you find or your painted rock will be entered into the raffle.

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#ctgryouthcouncil



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World Suicide Prevention Day

World Suicide Prevention Day is observed on Sept. 10 and is a day to bring awareness and to take action to prevent suicide around the world. During these uncertain and stressful times attention to suicide prevention and mental health awareness is more important than ever. Many people have reported experiencing increased feelings of isolation, depression, anxiety and other mental health symptoms due to the social distancing that has come in response to COVID-19. Social distancing is an important tool in reducing the spread of the virus but, unfortunately, it can also lead to increased mental health symptoms and increased negative coping skills such as drug and alcohol use, aggression and suicidal thoughts.

During this time it is important that we support each other and use healthy coping skills such as: physical activity, talking to family or friends, art, enjoying time with pets, cooking as a family, outdoor activities, reading, prayer, smudging, and any other healthy activities that make you feel good. There are many programs and people at the Tribe that are here to provide support to Youth Empowerment and Prevention, Youth Education, Behavioral Health, CFS, the Health and Wellness Clinic, Warriors of Hope and many others. To reach any of these programs or any others at the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, please contact the main office at 503-879-5211 or if you are experiencing any suicidal thoughts you can call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at (800) 273-8255.

To honor this important day the Youth Empowerment and Prevention team will be hosting a month-long scavenger hunt for incentives. You can follow us at our FB account @Grand Ronde Youth Empowerment and Prevention or our Instagram account @ctgryouthempowerment for all the details. We look forward to seeing your entries until then take care of yourself and take care of each other.

Your Youth Empowerment and Prevention Team

Monthly Family Gathering and Connections

Bridging home, school and community...

Join us for a monthly discussions around:

- Behaviors
- Disabilities
- School meetings
- Support for parent involvement in your child's education
- Self-advocacy-empower yourself and your child
- IEPs, 504s, behavior support plans

Meetings will be held the last Thursday of every month.

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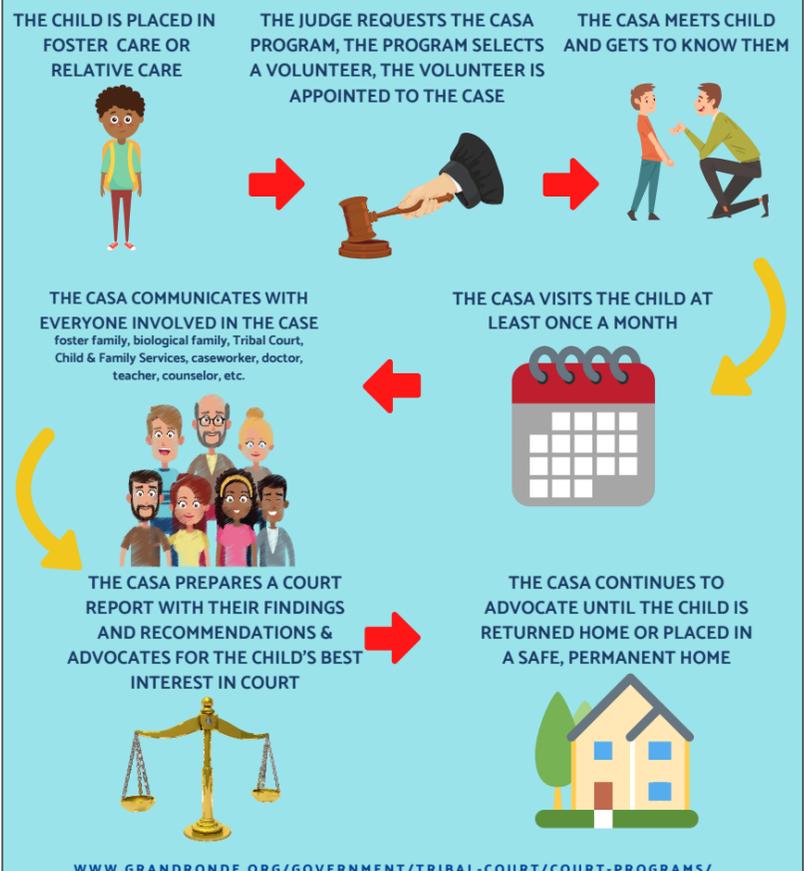


If you have questions feel free to contact:

Audra Sherwood 503-879-2069 or Lyndsey Stuckey 503-879-2095

WHAT DOES A CASA DO?

