

Tribal member  
purchases insurance  
agency— pg. 9



# SMOKE SIGNALS

UMPQUA · MOLALLA · ROGUE RIVER · KALAPUYA · CHASTA

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

OCTOBER 15, 2021

## Tribes express concern about new historic racing machines in state

By Dean Rhodes

*Smoke Signals editor*

Six Tribal leaders, including Grand Ronde Tribal Council Vice Chair Chris Mercier, signed an Oct. 6 letter to Gov. Kate Brown and Oregon legislative leaders to express their concerns about a new generation of historic racing machines that may be introduced into the Oregon gaming landscape at the proposed Flying Lark in Grants Pass.

The Tribal leaders also sent a separate letter to Secretary of State Shemia Fagan asking her office to review whether the small Oregon Racing Commission has the regulatory framework, statutory authority, security controls and staff expertise to adequately regulate a gaming facility with more than 200 of the machines.

“We are at a critical moment where the state is about to approve the largest expansion of state-regulated gambling in decades without public or legislative input,” the Tribal leaders’ letter states. “If something isn’t done, HHRs will arrive in Oregon without any serious discussion of their impacts on the state, on Tribes and the citizens of both.”

Dutch Bros founder Travis Boersman is expected to soon submit an application to state regulators to build the entertainment center adjacent to his Grants Pass Downs racetrack. The centerpiece will be the 250 historic racing machines that allow guests to bet on horse races that have previously occurred on machines that are similar to slots.

Accompanying the letters, Tribal leaders submitted two studies by C3 Gaming Consultants Consortium and ECONorthwest that estimate the introduction of 250 historic racing machines at Grants Pass Downs will siphon off revenues currently being made by the Oregon Lottery and Oregon Tribes to the tune of \$13 million and \$6 million, respectively.

The ECONorthwest study also estimates that if the machines expand in the same amount to the other four fairgrounds race tracks in Union,

See MACHINES  
continued on page 9

## Joyeux No-ale



Contributed photo

Grand Ronde Tribal member Steph Littlebird designed the artwork to promote Deschutes Brewery’s seasonal beer release, the Jubelale. She received the commission after participating in a residency program at Caldera Arts Center in Sisters.

*Tribal member designs label artwork for Deschutes Brewery’s seasonal beer*

By Kamiah Koch

*Social media/digital journalist*

Each year as winter approaches, Deschutes Brewery in Bend, Ore., selects an artist to design the artwork for its popular season-

al beer, the Jubelale.

This year, the brewery selected Indigenous artist and Grand Ronde Tribal member Steph

See ARTWORK  
continued on page 6



## Tribe takes over fire, emergency services operations

Supervising Deputy Fire Marshal Jason Cane, front, Battalion Chief Sean Hoxie, third from left, Firefighter/EMTs Kaylene Barry, center left, and Erika Alcantar, center right, help push a fire truck during the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde dedication ceremony of its Emergency Services Department on Friday, Oct. 1.

Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez



By Danielle Harrison

*Smoke Signals staff writer*

On the morning of Friday, Oct. 1, Grand Ronde officially became one of only a handful of Tribes in the United States to operate its own fire and emergency services department.

That’s when operations were formally handed off from the West Valley Fire District to the Grand Ronde Tribal Emergency Services

Department, the culmination of two years of work and more than three years ahead of schedule.

The Tribe expressed its desire to add fire to its list of sovereign nation public safety responsibilities in December 2019, but the seed was planted well before then.

During Friday’s dedica-

See SERVICES  
continued on page 8



# General Council meeting

11 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 7

Tribal members can participate remotely through the Zoom application.

## NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings

DATE	TIME
Wednesday, Oct. 27.....	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Nov. 10.....	4 p.m.

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

## LETTERS

### Dear Smoke Signals:

This family got vaccinated because we care about:

- 1) Our children;
- 2) Ourselves;
- 3) Others.

It takes a village to get rid of COVID-19, so let's worth together. Please get vaccinated.

Joann Empey  
Roll No. 780

## Tribe receives \$1.38 million language grant

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde received a five-year, \$1.38 million grant from the Department of Health and Human Services for its Chinuk Immersion project for fourth through sixth grades on Wednesday, Sept. 29.

Tribal Council approved applying for the grant in June.

