Board holds first reading to name school after Kathryn Harrison

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

The Corvallis School Board was scheduled to hold a first reading on Thursday, Aug. 12, that will rename one of the district’s schools after Kathryn Harrison, a key figure in the Grand Ronde Tribe’s Restoration effort and a longtime Tribal Council member.

Corvallis School District Superintendent Ryan Noss said that Harrison was one of three people he recommended to the School Board on Thursday, June 10. Harrison, who at 97 is the Tribe’s oldest Elder, said in June that she was “humbled and very flattered.”

Tribe updates Wood Village officials on casino plans

By Danielle Harrison
Smoke Signals staff writer

WOOD VILLAGE — Tribal Council members and staff met with Wood Village officials on Friday, July 30, to provide an update on casino plans for the former 26.5-acre Multnomah Greyhound Park property the Tribe has owned since 2015.

“This has been a fun, exciting project to work on,” Tribal Council Chief of Staff Stacia Hernandez said. “It’s been a fantastic process and we’re excited to share it with you.”

Tribe officials shared architectural renderings of the Spirit Mountain at Wood Village project, which would feature a 350,000-square-foot casino that includes a 120,000-square-foot gaming floor, 300 hotel rooms and more than 3,000 parking spaces. There also would be space for concerts and events.

In addition to Hernandez, Tribal Council Secretary Jon A. George, Tribal Council member Lisa Leno, Tribal Attorney Rob Greene and Project Manager Ryan Webb attended.

Roads to Recovery: Leno used meth for 28 years before seeking help

(Editors note: This is the fourth in a series of Smoke Signals stories in 2021 that examines addiction and recovery.)

By Danielle Harrison
Smoke Signals staff writer

When one thinks of a stereotypical addict who finally seeks help, the picture that often comes to mind is a homeless person, someone who has been in and out of jail, or an individual who has lost ties with family due to their drug use.

Tribal Elder Rhonda Leno, 58, defied all of these stereotypes.

Although she used methamphetamine for 28 years, her drug addiction was mostly well hidden from those who didn’t know her well. She was never arrested and never spent time in jail.
NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, Aug. 25</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
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<td>Wednesday, Sept. 8</td>
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Please note that these times and dates are subject to change if needed.

Letters welcome

Letters should be exclusive to smoke signals.

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 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 published unless requested. Letters must be 400 words or less. smoke signals reserves the right to edit letters and to refuse letters that are determined to contain libelous statements or personal attacks on individuals.

Tribal Council

Tribal offices will be closing noon Friday, Sept. 3, and closed on Monday, Sept. 6, in observance of Labor Day. Offices also will be closed Friday, Sept. 24, in observance of National Native American Heritage Day.

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.

Eligibility:

- The child receiving childcare must be a Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde (CTGR) member and 12 years 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(ren)’s residence or custody agreement (w. 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
LIHEAP program open in service area

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

This is a first-come, first-served program and income criteria applies. LIHEAP is federally funded through the Department of Health and Human Services and is designed to help low-income households with home heating costs.

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

(EDITOR’S NOTE: All events are tentative depending on the status of the Tribe’s COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic response.)

Making progress

Construction continues on Chemawa Station in Keizer on Saturday, Aug. 7. The project is a joint economic development effort of the Grand Ronde and Siletz Tribes.

Massage at Health & Wellness Center

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

Remember: Appointments for massage are not managed by the Health & Wellness Center staff.

To schedule an appointment, call 971-237-2561.

Tribe’s 477 program nominated for BIA award

By Danielle Harrison

Smoke Signals staff writer

Grand Ronde’s 477 Employment and Training Program has been nominated by the Northwest Region Bureau of Indian Affairs’ Workforce Development Division for a specialist award.

The award recognizes different 477 programs established by Tribes in Oregon, Washington and Idaho. It is the first time Grand Ronde’s program has been nominated, Program Manager Michael Herrin said.

“Grand Ronde’s 477 Employment and Training program serves our six-county service area and has been assisting American Indian and Alaska Natives for over two decades,” he said. “Our primary purpose is to support Tribal members in securing employment. This is done through job search activities, resume building and practicing interview skills. The 477 program has worked with many internal Tribal departments and community partners to develop and support on-the-job training opportunities. There are many successful participants that are engaged in our community and are now able to support their goal of self-sufficiency.”

The 477 employment-related assistance includes case planning to address barriers to employment and assistance with work clothing, tools, transportation and job-related licensing and fees.

The rehabilitation portion provides culturally relevant services to Tribal members with disabilities to maintain or regain employment. Services include career exploration, job coaching, job search, work clothing and tools, transportation, licensing and fees, and on-the-job training.

District renames school after Native name for falls

OREGON CITY – Oregon City School Board members unanimously voted on June 21 to change the name of one of its middle schools to Tumwata, a name that means Willamette Falls in the Clackamas Tribal language that was later anglicized to Tumwater.

The school was formerly named after Peter Skene Ogden, a fur trapper and explorer best known for his aggressive tactics in competition with Native American Tribes.

The renaming follows a recent decision by Clackamas Community College to rename its welcome center after Chief Dan Wacheno, who signed the Willamette Valley Treaty of 1855 on behalf of the Clackamas and was removed to the Grand Ronde Reservation.

School Board member Steven Soll thanked students who consulted with Grand Ronde Tribal members in selecting the new name.

“It’s a really great piece of progress, and it so rightly honors and acknowledges Indigenous people, and it’s so instructive to the community and to students who will be going to that school,” Soll said.

Includes information from Pamplin Media Group.
Food Bank news

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. 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 a continuing reaction to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic, the Food Bank will hold August food box distributions on Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

“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 211.info.

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 503-879-2037 to volunteer. 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@mariopolkfoodshare.org for more information or to volunteer.

Committee & Special Event Board meeting days and times

• Ceremonial Hunting Board meets as needed. Chair: Marline Goshong.
• Culture Committee meets at 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. The next meeting is TBA, using the Zoom teleconference application. Vice Chair: Mia Prickett. 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: Harold Lyon.
• Health Committee meets at 10 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month in the Molalla Room of the Health & Wellness Center. Chair: Bernardine Shriver.
• Housing Grievance Board meets at 4 p.m. the third Thursday of the month in the Housing Department conference room. Chair: Simone Auger.
• Powwow Committee meets at 5:30 p.m. the second Tuesday 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. Chair: Jan 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.)

2016 – The Grand Ronde eighth-grade Tribal history curriculum was released to the public and being shared with Oregon schools. The new curriculum began as a pilot project in 2014 that was funded mostly by an Administration for Native American’s Social and Economic Development Strategies grant. Seeing the need for culturally relevant and historically accurate information for Oregon students as a priority, the Tribe’s Education Department began work on a fourth-grade project that had been in public schools for two years. The Tribe’s newly released eighth-grade curriculum was a follow-up to that successful project.

2011 – The Grand Ronde Tribe flew its flags at half-mast in honor of the life of Mark Hatfield, the U.S. Senator from Oregon who played a pivotal role in ushering through Congress the Grand Ronde Restoration Act in 1981 and the Grand Ronde Reservation Act in 1988. He walked on Aug. 7 at the age of 89. “Words cannot describe what he did for us,” said Tribal Elder Kathryn Harrison, who worked on the Grand Ronde Restoration effort in the early 1980s and served many terms as Tribal Council chairwoman. “His kindness, dignity and respect... He was a genuine friend of the Tribe. What a loss.”

2006 – Tribal member Una Birchum met her son she gave up for adoption 40 years after he was born. She gave birth to the child at the age of 15 at a home for unwed mothers in Portland, and he was adopted by a family who lived in Salem. Through Internet research and phone calls, the two were reunited. “I see it as a miracle,” Birchum said. “It’s given me a whole different way of looking at the future. I have all my children now.”

2001 – After several months of studying various appellate rules of other Oregon Tribes, the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde established its own appeals court. “We are welcoming lawyers and non-lawyers and all Tribal members to visit and use the Tribal Court,” a Smoke Signals article stated.