Follow a CASA Volunteer's Journey to Help a Child Reach Permanency



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Steps to becoming a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA):

- Chat with Tribal Court staff about CASA volunteer work
- Complete the application and authorize a criminal background check
- Submit authorization for child welfare history check
- Come in for formal interview
- Complete **40** hours of initial or pre-service training and court observation

You must complete all steps above before being sworn in as an active CASA volunteer. You may be screened out at any point prior to swearing in. The pre-service training will familiarize you with the needs of children who have been abused or neglected, the CASA's role and the Tribal Court and Child Welfare Systems.

To begin the process of becoming a CASA, please contact us by email courtprograms@grandronde.org or phone (503) 879-2303.

Community Health Program

Medical Transport Services

Medical transportation services are available to Tribal members within the six-county service area when an alternate means of transportation is not available. Advance notice required.

Please call 503-879-2078 to schedule a reservation.





GRAND RONDE POLICE LOG



Friday, Aug. 28

- Disorderly conduct in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway. Two males were cited and released for disorderly conduct.
- Assist outside agency with a driving complaint in the area of milepost 23 on Highway 18. The vehicle was located and the driver was cited for failure to perform the duties of a driver for fleeing the scene of a crash.
- Report of a fight in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Responded to an alarm in the 47000 block of Hebo Road.
- Assist outside agency with a crash in the 51400 block of Hebo Road.
- Traffic stop in the area of milepost 24 on Highway 18. The female driver was arrested for a valid warrant and transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.
- Criminal mischief reported in the 9500 block of Raven Loop.
- Assist outside agency with a domestic disturbance in the Willamina area.

Saturday, Aug. 29

- Citizen contact occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway. A male was cited and released for failure to perform the duties of a driver.
- Attempt to locate intoxicated driver in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 26800 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Driving complaint received in the area of milepost 22 on Highway 18.
- Traffic stop in the area of milepost 26 on Highway 18. A male was cited and released for misdemeanor driving while suspended.

Sunday, Aug. 30

- Trespass reported in the area of Bridge Street in Sheridan. A female was cited and released for second-degree trespass.
- Trespass reported in the area of Big Buck campground.
- Assist outside agency with a stalking complaint in the area of Grand Ronde Road and Highway 18.
- Overdose reported in the 9500 block of Raven Loop. A female was transported to a local hospital.
- Intoxicated person reported in the 26800 block of Salmon River Highway.

Monday, Aug. 31

- Warrant arrest in the 26800 block of Salmon River Highway. A male was arrested on a valid warrant and for possession of methamphetamines. He was transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.
- Assault reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway. A male was arrested for felon in possession of a restricted weapon, domestic harassment, unlawful use of a weapon and menacing.
- Traffic assist in the area of milepost 22 on Highway 18.
- Drug complaint reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Attempt to locate stolen vehicle in the Ballston area.

Tuesday, Sept. 1

- Assist outside agency with a domestic disturbance in the 23800 block of Andy Riggs Road.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 26800 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Assist outside agency with an unconscious male in the area of AR Ford and Ash roads. The male was revived and transported to a local hospital.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Assist outside agency with a domestic disturbance in the Sheridan area.
- Assist outside agency with an overdose in the 24000 block of Yamhill River Road.

Wednesday, Sept. 2

- Assist outside agency with a stalking complaint in the 8600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Found property in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 28800 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Driving complaint in the area of Highway 22 and Brown Road.
- Trespass notice given in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Assist outside agency with a structure fire in the Sheridan area.
- Driving complaint received in the area of milepost 23 on Highway 18.
- Suspicious activity reported in the area of milepost 24 on Highway 18.

Thursday, Sept. 3

- Assist outside agency with a domestic disturbance in the 8300 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Traffic crash in the area of milepost 23 on Highway 18. A male driver was cited for misdemeanor driving while suspended and for following too closely.
- Driving complaint received in the area of milepost 23 on Highway 18.
- Noise complaint received in the 48700 block of Eagle Loop.
- Traffic stop in the area of milepost 23 on Highway 18. A male was

arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol and for reckless driving. He was transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.