The funds will help pay for a teacher and assistant for the language immersion's older grades classroom and will run from Sept. 30, 2021, through June 30, 2026. ■

## TRIBAL OFFICE CLOSURES

Tribal offices will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 11, in observance of Veterans Day. Offices also will be closed on Monday, Nov. 22, in observance of Tribal Restoration Day. Offices will be closing at noon on Wednesday, Nov. 24, and closed Thursday through Friday, Nov. 25-26, in observance of Thanksgiving.



Seeking Veterans (men and women) from all eras (wartime and/or peacetime).  
(Especially WWII, Vietnam, Korea, the Gulf War and the War in Afghanistan)

## 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?

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

Have you heard there might be burial benefits or spousal benefits but aren't sure?

Contact me, the [CTGR TVSO](#) to find out more about the available benefits that could help you and/or your family.

Do you have questions about Veteran benefits for you or the 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?



# smok signalz

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### DEADLINE DATE

### ISSUE DATE

MONDAY, OCT. 25 ..... NOV. 1, 2021

MONDAY, NOV. 8 ..... NOV. 15, 2021

FRIDAY, NOV. 19 ..... DEC. 1, 2021

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 8 ..... DEC. 15, 2021

## EDITORIAL POLICY

**smok signalz**, a publication of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon, is published twice a month. No portion of this publication may be reprinted without permission.

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

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



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# IN THE FUTURE



(k<sup>h</sup>apa atqi)

tałlam-mun **(October)**

- Saturday, Oct. 16 – 26th anniversary of the opening of Spirit Mountain Casino.
- Wednesday, Oct. 27 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., Tribal Council Chambers, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.
- Friday, Oct. 29 – Halloween Parade, 4-6 p.m., Old powwow grounds in front of Governance Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-1491.

tałlam-pi-ixt-mun **(November)**

- Sunday, Nov. 7 – General Council meeting, 11 a.m., Zoom teleconference application. 503-879-2304.
- Wednesday, Nov. 10 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., Tribal Council Chambers, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.
- Thursday, Nov. 11 – Tribal offices closed in observance of Veterans Day.
- Wednesday, Nov. 17 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., Tribal Council Chambers, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.
- Monday, Nov. 22 – Tribal offices closed in observance of the Grand Ronde Tribe's 38th anniversary of Restoration.
- Thursday-Friday, Nov. 25-26 – Tribal offices closed in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

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

## 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. ■

# Find us on



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**Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department:**  
facebook.com/Grand-Ronde-Tribal-Police-Department

**Grand Ronde Employment Services**  
Facebook.com/EmploymentServices



Ad by Samuel Briggs III

## Tribal campus re-opens to employees as COVID-19 cases start to decrease

**By Dean Rhodes**  
*Smoke Signals editor*

After a two-month pause in re-opening the Tribal government, all Grand Ronde employees were allowed to return to the campus on Monday, Oct. 4.

General Manager David Fullerton encouraged managers to consider staggered schedules and promote limited contact for employees who were working onsite.

The paused re-opening of the government started in early August as the Delta variant started surging in Oregon. Only essential employees were allowed on campus for two months and employees who reported to work were required to wear masks outside of their offices. It was the first closure in three months.

The Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Center was tracking 25 active cases as of Thursday, Oct. 7, down from a high of 57 active cases. The center has conducted 3,408

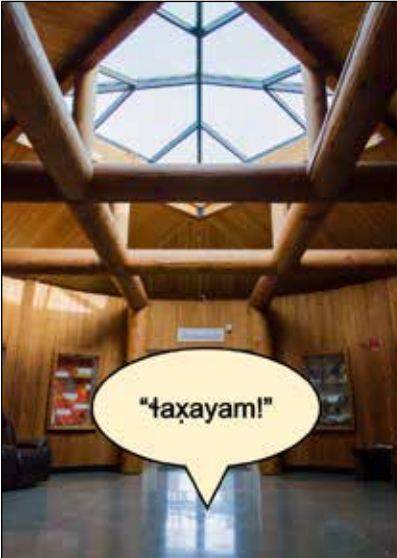
COVID-19 tests with 203 positives, which translates into a 5.9 percent positivity rate.