1996 – The Natural Resources Department completed a management plan to be used as a directive through the year 2000. The plan detailed how the Tribe would manage the Reservation and recreational areas for its benefit, while protecting natural and cultural resources, as well as threatened and endangered species. The plan also analyzed the timber market, made projections for the future and explained processes by which the Tribe inventoried timber on the Reservation.

1991 – Tribal Council voted to amend the Election Ordinance to change the notarization of signatures for absentee ballot requests from mandatory to optional after concerns were voiced about the timing of requiring notarizations in a short period before the upcoming election. Council members stated it was their intention to make notarization mandatory following the Sept. 7 election.

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

POLK COUNTY

“Woman, infant and Children

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Is now in Grand Ronde

For more information call

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(Noticias publicadas en español)

File photo

SMOKE SIGNALS 4 AUGUST 15, 2021
Public Notice Open for Comment

This is a Public Notice for Comment on the Grand Ronde Tribe’s application for 2022 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funding. The Grand Ronde Tribe obtained a LIHEAP grant last year from the Division of Energy Assistance within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. This grant program assists income eligible Tribal members with energy assistance (utility bills, firewood, etc.), cooling assistance, crisis energy assistance and weatherization (e.g. furnace repair, caulking, insulation).

The Tribe’s LIHEAP service area includes Polk, Yamhill, Marion, Multnomah, Washington, Tillamook and Clackamas counties. If you are interested in obtaining services from the current program, please contact Social Services at 800-242-8196 for energy assistance and Tribal Housing at 503-879-2405 for weatherization.

The Tribe is taking public comment on the 2022 LIHEAP application and plan and the associated policies that are to be submitted by Sept. 1, 2021. The latest draft will be available for review at the Social Services Department at the Community Services Center starting Aug. 10, 2021. You may also call the Planning & Grants Development Department at 503-879-2250 with your comments on the plan or to obtain more information about the plan.

Cultural Encampment slated in Linn County

SWEET HOME – A three-day encampment in Linn County will be put on by Grand Ronde Tribal Elder Deitz Peters and family.

The cultural encampment is slated for Friday through Sunday, Aug. 27-29, at Cascadia State Park, which is east of Sweet Home off Highway 20. It will feature two tipis for viewing, leather crafts and storytelling around a campfire.

The encampment begins at 1 p.m. each day and wraps with a celebration feast scheduled for 4 p.m. Sunday.

For more information about the encampment, visit the Linn County Parks & Recreation website at linnparks.com.

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.

2021 Annual Fish Distribution

This year fish will be handed out in a drive through system. Please follow the signage up to the fish lab, receive your fish and then follow the new exit loop out road.

We will be asking that you remain in your vehicles again this year and the fish will be brought out to you. Thank you for understanding and consideration of others during this time.

Are you a military Veteran?

(All Veterans Welcome! Tribal or non-Tribal and in the local area)

Q: Has it been a while since you applied for benefits or had your benefits reviewed?
A: New legislation could have been passed since the last time you applied for benefits which means potential new avenues of eligibility for you!

Q: Do you have a current service-connected disability, but are interested in applying for an increase or additional disabilities?
A: Contact me to schedule an intake appointment as soon as we can to start the process.

Q: Have you thought about applying, but think you might not qualify?
A: Contact me and let’s try anyway. You might qualify for additional compensation.

Q: Do you know a Veteran who has not applied for their military benefits, but should try?
A: Refer them to me or give them my contact information (blue box below).

Are you a spouse of a military Veteran?

Q: Have you heard there might be burial benefits or spouse benefits but aren’t sure?

Do you want to help your Veteran spouse apply for and/or increase their benefits?

Do you have questions about Veteran benefits that could help you and/or your family?

Do you worry about what to do if something happens to your Veteran spouse?

Have you wondered how you might make ends meet if something happened?

Please follow the signage up the hill to the fish lab, receive this year fish will be handed out in a drive through system.

Also, please make sure and maintain low levels of music in the Elder Housing. We respectfully ask everyone to think of those living in the Elder Housing.

For understanding and consideration of others during this time.

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Have you wondered how you might make ends meet if something happened?
Tribal government limits access due to uptick in COVID-19 cases

By Danielle Harrison
Smoke Signals staff writer

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde announced that it started a three-week pause on Tuesday, Aug. 3, closing the governmental campus to everyone but essential employees due to an uptick in COVID-19 cases. It is the first COVID-related closure in almost three months.

General Manager David Fullerton announced the initial two-week pause via e-mail on Monday, Aug. 2.

“We all want to put this behind us but the COVID-19 pandemic is far from over,” he said. “Practice social distancing, wash your hands and wear a mask. Let’s work together to get past this.”

On Wednesday, Aug. 11, Fullerton announced that the governmental campus would continue to limit access through at least Friday, Aug. 20.

Employees are encouraged to work from home if possible. Staff not able to work remotely were given administrative leave. Staff not able to work remotely who live in their households, other Native Americans and their household members, and Tribal employees and their household members 12 and older can schedule a vaccination through the Health & Wellness Center by calling 503-879-1900.

Fullerton emphasized that the COVID-19 Delta variant during a Facebook Live event held on Tuesday, Aug. 3.

A recent uptick in active cases has led to the Tribal campus once again being closed to the public, with all non-essential employees being encouraged to work from home.

“In as little as a few weeks, we have gone from zero to 16 active cases,” Rowe said. “This is a significant increase and the most we have had at any given time. Delta is not the virus of last year. It has mutated to the point where it is incredibly contagious and spreading quickly.”

She added that although there are some breakthrough infections among the vaccinated, the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines have continued to provide good prevention against getting the virus at approximately 95 percent.

“It has also kept people from getting severe illness from COVID,” she said. “Delta will continue to mutate and change. We believe it will mutate until we reach community immunity.”

The Facebook Live event was the 20th held by the Tribal government since March 2020. Approximately 70 people logged on to watch the broadcast, which included Rowe, Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy and General Manager David Fullerton.

Kennedy said that the Tribes have come through great struggles in 2020 and 2021, and that leaders continue to remain vigilant and others will work from home, ”he said. “We will make a decision mid-next week about planning moving forward.”

He also said that ballots for the upcoming Tribal Council election on Sept. 11 will be sent out on Sunday, Aug. 8, and Tribal members are encouraged to mail those in. Those who drop their ballots off in person must call Security at 503-879-1913 to be admitted into the Governance Center.

In closing, Kennedy again encouraged people to get vaccinated. Tribal for a variety of those who live in their households, other Native Americans and their household members, and Tribal employees and their household members 12 and older who want to do so at the campus clinic are asked to call the Health & Wellness Center vaccination line at 503-879-1900.

“Let’s be the banner of protection for our children,” Kennedy said. Rowe also addressed vaccine hesitancy.

“People are hesitant to get vaccinated for a variety of reasons,” she said. “Some are worried about side effects. The percentage of any adverse event from the vaccine is very low, but the protection it provides is much higher. Side effects of the vaccine are short-lived, but COVID can go on for months. People who are vaccinated and get the virus become much less sick. They might have symptoms, but these are very minimal.”

Rowe also noted the messenger RNA technology that is used in the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines has been around for almost two decades.

“There were no steps that were skipped in the development of these vaccines,” she said. “Because of the urgent need, phase three clinical trials were run concurrently instead of consecutively. This was not rushed. It was designed to help your body fight the virus. It doesn’t change your DNA, implant a tracking device or cause infertility. … Instead, it informs everyone at the information and talk with your provider so you can move forward with getting the vaccine.”

Kennedy emphasized that the two-week pause at the Tribal campus was not a shutdown.

“Let’s be the banner of protection for our children,” Kennedy said. **Funds will be applied to past-due balances before applying assistance to current or future payments which cannot exceed 12 months total.**

For more information or to apply please contact the Grand Ronde Housing Department at 503-879-2401 or email the Housing Department at rhd@grandronde.org or download the application paperwork from the Housing website at https://www.grandronde.org/services/housing/covid-19-emergency-rental-assistance/.