Friday, Sept. 4

- Assist outside agency in serving civil paperwork in the area of Tilixam Circle.
- Assist outside agency with the Department of Human Services in the area of Raven Loop and Tilixam Circle.
- Citizen contact in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Drug complaint received in the 2710 block of Salmon River Highway. A male driver was issued violation citations for driving and the female passenger was issued a citation for smoking marijuana in a vehicle.
- Hit-and-run reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Suspicious activity reported in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 9600 block of Raven Loop.

Saturday, Sept. 5

- Driving complaint received in the area of milepost 33 on Highway 18.
- Trespassing reported in the area of Big Buck campground.
- Illegal burning reported in the 46700 block of Hebo Road.
- Assist outside agency with a disturbance in the Willamina area.
- Assist outside agency with a report of a female in the road in the area of milepost 18 on Highway 18.
- Drug complaint received in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway. Two people were issued citations for possession of methamphetamines.
- Assist outside agency with a domestic disturbance in the area of milepost 28 on Highway 18.
- Driving complaint received in the area of milepost 11 on Highway 18.
- Assist outside agency with a reported trespass in the 28200 block of Andy Riggs Road.
- Assist outside agency with cover on a traffic stop in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

Sunday, Sept. 6

- Welfare check performed in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Assist outside agency with a traffic stop in the 25600 block of Yamhill River Road.
- Assist outside agency with a rollover crash in the area of milepost 25 on Highway 18.
- Trespass reported in the area of Big Buck campground.
- Vehicle crash in the area of Tyee Road and Wind River Drive.
- Drug complaint received in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Hit-and-run reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

Monday, Sept. 7

- Assist outside agency with an assault in the area of Gold Creek Road.
- Theft reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 26800 block of Salmon River Highway. A male was cited and released for misdemeanor driving while suspended.
- Assist outside agency with evacuations of Otis residences due to wildfires.
- Drug complaint received in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway. A female was arrested for possession of methamphetamines and transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.

Tuesday, Sept. 8

- Domestic disturbance reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway. A female was arrested and transported to the Polk County Jail in Dallas.
- Assist outside agency with evacuations of Otis due to wildfires.

Wednesday, Sept. 9

- Assist outside agency with a road rage incident in the area of milepost 21 on Highway 18. A male was arrested for harassment, unlawful entry into a vehicle and resisting arrest.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 26800 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Suspicious vehicle reported in the 9600 block of Hebo Road.
- Wire reported down in the 8800 block of Hebo Road.
- Driving complaint received in the area of milepost 23 on Highway 18.
- Suspicious activity reported in the area of milepost 24 on Highway 18.
- Assist outside agency with a welfare check in the area of milepost 14 on Highway 18.

Thursday, Sept. 10

- Assist outside agency with a driving complaint in the area of milepost 40 on Highway 18.
- Assist outside agency with a wildfire in the 3400 block of Mill Creek Road. The fire was contained.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Suspicious vehicle reported in the area of milepost 24 on Hebo Road.
- Suspicious activity reported in the area of Grand Ronde and Agency Creek roads.

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

Tribe receives federal funds to combat opioid crisis

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, along with the state of Oregon, Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board and Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, will share in \$20 million in federal funding to combat the opioid crisis.

The funds will be distributed through two U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration programs. The programs, State Opioid Response and Tribal Opioid Response, are each in the first year of what will be a two-year program that is expected to distribute almost \$3 billion nationwide to provide community-level resources for prevention, treatment and recovery support services to both states and Tribes.

The funding to Tribes is designed to help develop tailored approaches to prevention, treatment and recovery from opioid use disorders and/or stimulant use disorders.

“I have heard heart-wrenching stories from Oregonians and members of Tribes who have lost loved ones after a prescription for an injury or treatment turned into an addiction,” Sen. Jeff Merkley said in an Aug. 31 press release announcing the grant funding. “The impact of this crisis across communities is incalculable. These funds will have a real impact on our fight to beat this epidemic.”

The Grand Ronde Tribe has recently purchased properties in Portland and Salem in which to establish medication-assisted treatment centers to help treat Tribal members and other Native Americans battling opioid addiction.