Another sign that the Grand Ronde Tribal campus was slowly returning to a semblance of normal included Nutrition Program Manager Kristy Criss-Lawson announcing that the Elders meal site at the Elders Activity Center would start serving meals again beginning on Tuesday, Oct. 19, for the first time since March 2020.

Criss-Lawson said Elders will have to sign up for a time slot of 11:30 a.m., noon or 12:30 p.m. and only 25 people will be allowed in per time slot. Elders will have 20 minutes to eat and mask wearing will be strictly enforced.

The Elders Activity Center will only be open for meals. The meal site will continue to offer meals to go for those still hesitant about being inside with a lot of people.

To sign up for a time slot, call 503-879-2018. ■



## STUDY CHINUK WAWA

Fall 2021 – Lane Community College

CW101 Beginning Chinuk Wawa  
Tu/Th 4-6pm via Zoom – 4 credit hours

CW201 Intermediate Chinuk Wawa  
M/W 4-6pm via Zoom – 4 credit hours

These courses will be online for the entire 2021-2022 academic year – please join us from wherever you are!

Lane Community College has two cost-saving enrollment options for students of Chinuk Wawa:  
1. There is a tuition scholarship available for CW103, after completion of CW 101 and CW 102.  
2. In September, students may enroll via Continuing Education for no credit at low cost.

Enrollment questions? Contact the LCC Arts and Humanities Division.

Chinuk Wawa at LCC is presented in collaboration with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde language program.



## HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR DRIVE – THRU PARADE

FRIDAY OCTOBER 29TH  
4:PM - 6PM  
(WHILE SUPPLIES LAST)

OLD POWWOW GROUNDS

RANDOM PRIZES FOR YOUTH  
10-24 IN COSTUMES

PRIZES FOR TOP 3  
DECORATED VEHICLES

RAIN OR SHINE  
MUST STAY IN VEHICLES AT ALL TIMES  
PLEASE NO WALK/BIKE UPS





Call Ambrose at 503-879-3663 or contact her at [fambrose@marionpolkfoodshare.org](mailto:fambrose@marionpolkfoodshare.org) for more information or to volunteer. ■

*(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.)*

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration and Centers for Disease Control 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. ■



# General Council briefed on investment values

By Danielle Harrison  
*Smoke Signals staff writer*

Representatives from Robert W. Baird & Co. Inc. briefed the general membership on the Grand Ronde Tribe’s investment portfolio during the General Council meeting held Sunday, Oct. 3, on the Zoom teleconferencing application.

Approximately 60 Tribal and staff members attended the meeting. The 37-minute briefing was presented in executive session, which limits how much *Smoke Signals* can report on the content.

Baird Director Joseph Hoon and Managing Director John Fitzgibbons made the presentation and fielded six questions from the membership after they were finished.

Tribal members who did not attend the meeting, but would

like to see the presentation, should contact Tribal Council Chief of Staff Stacia Hernandez at [stacia.martin@grandronde.org](mailto:stacia.martin@grandronde.org) or call 503-879-2304 to obtain a copy.

In other action, Tribal Council Vice Chair Chris Mercier announced that the next General Council meeting will be at 11 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 7 with a review of the proposed 2022 budget.

Dustin Leno, Erin Bernando, Lorena Rivera, Shelley Sneed and Simone Auger won the \$50 door prizes. Perri McDaniel, Emma Leno and Leroy Good won the \$100 door prizes.

The non-executive session portion of the meeting can be viewed by visiting the Tribal government’s website at [www.grandronde.org](http://www.grandronde.org) and clicking on the Government tab and then Videos. ■

# Tribe forms new limited liability company

By Dean Rhodes  
*Smoke Signals editor*

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde will soon have a new limited liability company.

Tribal Council approved forming Upqwəna LLC during the Wednesday, Oct. 13, meeting, allowing Tribal Council Chief of Staff Stacia Hernandez to file the required paperwork with the state of Oregon. The company will invest in small business opportunities, Hernandez said, with the focus being on SBA 8(a) opportunities.

According to the U.S. Department of Commerce’s Minority Business Development Agency, the 8(a) program helps socially and economically disadvantaged entrepreneurs gain access to the economic mainstream. Companies must be controlled at least 51 percent by designated minority owners, which includes Native Americans.

Companies in the 8(a) program can receive sole source contracts up to \$4 million in goods and services and \$6.5 million in manufacturing from the federal government.