**Grand Ronde Tribal Members Rental Assistance and Utility Assistance Funds Grants Now Available**

Grand Ronde Housing Department has been awarded Treasury dollars that are available for Tribal members that have been adversely affected by Covid 19. These funds will be able to be used for rents and utilities that are past due and/or additionally for those that are currently affected and continue to be affected by Covid 19. In addition to past-due rent and utilities, applicants may request assistance with current month rent/utilities and up to three (3) months Prospective (future) rent and/or utilities. Prospective assistance can be requested in three (3) month increments at a time. If you need to request additional assistance, you may do so after an additional three (3) months, providing you still meet the qualification requirements.

** Certified Application Assistors at the Health & Wellness Center **

Cassandra Rhamy is available to assist with recertification and applications for the Oregon Health Plan. She can be reached at 503-879-1359 or cassandra.rhamy@grandronde.org.

Leah Bailey is also a Certified Application Assistor available to help. She can be reached at 503-879-2197 or leah.bailey@grandronde.org.

Join us! Cultural Education

Aren't you missing out on what Cultural Education has to offer? Follow us on Facebook to get detailed information, photos, sneak peeks of events, and updates. Plus, check out the tribal calendar for a quick glance of upcoming events and classes.

Open to Tribal and Community members. Join us! **Cultural Education**
Tribal Council adds 25 more names to Restoration Roll

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

Tribal Council continued adding members to the Restoration Roll by approving 25 new names during its Wednesday, Aug. 11, meeting, which marked the first time it has met at 4 p.m. since March 2020.

The 25 names bring the number of Tribal members who have been added to the historically important roll since 2019 to 446. Tribal Council added 204 names in 2019, 127 names in 2020 and has now added 115 names this year.

The Restoration Roll was the first roll compiled of Grand Ronde Tribal members after Nov. 22, 1983, and included 1,101 names. However, because the membership had become so dispersed during the 29 years after 1954’s 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 to Member Services for addition to the Restoration Roll, allows a Tribal member who was living on Aug. 13, 1954 – date of congressional approval of the Western Oregon Indian Termination Act – 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 included as a Tribal member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde” to a member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde to be added. The criteria allow a Tribal member to secure a land claim as a result of the Tribe having provided a step-by-step process to evaluate the best management practices to control them by taking into account site conditions, weather, the target species, etc.; approved the enrollment of three infants into the Tribe because they meet the requirements outlined in the Enrollment Ordinance and the Tribal Constitution; approved management plans for the Ahnay and Noble Oaks conservation properties that the Tribe acquired through the Willamette Wildlife Mitigation Program; Fish & Wildlife Program Management by Dirkson; and approved a construction of infrastructure and utilities for the Tribe’s home ownership development project on the 98.5-acre Rink 2 property in Grand Ronde.

Tribal Council also approved a contract with Willamette Valley Excavating Inc. of Turner, Ore., to construct infrastructure and utilities to support the Creekside Elder Housing development that will be built at the southwest corner of Grand Ronde and Hebo roads; and approved a construction contract to replace a culvert on Rink 1 property in the Tribe’s westlands north of Grand Ronde.

Public Works Manager John Mercier said the new bottomless culvert will allow for better fish passage on Yoncalla Creek.

Also included in the Aug. 11 Tribal Council packet were two approved authorizations to proceed that will allow the Information Systems Department to work with Native Networks to submit a grant application to fund installing a fiber optic network on the Reservation where feasible and gives Health Services Executive Director Kelly Rowie permission not to renew the adult foster homes’ license with the Oregon Department of Human Services because of barriers to residency in the program.

To watch the entire meeting, visit the Tribal government website at www.grandonde.org and click on the Government tab and then Video.

Harrison served on Tribal Council from 1984 to 2001

NAMING continued from front page

Harrison’s name was among the top 20 suggestions that the task force considered. The top names also included Chepeneva, which was an indigenous Kalapuyan group that lived in present-day Corvallis; Bessie Coleman, the first known African American and Native American woman to hold a pilot’s license; and Tiacan, a Santiam Kalapuya principal chief. The task force evaluated suggestions through six criteria, the Gazette-Times reported, emphasizing names that evoke inspiration, reflect commitments to social justice, represent women, honor local Indigenous history, show the community’s connection to place and respect white dominance.

After the top 20 suggestions were released to the public, the task force received feedback from 150 community members and 187 students returned surveys sent out by Noss.

“There were about four people who received almost unanimous support, and Kathryn was one of them,” Noss said.

Public comments were most in favor of Harrison, Leititia Carson, the only Black woman in Oregon to secure a land claim as a result of the 1862 Homestead Act, and Chepeneva. Students leaned toward Carson as new elementary school names.

Harrison was born Kathryn May Jones in 1924 in Corvallis to Harry Jones and Ella Flemming.

Her father was Molalla and her mother Eyak. She attended school in Corvallis before enrolling in Chemawa Indian School in Salem.

Robert Willis, a key participant in the Grand Ronde Tribe’s early 1980s Restoration efforts, restoration and barriers the state places on Native-owned business out of Yakima, Wash., to begin construction of infrastructure and utilities for the Tribe’s home ownership development project on the 98.5-acre Rink 2 property in Grand Ronde.

Tribal Council also approved a contract with Willamette Valley Excavating Inc. of Turner, Ore., to construct infrastructure and utilities to support the Creekside Elder Housing development that will be built at the southwest corner of Grand Ronde and Hebo roads; and approved a construction contract to replace a culvert on Rink 1 property in the Tribe’s westlands north of Grand Ronde.

Public Works Manager John Mercier said the new bottomless culvert will allow for better fish passage on Yoncalla Creek.

Also included in the Aug. 11 Tribal Council packet were two approved authorizations to proceed that will allow the Information Systems Department to work with Native Networks to submit a grant application to fund installing a fiber optic network on the Reservation where feasible and gives Health Services Executive Director Kelly Rowie permission not to renew the adult foster homes’ license with the Oregon Department of Human Services because of barriers to residency in the program.

To watch the entire meeting, visit the Tribal government website at www.grandonde.org and click on the Government tab and then Video.

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One needs to do what they need to do to

RECOVERY continued from front page

“I didn’t have a rock bottom,” she says. “It took years. Even losing primary custody of my kids to their dad wasn’t enough. The fight seemed too big and I wasn’t in a good place. … I chose to be prideful, stubborn and refused to surrender.”

Leno first tried methamphetamine at a party in 1981. At first, it was all in good fun. “It was really recreational at that point and I never thought it would lead to anything big enough for me to quit,” she says. “I was a mom and a friend. It was a blessing, but also a curse. She began to use drugs as well and our relationship was toxic. I knew I was the one who had to initialize a change. She followed suit.”

When Leno told her father what her plans were, he didn’t say much. “What dad told me was, ‘One needs to do what they need to do.’ Before, I was always trying to figure out why things went wrong. I never would question if it was because of the drugs. There were always other reasons. It just baffles me now how easy the answer was.”

Not one to put things off once a decision was made, Leno called the Behavioral Health Clinic in Grand Ronde and was soon headed to a 21-day inpatient treatment clinic in Salem, followed by 90 days of outpatient treatment.

Once her sobriety was stable, Leno secured housing and began working in the Tribal temporary pool for the Behavioral Health Clinic in Grand Ronde, which opened in 2014.

That was followed by a full-time job with the Tribe’s Social Services Department. “I had been there ever since and currently works for a vocational rehabilitation trainee. “That is one of my rewards today,” Leno says. “To be able to help other people who come in have barriers very similar to what I had to deal with. We connect very naturally and I feel like I’m able to help them at their level. I never feel like I have to go to work. I feel like I get to go to work and be with people who matter a lot to me. They talk openly to me about their struggles and I share my story.”