Planning and Grants Manager Kim Rogers said the Tribe will receive \$200,000 for two years — \$400,000 total — in Tribal Opioid Response funding that will help pay for a case manager to work at the new Salem clinic. ■

Graduate Center starts coaching program

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – The American Indian Graduate Center is launching Rising Native Graduates, which will offer academic coaching opportunities designed for Native undergraduate students in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington and Montana in their pursuit of a graduate or professional school education.

Rising Native Graduates is supported by a \$300,000 three-year grant from the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust and also is supported by funding from Wells Fargo.

“Indigenous scholars are not equally represented in the graduate and professional school settings,” said Angelique Albert, executive director of the American Indian Graduate Center. “The opportunity gap between academic services for Native students and other minorities is significant, particularly regarding cradle-to-career strategies. Our program is unique from any other program because it is design specifically to empower these incredible students who have statistically been left out by large educational data sets.”

Current undergraduate junior and senior Native students in the region are encouraged to take advantage of the program.

“Essentially, we are offering Native role models who can give them real advice and strategies to excel in this phase of their education,” said Dr. Salena Beaumont Hill, Rising Native Graduates program manager. “Providing this Native-centered academic support is pivotal to ensuring our students’ academic success.”

Both academic coach and scholar applications are available at AIGCS.org. ■

CTGR Youth Education Program

Academic Support Funding Program



- This program is for CTGR Tribal member students currently enrolled in the K-12 grade.
- This is a matching grant program to assist Tribal members with funds to support Native students with tutoring services, test and exam costs.
- Eligibility, terms and conditions and other details are below.

Section 1: General Purpose
 The purpose of the Academic Support Funding Program is to provide matching grants to assist Tribal members with matching funds to pay for academic support services specifically for:

- A. Tutoring services costs
- B. Test and exam prep costs

This is for K-12 students who are enrolled members of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. The grants will not be based on income.

Section 2: Eligibility Requirements
 Academic Support Matching Grants may be awarded and applied toward costs for academic support services for Tribal members under the following conditions:

- a. Applicant Eligibility Requirements:
 1. Applicant’s child must be enrolled in a K-12 Private, Public or Home School;
 2. Applicant’s child must be an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde;
 3. Applicant and child must be in good standing with the Tribe’s Debt Collection Ordinance;
 4. Applicant’s child must be participating regularly in school with no attendance issues.

Section 3: Terms and Conditions

1. Grant Applicants must be the child’s parent or legal guardian.
2. Academic Support Matching Grants may be awarded as follows:
 - Grades 9th-12th – Up to \$250 per child, per academic year
 - Grades K-8th – Up to \$125 per child, per academic year
3. Grants will be processed in order of receipt until all program funds have been expended for the calendar year.
4. Applicant is required to contribute a dollar-for-dollar match to receive any funds through the program. For example, if academic support expenses total \$400 for the academic year, the applicant must pay \$200 and apply for an Academic Support Matching Grant for \$200.
5. Payment will be made directly to the Academic Support Center or organization or may be reimbursed to parent or guardian with an approved application and receipt before service delivery. Applicant must provide documentation showing payment of the required match.
6. Sponsorship or any other CTGR program funding may not be used or counted as required match. The child must be on track to graduate to continue receiving funding each academic year. Applicant must provide documentation each academic year.
7. The program has open enrollment (can be accessed at any time throughout the year). However applications must be received by the Youth Education Department no later than the first Friday in December to allow enough time for the application to be processed and payment issued within the same calendar year. Any application received after the first week in December will be applied toward the next calendar year based on funding availability.

For more information, please contact the youth Education department at 503-879-2101.



HEALTH & WELLNESS CENTER

NEW SIGN AT THE HWC

THE DESIGNATED AREA IN FRONT OF THE CLINIC IS FOR **LOADING AND UNLOADING ONLY.**



PICK-UP AND DROP-OFF ONLY

NO PARKING

CTGR Youth Education Program

K-12 Private School Funding Program



- This program is for CTGR Tribal member students currently enrolled in the K-12 grade.
- This is a matching grant program to assist Tribal members with funds to support Native students with private school tuition costs.
- Eligibility, terms and conditions and other details are below.