Upqwəna may establish subsidiary LLCs for individual and small business projects, the executive summary states.

Hernandez said any 8(a) business opportunities will be brought before Tribal Council for approval before proceeding with actual investments.

Upqwəna joins the Tribe’s other LLCs, which include Dakta (SAM Medical Products) and HuyHuy (Shasta Administrative Services).

Upqwəna is Chinuk Wawa for “basket.”

In other action, Tribal Council:

- Approved applying for a \$750,000 Housing and Urban Development Indian Community Development Block Grant that would help fund a new 3,500-square-foot child care center. Planning & Grants Department Manager Kim Rogers said the full cost of the center would be approximately \$2.1 million with the other funding coming from myriad revenue streams, including a projected \$400,000 in foundation awards. The center would have three classrooms with nine children each, significantly increasing the number of newborns and toddlers

the Tribe could care for;

- Sent an amendment to the Enrollment Ordinance out for a first reading. The amendment would add the ability to use genetic testing of other family members if a parent is unable to be located or refuses to provide DNA. The first reading will give Tribal members 30 days to comment on the proposal;
- Approved a \$251,420 contract with Scholten Construction of Willamina to repair and replace the pavement on Murphy Road, which runs adjacent to Spirit Mountain Casino;
- Approved appointing Spirit Mountain Casino Assistant General Manager Camille Mercier to the Spirit Mountain Community Fund Board of Trustees, replacing Ron Reibach, who has resigned. Mercier’s term will run through September 2023;
- Approved the Tribal Housing Department’s 2022 Indian Housing Plan to be submitted to the Department of Housing & Urban Development’s Office of Native American Programs. The Tribe expects to receive \$2.8 million in funding during fiscal year 2022. Tribal Council also approved an Abbreviated Indian Housing Plan that will allow Housing to use \$1.943 million in COVID-19-related funding to develop low-income housing for Elders and renovate the basketball court in Tribal housing;
- 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 Oct. 13 Tribal Council packet was a staff directive for all supervisors to document and track Tribal assets that should be returned by each employee upon their separation from Tribal employment and an approved authorization to proceed to pay indirect costs on a \$4,000 mini-grant from the Oregon Department of Veterans’ Affairs to help prevent veteran suicide.

To watch the entire meeting, visit the Tribal government’s website at [www.grandronde.org](http://www.grandronde.org) and click on the Government tab and then Videos. ■

# NIGAs Leadership Award



Submitted photo

**Tribal Council member Denise Harvey was honored on Tuesday, Oct. 5, with the National Indian Gaming Association’s Chairman’s Leadership Award during the Global Gaming Expo held in Las Vegas, Nev. Harvey became the first Grand Ronde Tribal member to be appointed to the National Indian Gaming Association board in April 2018.**

# Casino gift store seeking Tribal member artwork

The gift store at Spirit Mountain Casino is seeking Native American and contemporary art from Grand Ronde Tribal members as the store refocuses. However, there is one catch.

Tribal artists must first contact the Tribal Employment Rights Office to become vendors and be certified as an Indian-owned business.

“Becoming an IOB vendor is the first step in the process,” said Assistant General Manager Camille Mercier. “Once they are a qualified vendor, their pieces will need to meet a predetermined list of standards in order to have any items in the gift store.”

Mercier said the target date is mid-October for the gift store to start accepting consignment items from Tribal artists.

“It’s been long overdue to have our own Tribal member artwork featured,” she added.

To contact the Tribe’s TERO office about being listed as an Indian-owned business, call TERO Director Harris Reibach at 503-879-1455 or send an e-mail to [tero@grandronde.org](mailto:tero@grandronde.org). ■

## ENROLLMENT ORDINANCE OPEN FOR COMMENT

The Tribal Council is considering amendments to the Enrollment Ordinance. The proposed amendments were given a First Reading at the Oct.13, 2021, Tribal Council meeting.

The proposed amendments will (1) add the ability to use genetic testing of other family members if a parent is unable to be located or refuses to provide DNA; (2) removes the requirement for affidavits when other genetic testing is used; (3) makes DNA results confidential; and (4) may include other minor and technical changes.

Tribal Council invites comments on the proposed amendments to the Enrollment Ordinance. For a copy of the proposed amendments, please contact the Tribal Attorney’s Office at 503-879-4664. Please send your comments to the Tribal Attorney’s Office, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347, or by e-mail to [legal@grandronde.org](mailto:legal@grandronde.org).