Leno also credits her family and the values she was raised with for not losing herself to drugs. Although she did relapse once after her father passed away in 2010, it was short-lived. “I chose to do it,” she says. “I chose my relapse. If I was clean and sober, then why would I want to hang out with drugs and friends? Yet, I see people doing it over and over again.”

Although she is grateful for the numerous recovery services the Tribe provides, one thing Leno wished would have been an option for her after completing inpatient treatment was a facility like the Women’s Transitional House, which opened in 2014.

“I would have been waiting on the doorstep,” she says. “It’s good because the women can also have their kids there.”

Leno has appreciated the opportunity her job has provided to help others on the road to recovery.

“I have watched so many people progress and get their first job and have sobriety work for them and have that be a big reward in and of itself,” she says. “I encourage people never to give up. Have a sponsor if you do AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) or NA (Narcotics Anonymous). Have a big support circle because you’ll need it at every turn.”

Unlike some people who prefer to keep their recovery journey private, Leno enjoys telling others her story. “I love to talk about recovery,” she says. “All throughout this campus you will find support. I had so much support here at the Tribe and we are so lucky. We have resources here.”

Leno is grateful that the shame and stigma that often surrounds addiction and leads to isolation is beginning to change.

“I remember when there wasn’t much talk about recovery,” she says. “Instead there was denial of the problem. Everyone I know has a family member who has struggled with addiction. It’s a real issue here and there is less judgment now than in the past.”

Willamina, Sheridan plan full-time, in-person instruction for fall

By Danielle Harrison

WILLAMINA — Local schools are gearing up to welcome students back to campus for in-person learning this fall amid the Oregon Health Authority’s new statewide rule requiring masks in all indoor school settings, both public and private, for all individuals 2 years of age and older.

The rule will include students, staff, contractors, volunteers and visitors. Previously, the Health Authority had planned to leave the decision up to individual school districts, but that was amended Aug. 2 due to the sharp uptick in COVID-19 cases due to the highly contagious Delta variant.

Schools that violate the mandate are subject to a $500 fine per violation per day. Students are not required to wear masks while participating in indoor sports during physical education classes, although individual school districts can require mask usage in those situations. Masks also will not be required in non-school sites such as in the district office or settings such as school board meetings.

In the Willamina School District, where a majority of Grand Ronde Tribal members and descendants attend, classes will look much the same as last spring before COVID-19 arrived. The district plans to offer full-time, in-person learning five days a week.

If school is closed due to the pandemic, the district will revert to distance learning and each student will be provided with a technology device. The first day of school is Monday, Aug. 30.

“We will adhere to the mask mandate and require everyone to wear masks as outlined in the mandate,” Superintendent Carrie Zimbrick said. “I encourage people never to give up. Have a sponsor if you do AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) or NA (Narcotics Anonymous). Have a big support circle because you’ll need it at every turn.”

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Kathryn Harrison

For more information contact, Kathi Koch at (503) 877-1461 or kathi.koch@grandronde.org
Tribe purchased property in 2015 for $10 million

CASINO continued from front page

attended the meeting. Webb said that configuring the 26-acre site in a way where it could blend in with the natural surroundings had been challenging.

“It seems like a lot of space, but as you put down ideas, it becomes quite a constrained site,” he said. “That’s why we’re incorporating cultural pieces into the design.”

As visitors enter the casino, the architect’s rendering shows wood planks surrounding it, complemented by lights designed to look like a river and highlight the Tribe’s connection to local waterways.

“We’ve been ecstatic about the work our architect has done,” Webb said.

Hernandez said that the Wood Village facility would look very different than the Tribe’s flagship casino in Grand Ronde.

“For us, this has been exciting because we wanted something to complement the area and speak to who we are as a people,” she said. “It was an opportunity to get creative. GBD has done a fantastic job getting to know us and the community.”

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The Tribe purchased the property in December 2015 for $10 million after it had been proposed twice as a privately owned casino. Oregon voters rejected the idea of a privately owned casino. Oregon voters after it had been proposed twice as in December 2015 for $10 million.

The Tribe could not find a buyer and then the Siletz Tribe, which operates Chinook Winds in Lincoln City, filed an application on April 30, 2020, with the Department of the Interior’s Office of Indian Gaming to build an 180,800-square-foot casino just north of downtown Salem. The Grand Ronde Tribe subsequently announced in October its plans to reassess the site as the possible location for a second Tribal casino.

Among the inquiries were how the Tribe envisioned using the rooftop space, if the number of hotel rooms could be added or subtracted, traffic patterns, the possibility of a swimming pool and how many buses and recreational vehicles currently utilize Spirit Mountain Casino’s parking areas.

“A pool has been something that we have heard about from our Tribal membership before, but for this site, we’ve left it off the table,” Hernandez said. “However, there is flexibility there as we get into building details.”

Greene noted that as a Tribe wanting to build a casino, the Bureau of Indian Affairs has its own process that must be followed to gain approval of the project, including a Tribal needs analysis and community impact studies.

“When it is complete, BIA will look at it and see if more is needed,” he said. “We want to make sure everyone is on board because if not, that becomes a problem. We want to get any issues resolved up front because that is key during the process. The idea is if it will show how it is beneficial for everyone that will make the process better. That’s where we want to be. If the local community is in, your chances of approval go up.”

George said that the Grand Ronde Tribe is the largest in Oregon and is getting close to having 6,000 members.

“There is a need to provide health care, education and housing grants,” he said. “We continue to grow, but are also concerned about what having a casino going into Salem will do. We have to stay ahead of that because it would devastate us and the services we provide. … A casino in Wood Village will bring people to the area and hopefully stop some from going across the river (to the Cowlitz Tribe’s Ilani Casino). It’s a win-win for everybody.”

Tribal members will have an opportunity to learn more about the project during the 11 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 12, General Council meeting, tentatively scheduled to be held in the Community Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road.
Learning to weave

Youth Empowerment & Prevention Grant Coordinator Angey Rideout helps Tribal youth Aven Cox, 12, use twining and plating to create a miniature clam basket on Wednesday, July 28. Tribal youths learned to use twining and plating to create miniature clam baskets from southern Oregon Tribes during a session sponsored by the Youth Empowerment & Prevention Program.

Tribal youths learned how to use twining and plating while weaving miniature clam baskets.

Photos by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Kyleigh Johnson, 13, and Benjamin Powley, 16, receive help from Seq’hiya Simmons, 15, while learning how to weave on Wednesday, July 28.
TERO Worker of the Month
July 2021

Name: Jacob Thorpe
Employer: Pacific Northwest Contractors LLC
Position: Labor

Jacob Thorpe applied for the TERO Skills Bank in October 2020. He was hired on with RJR Construction in November and has helped with the Spirit Mountain Casino bathroom remodel for more than eight months. Jacob has also worked for Pacific Northwest Contractors LLC, where his skill set as a laborer and cement mason has been utilized on their projects.

Great job, Jacob. Way to represent Grand Ronde TERO!

For more information on the TERO Skills Bank and any other TERO opportunities, contact the TERO office or the TERO director.
TERO Office: 503-879-1488 or tero@grandronde.org

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The Request for Proposals (RFP) is being conducted by the Member Services Department for the purpose of obtaining a licensed contractor who has 5+ years of experience preparing tax returns. Qualified applicants shall possess the ability to:

- Provide tax preparation services to Tribal Elders and foster youth living on and off Tribal lands.
- Assist Tribal members in completing tax-related paperwork.
- Serve as a resource to Tribal members who have questions regarding payment and filing of state and federal tax returns.

Preference will be given to members of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and/or Indian-owned businesses registered with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde TERO office.

Please contact Veronica Montano for information. All proposals must be submitted by 5 p.m. Monday, Aug. 16, 2021.

Veronica Montano, Member Services Department
9615 Grand Ronde Road
Grand Ronde, OR 97347
Veronica.montano@grandronde.org
503-879-2251

The timberland sales office is now located in the Governance Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, and the phone number is 503-879-2371.