Section 1: General Purpose

The purpose of the Private School Funding Program is to provide matching grants to assist Tribal members with matching funds to pay for private school tuition costs for K-12 students who are enrolled members of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. The grants will not be based on income.

Section 2: Eligibility Requirements

K-12 Private School Matching Grants may be awarded and applied toward tuition for private schooling for Tribal members under the following conditions:

1. Applicant Eligibility Requirements:
 - a. Applicant's child must be enrolled in a K-12 private school;
 - b. Applicant's child must be an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde;
 - c. Applicant and child must be in good standing with the Tribe's Debt Collection Ordinance; and
 - d. Applicant's child must have a grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or better and be on track to graduate.

Section 3: Terms and Conditions

1. Grant Applicants must be the child's parent or legal guardian.
2. K-12 Private School Matching Grants may be awarded as follows:
 - Grades 9th-12th - Up to \$1500 per child, per academic year
 - Grades K-8th - Up to \$600 per child, per academic year
3. Grants will be processed in order of receipt until all program funds have been expended for the calendar year.
4. Applicant is required to contribute a dollar-for-dollar match to receive any funds through the program. For example, if tuition expenses total \$400 for the academic year, the applicant must pay \$200 and apply for a Private School Matching Grant for \$200.
5. Payment will be made directly to the educational institution. Applicant must provide documentation showing payment of the required match.
6. The child must maintain a minimum of a 2.5 GPA and be on track to graduate to continue receiving funding each academic year. Applicant must provide documentation each academic year.
7. The program has open enrollment (can be accessed at any time throughout the year. However applications must be received by the Youth Education Department no later than the first Friday in December to allow enough time for the application to be processed and payment issued within the same calendar year. Any application received after the first week in December will be applied toward the next calendar year based on funding availability.

For more information, please contact the youth Education department at 503-879-2101.

Ad by Samuel Briggs III

Walking On...

Priscilla "Percie" Hofenbredl

July 3, 1941 – Sept. 7, 2020

Tribal Elder Priscilla "Percie" Hofenbredl, a resident of Grand Ronde, Ore., died on Monday, Sept. 7, in McMinnville, Ore.

Priscilla was born on July 3, 1941, in Salem, Ore., the daughter of David and Vida Holmes. She spent her life in Grand Ronde. Priscilla attended St. Michael's Catholic School through eighth grade in Grand Ronde. She then attended Willamina High School.



She married Larry Hofenbredl on Dec. 31, 1965, in McMinnville. Priscilla and Larry were absolutely dedicated to their children and grandchildren. They watched their children participate in logging competitions and motorcycle racing. Priscilla was the family photographer and videographer. She also was a lifelong member of St. Michael's Catholic Church in Grand Ronde.

Her children remember mom's love of baking. She was known for her sugar cookies and chocolate chip cookies, pies and potato salad. She also baked and decorated many wedding and birthday cakes. Priscilla enjoyed fishing, camping and picnics. She enjoyed visiting casinos throughout the Northwest. She was a member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.

Larry and Priscilla were faithful in attending their grandchildren's activities and were well known at all sporting events. They were just known as Grandma and Grandpa Hof and supported the whole team. She simply loved her family and spending time together. Priscilla also enjoyed karaoke and she was known for participating in the Willamina and Sheridan parades and appearing at functions dressed as Elvis Presley. She was a local celebrity.

She is survived by her children, Anna Huston, Julie Logan, Larry Jr. (Barb), Kevin (Marti) and Lee Hofenbredl, along with her grandchildren, great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandchild. She was preceded in death by her husband, Larry Hofenbredl; and siblings, Paul Holmes, Harvey Smith, Vivian Martin, Ben Bahr, Loren Holmes and Arthelia Clark.

A private family funeral Mass will be held at St. Michael's Catholic Church. A graveside service for friends and family will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, Sept. 18, at Green Crest Memorial Park in Sheridan. Social distancing and face coverings will be required for those in attendance. Visitation will be from 2 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 17, at Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Willamina Booster Club, Sheridan Booster Club or Dallas Booster Club in care of Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center, which is caring for the family. To leave an online condolence or share a memory, visit www.dallastrIBUTE.com.

Childcare Reimbursement Program

Applications accepted September 1, 2020



Purpose: Tribal Funding allocated to assist families with high costs of child care through a partial reimbursement program through the Social Services Department.