Comments must be received by Monday, Nov. 15, 2021. ■



# Tribe participates in virtual Indigenous Peoples’ Day event

By Danielle Harrison  
*Smoke Signals staff writer*

The Grand Ronde Tribe celebrated the first year the state of Oregon officially recognized Indigenous Peoples’ Day by participating in a virtual celebration on Tuesday, Oct. 12.

The webinar, hosted by Clackamas County and Clackamas Community College, in collaboration with the Tribe and local Indigenous community members, featured history of the Clackamas people, drumming, dancing, a land acknowledgment and personal testimonies. Descendants of the Clackamas people are part of the modern-day Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.

Approximately 200 people attended the remote event, where Grand Ronde Tribal Council member Jon A. George served as the event master of ceremonies and also led the invocation.

“We are excited you are joining us today and this has been a great team to work with at Clackamas County,” he said.

After the invocation, Oregon City-based Red Lodge Transition Services Director Trish Jordan (Muskogee Creek) introduced the Soaring Hawks Singers from Eugene, who performed a pre-recorded drum song. Afterward, Gladstone City Council member Annessa

### Indigenous Peoples’ Day recognition

Earlier this year, Oregon became the 11th state to officially recognize the second Tuesday in October as Indigenous Peoples’ Day. State Rep. Tawna Sanchez (Shoshone-Bannock and Ute) sponsored House Bill 2526, which "recognizes and acknowledges the significant contributions made in our community by Indigenous people and commits to ensure greater access and opportunity for continued contribution."

This recognition of Indigenous Peoples' Day supports a nationwide movement to provide a more complete and accurate account of U.S. history. Research shows that a majority of state and local school curriculums in the United States ends the study of Indigenous history before 1900, which ignores the various and diverse communities that not only are surviving, but thriving.

– By Danielle Harrison

Hartman (Cayuga) read a land acknowledgement that recognized that Clackamas County is part of the traditional homelands of the Clackamas people.

Grand Ronde Cultural Resources Department Manager and Tribal member David Harrelson shared a brief history of the Clackamas people in the area.

“It’s good to be here and see everyone gathered to talk about this place and these people,” Harrelson said. “I am not Clackamas, but have had lots of opportunity to talk with Elders and read books. The Clackamas have a deep oral history.”

Harrelson told attendees about Victoria Howard, a Clackamas Chinook who provided more than 200

oral histories and stories to linguist Melville Jacobs in 1929.

Harrelson also discussed the removal of the Clackamas people to the Grand Ronde Reservation and shared a Chinook Peoples map, ending his presentation with different ways attendees could stay connected to the Grand Ronde Tribe, including e-subscribing to *Smoke Signals*.

Grand Ronde Tribal member and Clackamas County Commissioners Policy Advisor Tracy Moreland said she is proud to work in her ancestral homelands.

“We are acknowledging our shared history today,” Moreland said. “I’m so glad and honored to be a part of this event. When I was

growing up, my Tribe was not recognized. We were victims of government assimilation policies. Today, we are restored and celebrating Indigenous Peoples’ Day.”

Then, a pre-recorded video featuring Clackamas County commissioners, Clackamas Community College officials and Warm Springs Tribal members talked about the importance of Indigenous Peoples’ Day in reframing the historical narrative to include the original inhabitants of the land.

“We are a resilient people who overcome things that almost annihilated us,” George said.

Added Hartman, “For the first time in my life I finally feel heard and seen as an Indigenous woman. This is just the first step in reconciliation with Native people. We need actions and leaders of this county to uplift Indigenous people.”

The event closed with a drum song by the Soaring Hawks Singers.

George thanked everyone who had helped organize the event.

“This took more than eight months of planning and it has all beautifully come together and been very seamless,” he said. “As we recognize our roots, we are honored and it is how we show our connection and pass on our culture to our children. I raise my hands to all of you who made this day possible.” ■

# Design based off of Deschutes County landscape

ARTWORK continued  
from front page

Littlebird for the job.

Littlebird, 37, grew up in Oregon, but currently lives in Las Vegas, Nev. She returned to Oregon in 2021 to participate in a residency program with Caldera Arts Center in Sisters. The program prioritizes selecting people of color whose artwork advances cultural and social change.