For convenience, blank signature verification forms will be placed in a hanging basket outside the Elections Office door. Completed forms — with a notarized signature or legible copy of ID, including your signature (driver’s license, member ID card, passport, etc.) attached — need to be mailed to the Election Board for processing. The form will not be processed unless it has been notarized or includes a legible copy of ID and your signature attached.

Ballots were mailed to voters with verified signatures on Wednesday, July 28. Tribal members may submit a verified signature card at any time up to and including Election Day on Saturday, Sept. 11.

The Grand Ronde post office is no longer open to accept ballots on Saturday, Sept. 11. Office hours will be from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. with lunch from noon to 12:30 p.m.

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Watchlist: ‘Indigenous In Plain Sight’

By Kamiah Koch
Smoke Signals social media/digital journalist

Gregg Deal introduced himself as a husband, father, artist and activist during a TEDx event he spoke at in Boulder, Colo.

A video of the event was published to YouTube on June 26, 2018, and has since amassed more than 135,000 views. In his talk, called “Indigenous In Plain Sight,” Deal uses the TEDx platform to talk about the Native American topics his artwork addresses.

He shared he’s from the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe and displayed his artwork (some controversial) on the projection screens behind him. He said his artwork explores topics of Indigenous identity, historical consideration and decolonization.

Deal introduced his varied artwork: from performance art addressing blood quantum issues, murals in cities depicting Native youth identities and the type of art he focused on most in the TEDx talk, his gallery paintings.

He used his paintings to broach his interpretations as a Native artist. He believes the value of Indigenous people is low in the eyes of America and American culture. He explained he finds that more often than not, if Native people don’t fit into the stereotyped version of them, they are not seen at all.

He said in his experience, if Native artwork “fits what Western culture expects” it has a better chance of selling and artwork that “isn’t informed by the Western buyer’s market” does not.

He used one of his painting to explain. He displayed on the screen a painting of small boy standing with hunched shoulders and bloody elbows and knees. Deal explained it’s a story from a neighboring Tribe about a young Native boy who was forced to go to a residential school called Stewart Indian School in Nevada. When he entered the school they bathed him because they think he is dirty. He has dark skin so his elbows and knees have more melanin than the rest of his body.

The woman bathing the boy assumed this is dirt and she scrubbed his elbows and knees until he was bleeding.

This story was the inspiration for Deal’s painting, but he said because the painting doesn’t fit the traditional type of artwork expected from Native people, he feels the reaction from non-Native people says, “These stories don’t matter.”

He challenged the audience to take his artwork and the stories he told in the TEDx talk and do their own research if they aren’t familiar with residential schools or Native life.

“Are you making spaces for Indigenous people in your home and in your workplace? Are you creating inclusion in those places?”, Deal said to the audience in the video. “Are you realizing that as you walk these lands that there are people who walked these lands before you? These are sacred and important things and Indigenous people are still here and we matter.”

To watch the entire 13-minute video, go to www.youtube.com/watch?v=3FL9uhTH_s or visit the Smoke Signals YouTube channel and find it under the “Watchlist” playlist.
2021 Tribal hunting tags

Please NOTE an application rule added in the highlight BELOW.

As previously announced, on Sept. 5, 2014, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Commission approved the Tribal Fish and Wildlife Management Plan. The approval delegated authority to the Tribe, regaining sovereignty over natural resources on the Tribal Reservation and trust lands. An administrative rule was developed as part of the approval process that provides additional hunting tags to the Tribe outside of the state-issued regular and ceremonial hunting tags already allocated to the membership. The new tags will be valid on the Reservation only as identified by the red line in the figure at right.

The Fish & Wildlife Department staff will begin notifying successful applicants by telephone on Wednesday, Sept. 15, 2021. Call prioritization will be based on season begin date. A public tag draw will NOT be available this year.

APPLICATION RULES:

- Tribal hunting licenses are required before submitting applications with the exception that Tribal members 11 years of age and under may apply. However, they must turn 12 and have their Hunter's Safety Certificate submitted to the Natural Resources Department before a tag will be issued. Under no circumstances will a tag be issued without the Hunter’s Safety Certificate on file. If a license is not obtained before the submission application, all applications will be voided.
- Incomplete or duplicate applications will be voided. Applications must be legible and signed in all designated spaces.
- Tribal members 17 and under must possess a valid Hunter’s Safety Certificate.
- Tags are non-transferable.

- Receiving a YOUTH tag renders that hunter ineligible for the corresponding regular season tag.
- TUTORIAL: Tribal members must successfully complete a one-time mandatory educational tutorial discussing tag rules, regulations, applications and reporting as well as receive associated tutorial materials before awarded tag can be picked up. Hunters drawn for tags will be notified of tutorial course dates and times. If you have previously completed the tutorial, you may apply.

TRIBAL LICENSES are issued at the Natural Resources Department. Please call ahead of time to schedule an appointment to obtain your license. Tribal Enrollment Cards are required at the time of licensing and, in addition, Hunter’s Safety Certificates are required for youth 17 and under.

ONLY ONE APPLICATION PER CATEGORY! Multiple applications will result in ALL APPLICATIONS being voided for that hunter. Categories are as follows:

- DEER
  - BOW ONLY (Hunters may apply for both deer and elk bow hunts).
    - Bow Season Coast Buck: Sept. 27 to Oct. 1.
  - FIREARM ONLY (Hunters may apply only for one hunt; Deer Centerfire Firearm or Deer Muzzleloader Rifle).
    - Centerfire Firearm Season Coast Buck: Nov. 6-12.
- ELK (ELK HUNTERS may not apply for multiple Seasons and must choose one Season to apply; Bow, First Season, Second Season, or Muzzleloader)
  - BOW ONLY (Hunters may apply for both deer and elk bow hunts).
  - FIREARM ONLY
    - First Season Centerfire Firearm Bull: Nov. 17-19.
    - Second Season Centerfire Firearm Any Elk (hair tag): Nov. 27 to Dec. 1.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 5 p.m. Friday, Sept. 10, 2021. Applications may be mailed, faxed, e-mailed or hand-delivered to one of the following:

Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
Delivered: 47010 S.W. Hebo Road
Mailed: 9615 Grand Ronde Road
Grand Ronde, OR 97347
Office: 503-879-2424
Fax: 503-879-5622
NRD@grandronde.org

Tags will be only be issued after successful applicants have been notified. The earliest tags will be available for issue is Monday, Sept. 20, 2021.

A Grand Ronde Tribal Hunting and Fishing License will be required to be shown at time of tag pickup. Tags will not be allowed to be picked up for other hunters. No exceptions to either of these rules.

- Under no circumstances will a tag be issued without all of the proper documentation.
- Lost tags will not be replaced. It is the hunter’s responsibility to keep all tags in a safe and secure place.
In accordance with the Natural Resources Fish & Wildlife Ordinance, all tag reports (kill or no kill, and lost tags) are required TO BE REPORTED within 10 days of the last day of hunt. In an attempt to help all hunters achieve this, the Natural Resources Department will allow reporting in the following ways: Telephone at 503-879-2424, e-mail at NRD@grandronde.org; mail at 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde OR 97347, and in person to the Natural Resources Department, 47010 S.W. Hebo Road, Grand Ronde OR 97347 where a secured drop box is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. As a reminder, cards not returned within the established deadlines are subject to suspension.

**NEW** TRIBAL TAGS RESERVATION ONLY

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**Tag Return Deadlines**

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TRIBAL TAG - RESERVATION ONLY
YOUTH BOW BUCK
SEP 27 - OCT 01, 2021

NAME:
ADDRESS:
CITY: STATE:
ZIP: ROLL #: PHONE: ( )
EMAIL:

As the person who is obtaining this Tribal Hunting tag, I declare under the penalty of perjury that to the best of my knowledge the information provided in obtaining this tag is true and correct, and that I am qualified under all applicable laws and statutes to possess this tag and carry a weapon for the potential harvest of a game animal.

By checking this box I acknowledge I have read the foregoing statement and agree with its terms. I have read and understood the rules and regulations of the State of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, and the federal government.