- This is a first come first serve program
- Full applications and supporting documents must be received to process application
- Approved applicants will receive the reimbursement September 1 through August 31 of the current year
- Each household will receive up to a \$100 monthly reimbursement per eligible child
- Social Services will maintain a waiting list based on date/time of application in the event that approved applicants become ineligible at any point during the current application year

Eligibility:

- The child receiving childcare must be a Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde (CTGR) member and 12 years old or younger
- Child must attend a Certified Licensed Childcare Facility
- Parent (s) / Guardian must be currently employed at least 20 hours per week or more and /or attending school as a part-time student minimum
- Two parent/guardian household, both parents/guardians must be working or attending school
- Household must meet the income criteria of 185% of Federal Poverty Level

Documentation required:

- Completed Application
- Verification of child(s) residence or custody agreement (ie. 2019 Taxes, Rental Agreement, Snap report etc.).
- Copy of childcare facility license
- Release of Information for the childcare facility
- Copies of wage stubs for the past 30 days and current classroom schedule. For two parent/guardian households, both parents must provide documentation

Contact Social Services at (503) 879-2034



HEALTH & WELLNESS NEWS

PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION
Health Security, Preparedness and Response (HSPR)



Novel Coronavirus

Fact Sheet

What is novel coronavirus?

Novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is a virus strain that has only spread in people since December 2019. Health experts are concerned because little is known about this new virus. It has the potential to cause severe illness and pneumonia in some people and there is not a treatment.

How does novel coronavirus spread?

Health experts are still learning the details about how this new coronavirus spreads. Other coronaviruses spread from an infected person to others through:

- the air by coughing and sneezing
- close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands
- touching an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes

How severe is novel coronavirus?

Experts are still learning about the range of illness from novel coronavirus. Reported cases have ranged from mild illness (similar to a common cold) to severe pneumonia that requires hospitalization. So far, deaths have been reported mainly in older adults who had other health conditions.

What are the symptoms?

People who have been diagnosed with novel coronavirus have reported symptoms that may appear in as few as 2 days or as long as 14 days after exposure to the virus:



What should I do if I have symptoms?

Call your healthcare provider to identify the safest way to receive care. Let them know if you have traveled to an affected area within the last 14 days.

Who is at risk for novel coronavirus?

Your risk of getting COVID-19 relates to your exposure to the virus. To minimize the risk of spread, health officials are working with healthcare providers to promptly identify and evaluate any suspected cases.

Travelers to and from certain areas of the world may be at increased risk. See wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel for the latest travel guidance from the CDC.

How can I prevent from getting novel coronavirus?

If you are traveling overseas follow the CDC's guidance: wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel.

Steps you can take to prevent spread of flu and the common cold will also help prevent coronavirus:

- Wash hands often with soap and water. If not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Stay home while you are sick and avoid close contact with others
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw it away. If you don't have a tissue, cough into your elbow.
- Clean and disinfect objects and surfaces that you frequently touch.



Currently, there are no vaccines available to prevent novel coronavirus infections.

How is novel coronavirus treated?

There are no medications specifically approved for coronavirus. Most people with mild coronavirus illness will recover on their own by drinking plenty of fluids, resting, and taking pain and fever medications. However, some cases develop pneumonia and require medical care or hospitalization.

For more information:

www.healthoregon.org/coronavirus

Updated 3/5/2020



PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION
Health Security, Preparedness and Response (HSPR)

You can get this document in other languages, large print, braille or a format you prefer. Contact the Public Health Division at 971-673-0977 or 971-673-0372. We accept all relay calls or you can dial 711.

OHA 2356 English (3/2020)

Focus on the Senses 5,4,3,2,1

- Find 5 things you can see.
- Find 4 things you can touch.
- Find 3 things you can hear.
- Find 2 things you can smell.
- Find 1 thing you can taste.

Embrace the Arts

- Color or draw.
- Look through recipes.
- Listen to a calming playlist.
- Play an instrument.
- Sing.

Move

- Take a walk.
- Do a few yoga poses.
- Jump on a trampoline.
- Run in place.

Connect to Nature

- Go outside and walk barefoot through the grass.
- Sit outside in a relaxed lotus position: legs crossed, hands with palms open on knees. Do slow, deep breathing.