For the past 30 years, Deschutes Brewery has gathered submissions from its pool of local Bend artists. This year, Deschutes Brewery sought to expand and diversify that pool by partnering with Caldera Arts Center and Littlebird was asked to submit samples of her artwork as a former resident.

“I wasn’t really sure my work would fit with what their brand was,” Littlebird says during a Zoom interview from Las Vegas. “So I was like, I’ll throw my hat in the ring and just see what happens. Then they evidently selected my work and I got a call a couple of months later and they offered me the opportunity to design the label for the Jubelale.”

The artwork displayed on Littlebird’s website is colorful and outlined with heavy black lines. The black lines and vibrancy of Littlebird’s style is evident in the Jubelale packaging that features a bright yellow moon against a lavender night sky and dark snow-covered trees.

“I came up with the idea to do a beautiful landscape,” Littlebird


*“For me, I’m doing this for you as a designer. I’m not going to give you anything that is traditional because I have recently seen a few different beer companies hire Indigenous artists and then use traditional or very specific regional styles in their work. I really wanted this to be like me, which is color and mark making.”*

~ Steph Littlebird

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Visit YouTube

CTGRsmokesignals



says. “Something that looks beautiful on the can or bottle because Deschutes is known for being a very specific kind of location that’s natural and rugged. I wanted to depict that.”

Littlebird was compensated for her work and specified in the agreement that she would not use any Indigenous aesthetics or directly Native designs, such as the Chinook zig-zag or imagery of basket weaving to help them promote their beer.

Littlebird says she made these boundaries clear with Deschutes Brewery and was happy with the way the company respected them. In her experience, many Indigenous artists struggle with being hired as a “token” Tribal artist for organizations.

“I’m very aware our community struggles with alcoholism, I have alcoholics in my family,” Littlebird says. “For me, I’m doing this for you as a designer. I’m not going to give you anything that is tradition-

al because I have recently seen a few different beer companies hire Indigenous artists and then use traditional or very specific regional styles in their work. I really wanted this to be like me, which is color and mark making.”

Littlebird says her process for creating artwork is a little different. Like many of her other pieces, she started with a digital rendition of the painting. Once the digital version was finalized, she painted it on canvas to then be scanned and digitized again by Deschutes Brewery for package distribution, which requires approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Littlebird also says there were a few factors to consider when creating the design. In the past, the Jubelale artwork often incorporated holiday tropes. Littlebird says she wanted her work to be culturally broader and nondenominational.

She says she noticed the bottle designs have never focused on the moon as the subject. She says the moon gave way to the color choice, adding that she believes the lavender and yellow color scheme will stand out on the store shelves against the

traditional red and green designs of other seasonal beers.

“For me I think the color choices are really strong. Even though it’s a very simple palette – it’s really just purple and yellows – they harmonize in a way I am really pleased with,” Littlebird says. “I think I achieved a good balance that I think looks really cool in your hand, too.”

One of the most important factors she considered for the design was the folklore behind the seasonal beer. Urban legend has it that the amount of snow featured in the Jubelale artwork predicts how much snow central Oregon will receive that winter season. Littlebird says she needs to see some statistics on the beer’s weather-predicting accuracy before she believes it, but played into it anyway with the design. She says this year’s Jubelale artwork is all snow.

According to Deschutes Brewery’s Facebook page, commenters from all over the country say the Jubelale is one of their favorite beers. Littlebird says it has a “cult following.”

The artist herself has yet to try it. Deschutes Brewery is shipping her a few bottles and she looks forward to holding her work in her hands and tasting the famous beer for the first time.

To commemorate the project, Littlebird will return to Oregon at the end of October to sign posters of her artwork and celebrate the release of the 34th Jubelale. The event will be held 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 22, in the Deschutes Brewery’s tasting room in Bend. ■





From front left, Little Miss Grand Ronde Ila Mercier, Veterans Little Miss Leloo Quenelle, Veterans Junior Miss Kalea Liebelt, Veterans Warrior Nacoma Liebelt and Junior Little Miss Queen Marie Quenelle wait for the start of grand entry during Salem’s fourth annual Indigenous Peoples’ Day event held at Gerry Frank Amphitheater in Riverfront Park on Monday, Oct. 11.