TRIBAL TAG - RESERVATION ONLY
YOUTH MUZZLELOADER DEER (ANY)
DEC 02 - DEC 08, 2021

NAME:
ADDRESS:
CITY: STATE:
ZIP: ROLL #: PHONE: ( )
EMAIL:

As the person who is obtaining this Tribal Hunting tag, I declare under the penalty of perjury that to the best of my knowledge the information provided in obtaining this tag is true and correct, and that I am qualified under all applicable laws and statutes to possess this tag and carry a weapon for the potential harvest of a game animal.

By checking this box I acknowledge I have read the foregoing statement and agree with its terms. I have read and understood the rules and regulations of the State of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, and the federal government.

TRIBAL TAG - RESERVATION ONLY
YOUTH 1ST SEASON ELK (BULL)
NOV 17 - NOV 19, 2021

NAME:
ADDRESS:
CITY: STATE:
ZIP: ROLL #: PHONE: ( )
EMAIL:

As the person who is obtaining this Tribal Hunting tag, I declare under the penalty of perjury that to the best of my knowledge the information provided in obtaining this tag is true and correct, and that I am qualified under all applicable laws and statutes to possess this tag and carry a weapon for the potential harvest of a game animal.

By checking this box I acknowledge I have read the foregoing statement and agree with its terms. I have read and understood the rules and regulations of the State of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, and the federal government.

TRIBAL TAG - RESERVATION ONLY
YOUTH 2ND SEASON ELK (ANY)
NOV 27 - DEC 01, 2021

NAME:
ADDRESS:
CITY: STATE:
ZIP: ROLL #: PHONE: ( )
EMAIL:

As the person who is obtaining this Tribal Hunting tag, I declare under the penalty of perjury that to the best of my knowledge the information provided in obtaining this tag is true and correct, and that I am qualified under all applicable laws and statutes to possess this tag and carry a weapon for the potential harvest of a game animal.

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TRIBAL TAG - RESERVATION ONLY
YOUTH MUZZLELOADER ELK (ANY)
DEC 09 - DEC 22, 2021

NAME:
ADDRESS:
CITY: STATE:
ZIP: ROLL #: PHONE: ( )
EMAIL:

As the person who is obtaining this Tribal Hunting tag, I declare under the penalty of perjury that to the best of my knowledge the information provided in obtaining this tag is true and correct, and that I am qualified under all applicable laws and statutes to possess this tag and carry a weapon for the potential harvest of a game animal.

By checking this box I acknowledge I have read the foregoing statement and agree with its terms. I have read and understood the rules and regulations of the State of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, and the federal government.
Smoke Signals receives 11 journalism awards

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor
Smoke Signals, the independent newspaper of the Grand Ronde Tribe, won 11 journalism awards for work that its staff members produced in 2020.

The awards include eight received from the Native American Journalists Association and three received from the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association.

In the former contest, Smoke Signals was recognized as the fourth best Tribal newspaper in its category with an honorable mention in the General Excellence competition.

Smoke Signals photojournalist Timothy J. Gonzalez received second- and third-place awards in the Best Photo of Native America category for his photographs of snow falling on the Visionaries statue and geese flying over the West Valley Veterans Memorial, respectively. He also received an honorable mention in the same category for photos of Tribal members participating in a Black Lives Matter protest that was held in Dallas.

Tribal member Kamiah Koch, who is Smoke Signals’ social media/digital journalist, received a third-place award in the Radio/Podcast Best Feature Story category for her podcast about the Grand Ronde community garden. She also received first- and second-place awards in the TV Best News Story category for her reports posted on YouTube about the proposed site of a new Grand Ronde gaming facility in Wood Village and the Tribe hosting a fire camp in September, respectively.

Tribal member Justin Phillips, who is Smoke Signals’ page designer, received a second-place award in the Best Layout category.

The 11 awards bring Smoke Signals’ total to 110 since 2007. “Independent quality journalism is the foundation for a successful publication and I am thrilled to see the hard work and dedication of this staff recognized on a national stage year after year,” said Editorial Board Secretary Andy Jenness.

“As an Editorial Board member, I am very pleased with the continued excellence of our Smoke Signals editor and staff,” said Editorial Board Vice Chair Mia Prickett. “Earning 110 awards in 15 years is no small feat, especially considering that Smoke Signals is the fourth best Tribal newspaper of the Grand Ronde community with multiple awards. As a Tribal member, I am grateful we have an independent free press that provides accurate, timely truth to us all.”

Smoke Signals competes in Division II for Tribal newspapers with circulations of between 5,000 and 10,000 copies. NADA gives Associate awards to non-Tribal members working for Tribal publications and Professional awards for Tribal members who work for Tribal publications.

NAJA, which has canceled its annual convention for the second year in a row because of the COVID-19 pandemic, will honor award recipients during a virtual ceremony on Nov. 28.

Meanwhile, the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association announced that Smoke Signals has received three awards – one for Gonzalez’s news photography and two for graphic design by Samuel Briggs III. The awards and their specifics will be announced in early September at the annual convention being held at Mount Hood Resort in Welches.
Siobhan Loughran Taylor
Dec. 2, 1958 – Aug. 11, 2021


Taylor was well-known in the Grand Ronde community, having worked for the Tribe from 2006 to 2015 as the Public Affairs director. She supervised the staff of Smoke Signals, devised communications and media strategies for the Tribe, and served on the Tribe’s executive team providing counsel to Tribal Council.

One of her most noteworthy accomplishments while working for the Grand Ronde Tribe occurred in 2014-15 when she suggested to Tri-Met that a new car-free suspension bridge spanning the Willamette River honor the original peoples of Oregon. The bridge eventually was named Tilikum Crossing.

She also produced the Tribe’s 25th Restoration Celebration video and oversaw the Tribe entering into the world of social media, creating the Tribal government’s Facebook page in December 2010.

Taylor was born in Ireland on Dec. 2, 1958, to James Seamus and Mary Fidelman Kennedy Loughran and first came to Oregon in 1960. However, the family became homesick for Limerick, which is where she attended school until she was 7.

The family returned to Oregon in 1965 when Ireland went through an economic depression and stayed. Taylor graduated from Valley Catholic High School in 1977 and attended Lewis & Clark College, earning a bachelor of arts degree in International Affairs and Communications in 1981.

Before working for the Tribe, she spent 20 years at The Oregonian in Portland, starting out as a gofer in the newsroom and ending as editor for Downtown Monthly, an adversorial section that covered downtown and northwest Portland and the Pearl District. She also started her own public relations company, Taylor Consulting.

Taylor returned to the Tribe and became the first and only chair of the Grand Ronde Editorial Board, which was formed in 2017 after passage of the Independent Tribal Press Ordinance. The five-member board supervises the editor of Smoke Signals and ensures the Tribal newspaper reports news fairly and without bias, and lives up to the highest ethical standards outlined by the Native American Journalists Association and Society of Professional Journalists.

“Siobhan was a member of the panel that hired me in August 2007,” said Smoke Signals Editor Dean Rhodes. “She was an ebullient presence in the Publications/Public Affairs office. She could easily transition from telling you about her crazy weekend working out on the farm to tackling a politically sensitive Tribal controversy with grace and aplomb. I always appreciated her tact and ability to diplomatically diffuse a tense situation with her trademark Irish charm and smile. At my advancing age, I’ve had a number of former journalism colleagues pass away in the last five years or so, but this one really hurts.”

“Siobhan was a force to be reckoned with,” said Editorial Board Vice Chair Mia Prickett. “She was filled with poise and grace, and always stood up for what she knew to be right, regardless of personal consequences. It was one of the many things that made her such an asset to this community and such a wonderful person. Her bright, bubbly personality will be terribly missed.”

“It was an honor to work with her over the years on the Editorial Board and even more of an honor to call her a friend. Siobhan’s passing is a tremendous loss to the Native community and to everyone who had the opportunity to know her. My heart hurts with this loss.”