Nurture

- Water plants.
- Clip dead leaves.
- Gather seeds for growing or sharing.
- Pick flowers.
- If you have a garden, pick fruits or veggies or weed.

Control the Environment to Calm the Senses

- Turn down the lights for a few minutes.
- Turn on soothing music or sounds.
- Light a scented candle; watch the flame.
- Wrap yourself like a burrito in a regular or weighted blanket.
- Drink ice water or go warm with hot tea.
- Give yourself a mini hand massage with a fragrant lotion.

Connect with the Animal Kingdom

- Watch fish in an aquarium.
- Do bird watching.
- Pet your furry family members.
- Fill bird feeders and see who comes to the seed buffet.
- Take a few minutes with a journal outside and track the creatures you observe.

biglifejournal.com

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, call: Kandee Little 503-879-2089

Date: Thursday, Sept. 24, 2020

Location: CTGR Clinic upper parking lot

From the Tribal Veterans Service Officer (TVSO)

National Suicide Prevention Week
September 6 to September 12



łaxayam solchas-man

Hello Veterans!



#ctgrtribalveteran
#weneedyouhere

What is a Tribal Veterans Service Officer (TVSO)?

A Veterans Service Officer (VSO) assists veterans and their families in many ways. This may include answering questions, advising and educating about what benefits are available from federal, state, county and local resources. Veterans Service Officers assist eligible persons in filing the necessary claims for those benefits at no cost. *A Tribal Veterans Service Officer (TVSO) does this specifically for Tribal/Native American Veterans.*

Most VSOs go through an accreditation process to become an Accredited Representative. This accreditation earns the VSO recognition from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) as being capable of handling veterans affairs.

I will be working toward earning my accreditation over the next year so that I will be equipped to assist you the best way that I can!



TO GIVE HELP OR GET HELP

- Call 911 if you or someone you know is in immediate danger.
- Call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255) and press 1, if you are in the Military or are a Veteran.
- Text "NOW" to 838255 to chat via text message.
- Visit www.veteranscrisisline.net to learn about suicide signs and prevention resources.
- Ask trusted friends or family for help, find a support group, access health or Veterans services, and keep yourself safe.

This marketing document was developed by your local public information team. It is not intended to replace the services and support of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. It is not intended to replace the services and support of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. It is not intended to replace the services and support of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

YOU PROTECTED US. LET US WALK WITH YOU. #WENEEDYOUHERE

PREVENT VETERAN SUICIDE

KNOW THE WARNING SIGNS

- Thinking or talking about hurting or killing yourself
- Self-destructive or risky behavior such as drug and alcohol abuse
- Erratic behavior
- Hopelessness
- Feeling like there's no way out
- Anxiety, sleeplessness, mood swings
- Withdrawing from family and friends
- Expressing feelings of guilt or shame
- Neglecting personal welfare, deteriorating physical appearance

ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE TO HELP

- Be aware of warning signs.
- Know how to contact emergency help when needed. Be supportive and non-judgmental to your loved one.
- Stay involved, ask questions, and express your concern to professionals.
- Learn about treatment options like inpatient or outpatient care.
- Help your loved one through treatment transitions. Pay close attention to their safety plan.

SUPPORT FOR CAREGIVERS

- Coaching Into Care: 1-800-832-7438, 10 P.M. to 8 P.M. (U.S.T.) National VA service aims to educate, support, and empower families and friends who are seeking care for a Veteran. Online: <https://www.mhcc.va.gov/coaching/>
- VA Caregiver Support Line: 1-855-260-3274 Online: <https://www.caregiver.va.gov/>
- Contact your local family caregiver support coordinator at a VA medical center near you.
- Helping You Help Veterans Support Center: 1-844-PsychArmor (779-2427) Online: <http://caregiverpsycharmor.org/#/waw-blogs>



Respectfully,
Ramona L. Quenelle,
CTGR TVSO
US Navy Veteran



Mailing Address:
Attn: Social Services/TVSO
9615 Grand Ronde Rd.
Grand Ronde Oregon, 97347

Email:
CTGRtribalVSO@grandronde.org
Office Phone: (503) 879-1484
Cell: (541) 921-3063