After leaving Tribal employment in 2015, Taylor worked for the Hood River Cultural Trust, Clackamas Arts Alliance and Willamette Falls Heritage Area Coalition. She resigned as the coalition’s executive director in March to dedicate her time and energy to fighting the cancer.

“Tribal Council Chairwoman Cherie A. Kennedy said, “Siobhan was always a strong advocate of the Tribe and was dedicated to telling the Tribe’s story. We have been blessed to know Siobhan and were fortunate to work alongside her for all of these years. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family and friends during this difficult time.”

“Siobhan was always full of positive energy and optimism,” Vice Chair Chris Mercier said. “She was always seeing the best in people. She had a real for her job and you could see that with the relationships and friendships she helped forge for our Tribe. I think she is the perfect example of somebody who loved this Tribe and would do anything for it. She wasn’t just an employee, she was a true friend.”

Taylor also was a member of the Oregon chapter of the Public Relations Society of America and served on the board of the Sisters of St. Mary of Oregon Foundation.

She married David Taylor in 1988 and they had two sons, James and Joseph. She and her husband enjoyed traveling, which included annual winter trips to Hawaii with the family, and working on their Deer Island farm where they raised cattle and harvested honey.

Taylor was preceded in death by her mother in April 2019. She is survived by her father, James; husband, David Taylor of Lake Oswego, Ore.; sons, James (Chelsea) and Joseph Taylor; sister, Una Patricia Loughran of Portland, Ore.; and brothers, Fergus (Tammy) of Astoria, Ore., Sean (Kristen) of Portland, Ore., and Derron (Janene) Loughran of Fairport, N.Y., as well as numerous nieces and nephews, and many Grand Ronde Tribal friends who remained in contact with her throughout the years.

Other passings

Patricia Lee Uney
Nov. 6, 1950 – July 26, 2021

Tribal Elder Patricia Lee Uney, 70, walked on Monday, July 26, 2021. Caldwell’s Luxe-Layton Mortuary in Astoria, Ore., is assisting the family.

A celebration of life will be held at a later time.

Timothy Michael Hudson
Jan. 20, 1953 – Aug. 5, 2021

Tribal Elder Timothy Michael Hudson, 68, walked on Thursday, Aug. 5, 2021. Mohave Funeral & Cremation Services in Kingman, Ariz., is assisting the family.

Remembering the children

Grand Ronde, Siletz and other Tribal members run along Indian School Road Northeast in Salem toward Chemawa Cemetery as they end the Prayer Run to Chemawa on Saturday, Aug. 7. The 62-mile run started at Pacific University in Forest Grove and honored the memory of First Nations children whose remains were recently found buried at Canadian Indian boarding schools.

From left, Grand Ronde Tribal Council members Denise Harvey and Lisa Leno leave Chemawa Cemetery after a ceremony that was held at the end of the Prayer Run to Chemawa on Saturday, Aug. 7.
Health & Wellness offering vaccinations to youths

The Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Center is now offering COVID-19 vaccinations for youths 12 to 17 years of age. Health Services Executive Director Kelly Rowe announced on June 15.

The Tribe is using the Pfizer vaccine for youths. To schedule an appointment, contact the clinic at 503-879-2032.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration and Centers for Disease Control recently expanded the emergency use authorization for the Pfizer vaccine to adolescents, meaning the two governmental organizations determined that clinical trials show the vaccine is safe and effective for children in this age range.

According to www.grandronde.org, the Tribe has vaccinated more than 20,500 people since it started receiving the two-dose Moderna vaccine in late December with more than 9,950 of those people being Elders 55 and older.

There are only 12 spots per camp! To sign up, please complete and return registration to Jade Colton: jade.colton@grandronde.org

Dear, although the world keeps turning and the sun comes up each day, life has never been the same since the day you went away. It’s been 12 long years. I miss you, dear.

Kenny Erickson
#1253.
Happy 65th birthday.

Chinuk Wawa Summer Language Camps

Learn to speak Chinuk Wawa this Summer with the Chinuk Wawa Education Program! Three themed camps will be offered for youth in grades K-5 and 6-12 on a first come, first served basis! Camps will run from 8:00am-12:00pm in the Adult Education building in room 126. See below for camp and registration details. Tribal preference will be given. Transportation not provided. COVID safety measures in place, masks required.

JUNE - Games
Focusing on basic vocabulary and playing/creating games for a fun language learning experience!
June 22nd - 24th - K-5 group
June 29th - July 1st - 6th - 12th group
Registration begins May 24th

JULY - Canoes
Focusing on Grand Ronde’s canoes, songs, and dances through Chinuk Wawa, AND an opportunity to paddle in a canoe!
July 20th - 22nd - K-5 group
July 27th - 29th - 6 - 12 group
Registration begins July 2nd

AUGUST - Berries
Focusing on different berries and local native plants, picking berries, & making homemade jam & fry bread!
August 16th & 17th - K-5 group
August 18th and 19th - 6 - 12 group
Registration begins July 30th
‘Summer activities’

Royalty participants for the CTGR and Veterans SEB groups share their highlights from the summer, summer, summertime break. The collections also can be found at www.facebook.com/CTGRRoyalty and www.facebook.com/CTGRVeteransSEB.

SUMMER, SUMMER, SUMMERTIME TIME TO SIT BACK AND UNWIND

Royalty participants for the CTGR and Veterans SEB groups share their highlights from the summer, summer, summertime break. The collections also can be found at www.facebook.com/CTGRRoyalty and www.facebook.com/CTGRVeteransSEB.
The beginning of my summer I played baseball. We had so much fun and I was in a parade with my team.

Kalea Liebelt

SUMMER, SUMMER, SUMMERTIME TIME TO SIT BACK AND UNWIND

Veterans Junior Queen 2021/2022

Satara and Sophia
For our summer activity we went to Las Vegas, Nevada. We got to visit and hang out with family and see lots of cool and unique stuff!

SUMMER, SUMMER, SUMMERTIME TIME TO SIT BACK AND UNWIND

Satara Blanchard Little Miss Princess 2020/2021
Junior Miss Candidate 2021/2022

Sophia Gatron Ting Tot Candidate 2021/2022

I graduated high school at the beginning of summer and have been working as a hostess at the casino to save money for college at WOU this fall. So in other words, I’m ADULTING! I’d rather be on the Pow Wow trail dancing the summer away!

Kaleigha Simi

Senior Miss Candidate 2021/2022

SUMMER, SUMMER, SUMMERTIME TIME TO SIT BACK AND UNWIND

This year I discovered crayfish. I learned how to catch them. I swim almost every chance I get because I love the water.

LELOO QUENELLE

SUMMER, SUMMER, SUMMERTIME TIME TO SIT BACK AND UNWIND

Veterans Little Queen 2021/2022

SUMMER, SUMMER, SUMMERTIME TIME TO SIT BACK AND UNWIND

Audrey Little Miss Princess 2020-2021
Little Miss candidate 2021-2022

This summer we went to Glacier National Park and Yellowstone National Park.

SUMMER, SUMMER, SUMMERTIME TIME TO SIT BACK AND UNWIND

AUBREY CAMPBELL

SUMMER, SUMMER, SUMMERTIME TIME TO SIT BACK AND UNWIND

Isabelle Grant

Senior Miss Grand Ronde 2020/2021
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

Drop box installed

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

LAUNCH presents
“We don’t have to do it all alone. We were never meant to.”
-Brene Brown

On Fridays you will receive a message about mental health, a social emotional tip or a simple quote or message of encouragement.

Text JOIN to (971) 318-3459

Heat Wave Tips

SUMMER IS HERE! Here are things to make sure you are keeping cool and hydrated!

- Open up windows in the late evening and early morning to make sure your house cools down inside. When it starts to warm up close all windows and blinds. If you do not have blinds find something to hang over the windows to keep the sun out.
- HYDRATION, HYDRATION, HYDRATION
  - Water
  - Gatorade, PowerAde, anything with electrolytes to make sure your body will absorb the water.
  - Popsicles
  - Add lemon to your water, or crystal light if you need a little flavor to encourage consumption.
  - Freeze fruit such as grapes, blueberries, berries, watermelon to snack on.
- To hot
  - If you have a sprinkler cool off in it.
  - If you go to the river make sure you are wearing sunscreen, taking breaks from the sun, and making sure your body does not cool too quickly.
  - The outside temperature and river temperatures will be different pay attention to your body.
- If you are in need of assistance and are concerned please contact the non-emergency line at 503-879-FIRE (3473)
- Also if you know someone who lives alone please call and check in on your neighbors!

WIFI HOTSPOTS

For patrons without access to reliable internet, 10 T-Mobile hotspots have been made available for use. Devices provide access within the T-Mobile coverage area.

To borrow a hotspot, library cardholders must be 18 years or older and have their library account in good standing. Parents/guardians are responsible for the use of the hotspot by minor.

For additional terms and agreements please contact the Library
Kathy.Cole@grandronde.org
503-879-1408

These hotspots were made possible through funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and in cooperation with the Chemelota Community College and the Chemelota Cooperative Regional Library Service.
NOW AVAILABLE, SMOKE SIGNALS HOODIES, T-SHIRTS AND STICKERS!

HOODIES $30 • T-SHIRTS $12 • STICKERS $1
FREE SHIPPING!

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Address: __________________________
Phone: ____________________________
E-mail: ____________________________

Checks or money orders only please: Make payable to Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. Memo: Editorial Board
Please mail to: Smoke Signals Publications Dept., 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347
Thursday, July 15
• Assist outside agency in the 28300 block of Andy Riggs Road.
• Vehicle pursuit occurred in the 28800 block of Salmon River Highway.
  - The suspect was caught and charged with attempt to elude police, third-degree theft, first-degree criminal mischief, reckless driving, recklessly endangering another person, DUII and felon in possession of a weapon.

Friday, July 16
• Assist outside agency in the 25200 block of Yamhill River Road.
• Assist outside agency in the area of Highway 18 and Grand Ronde Road.

Saturday, July 17
• Driving complaint received in the area of milepost 6 on Highway 22.
• Assist outside agency in the 24700 block of Coyote Court.
• Harassment reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
• Theft reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
• Assist outside agency in the 8500 block of Grand Ronde Road.

Sunday, July 18
• Assist outside agency in the area of milepost 27 on Highway 18.
• Driving complaint received in the area of Highway 22 and Beck Road.
• Drug complaint received in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
• Driving complaint received in the area of milepost 13 on Highway 22.

Monday, July 19
• Trespass arrest occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
• DUI arrest occurred in the area of milepost 25 on Highway 18.
• Assist outside agency in the 28800 block of Salmon River Highway.
• Noise complaint received in the 28400 block of McPherson Road.
• Welfare check performed in the Eagle Loop area.
• Fraud reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

Tuesday, July 20
• Criminal complaint received in the 25200 block of Coyote Court.
• Driving complaint received in the area of milepost 29 on Highway 18.
• Overdose reported in the 8400 block of Grand Ronde Road.
• Traffic assist performed in the area of Highway 22 and LaChance roads.
• Drug complaint received in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
• Drug complaint received in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
• Sex offense reported in the 25300 block of Blue Jay Court.
• Property found in the 8500 block of Grand Ronde Road.

Wednesday, July 21
• Fraud reported in the 9600 block of Tillamook County.
• Assist outside agency in the 54700 block of Hebo Road.
• Deceased person reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
• Stolen vehicle reported in the 28600 block of Salmon River Highway.

Friday, July 23
• Assist outside agency in the 9500 block of Raven Loop.
• Assist outside agency regarding use of force in the 6000 block of Mill Creek Road. Officers assisted in arresting a combative suspect.
• Domestic disturbance reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
• Suspicious vehicle reported in the area of Highway 18 and AR Ford Road.
• Citizen contact occurred in the 27800 block of John Road.

Saturday, July 24
• Driving complaint received in the area of milepost 9 on Highway 18.
• Theft reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
• Driving complaint received in the area of milepost 6 on Highway 22.
• Suspicious vehicle reported in the area of Hebo and Old Fort roads.
• Trespass reported in the 8900 block of Grand Ronde Road.
• Emotionally disturbed person reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

Sunday, July 25
• Trespass reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
• Trespass reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
• Emotionally disturbed person reported in the 48800 block of Blacktail Drive.

Compiled by Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department Officer Tyler Brown.
Full-time, in-person school is coming back.

Anticipation is building for students to return to full-time and in-person school this fall. For kids and families, this can be a mix of anxiety, excitement and opportunity. Local school districts are updating their health and safety plans to serve the needs of their students and families. Learn how your district is preparing at Oregon.gov/readyschools.

Oregon achieves . . . together!
Convenience, Privacy, Certified women technologists, State of the art equipment and now offering 3D imaging

To schedule an appointment please call:
Kandee Little 503-879-2089
Date: Wednesday Sept. 29, 2021
Location: Upper clinic parking lot

Must be 35 years of age or older
Must not be pregnant
Must be at least 1 year since last mammogram
Must not have breast fed in the last 6 months
OHSU HMC Breast Health Services are not a preferred provider for Kaiser
No known breast lumps, discharge or breast pain

Community Health is pleased to announce the creation of a new program provided to the community. The COVID-19 Relief Community Health Representatives provide service to all Tribal members who have needs or questions regarding COVID-19.

The services provided include:

- Provides education on COVID-19 and preventive measures.
- Contact your primary care physician regarding questions about testing or exposure.
- Provides client services that promote holistic health and wellness practices.
- Conducts home visits.
- Health screening.
- COVID-19 safety items.

Other services provided:

- Help Assess Home Safety Improvement
- Connect America Safety Pendant Information and Installation
- Fall Risk Prevention
- Recording vitals
- Medication Delivery

To inquire on how to get these services, please call Stephanie King at 503-879-2016 or Sam Thornsberry at 503-879-1693

As you prepare to send your children back to school, August is a great opportunity to get your child caught up on routine vaccines. Do not delay vaccination because of the COVID-19 pandemic. If you, your child, or other family members have fallen behind on routine immunizations, talk to a healthcare provider as soon as possible to catch-up.

national IMMUNIZATION awareness month
CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF GRAND RONDE
OFFICIAL BALLOT
TRIBAL COUNCIL ELECTION
September 11, 2021

TO VOTE: Complete the arrow ➡️ pointing to your choice like this ➡️

CANDIDATES FOR COUNCIL
Vote for no more than Three (3)

- PERRI MCDANIEL
- JON A. GEORGE
- MICHAEL CHERRY
- STEVE BOBB, SR.
- CHERYLE A. KENNEDY

2021 ADVISORY VOTE 1
Should the Tribe increase the minors Trust distribution age from 21 to 25?
- A yes vote, would result in the Tribe increasing the Minors Trust distribution age from 21 to 25. Minors would still be able to request funds from their Trust accounts to pay for education, health costs or housing.

2021 ADVISORY VOTE 2
Should the Tribe establish a small business loan program for Tribal member startups and businesses?
- A yes vote, would result in the Tribe establishing a new program. Staff would spend a year scope the new program with Tribal member and would provide recommendations to Tribal Council.

2021 ADVISORY VOTE 3
Should the Tribe establish an endowment for land acquisitions?
- A yes vote, would result in the Tribe establishing a new Tribal Endowment. This would involve an initial contribution / investment and would also result in the Tribal Council budgeting for any future contributions on an annual / semi-annual basis.

2021 ADVISORY VOTE 4
Should the Tribe provide expanded health services for Tribal Elders including but not limited to dementia care and hospice services?
- A yes vote, would result in the Tribe working with Health and Wellness Center staff, Tribal elders, Tribal members, and others to identify gaps in elder health services. This is likely to result in expanded services and / or new programing for our Tribal elders.

a) Would you and / or your family access these services?
- YES
- NO

b) Do you have immediate need for these services?
- YES
- NO