Senior Veterans Queen Tasina Bluehorse receives help from her grandmother, Faye Smith, before the start of Salem’s fourth annual Indigenous Peoples’ Day event.

# Indigenous Peoples’ Day



Participants dance during Salem’s fourth annual Indigenous Peoples’ Day event.



Above, Tribal Elder Deitz Peters participates in Salem’s fourth annual Indigenous Peoples’ Day event.

From left, Veterans Little Miss Leloo Quenelle, Junior Little Miss Kalea Liebelt and Senior Miss Tasina Bluehorse participate in grand entry.



Photos by Timothy J. Gonzalez

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# ‘It just doesn’t get any better’

**SERVICES continued  
from front page**

tion ceremony at the Grand Ronde Fire Station at McPherson and Grand Ronde roads, Emergency Operations Coordinator and Fire Chief Steve Warden recalled discussing the possibility with General Manager David Fullerton during the 2018 Canoe Journey on Puget Sound in Washington state. Warden had recently retired as a volunteer battalion chief for Newberg Fire & Rescue.

“He asked what I thought about having our own department and I said it was doable and we could put all the Tribal response agencies under one umbrella because there are so many things you cross over into, and separating agencies doesn’t make sense,” Warden said. “From that little conservation came sitting before Tribal Council. That was the first step. My plan was five years. I figured nobody could get it done in a shorter period of time.”

He was happily wrong. One year and 10 months later, the goal has been accomplished.

In front of a crowd of approximately 40 Tribal employees, Tribal Council members and state fire officials, Warden thanked firefighter/paramedic Tammy Tigner, who also serves as the Tribe’s training and volunteer coordinator, and Brandy Bishop, the Tribe’s emergency preparedness coordinator, for helping him bring the Tribe’s Emergency Services Department to fruition.

“We felt it was best to make a move to serve this community out here and be partners to our surrounding neighbors,” Warden said. “We got the foundation laid and here we are today. Out here we believe in our people and ourselves. We work very hard to take care of our community. My only wish is that I would have started (working) here a long time ago. I love this place and the people out here. It just doesn’t get any better.”



Photos by Timothy J. Gonzalez

**Grand Ronde Emergency Services Chief Steve Warden speaks during the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde dedication ceremony of its Emergency Services Department on Friday, Oct. 1. At 8 a.m. that day, the Tribe officially took over all fire and ambulance service for Tribal property that was served by contract with the West Valley Fire District.**

## Tribal fire departments are uncommon

Tribally operated fire departments are not the norm in the United States.

The only statistics that are readily accessible are from the Department of the Interior’s Wildland Fire Management program, which notes that 89 Tribes across Indian Country manage programs, and some units provide services to multiple Tribes. Nationwide, there are 574 federally recognized Tribes.

Oregon has nine recognized Tribes. Three of those – Grand Ronde, Warm Springs and Umatilla – have Tribally operated fire departments. The Burns Paiute Tribe is in the beginning stages of volunteer recruitment.

The Grand Ronde Fire Station has been in operation since 2010, after the Tribe and West Valley Fire District signed their first intergovernmental agreement in July 2009 to build and operate it. The \$1 million station also has received hundreds of thousands of dollars annually from the Tribe to fund operations. Currently, it has 28 full-time employees. It will provide services on the more than 10,000-acre Reservation and approximately 40 square miles stretching across Highway 18 from Fort Hill Public House to the Van Duzer Forest State Scenic Corridor. The final size of the service area is still being determined.

– By Danielle Harrison

Tribal Council member Jon A. George opened the ceremony with a few remarks and then led the invocation.

“What a great honor this is to have our own Tribal fire department,” he said. “I’m honored to be here today and what a blessing it is

to know this (department) is under our Tribe and Tribally ran.”

Cultural Education Specialist Cristina Lara and Cultural Education Coordinator Jordan Mercier led a drum song and were joined by Tribal Council members Lisa Leno,



**Firefighter/EMT Kaylene Barry presents a necklace to a member of the State Fire Marshal’s Office during the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde dedication ceremony of its Emergency Services Department on Friday, Oct. 1.**

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Michael Cherry and George, and Firefighter/EMT Kaylene Barry. Tribal Council member Jack Giffen Jr. was also in attendance.

Warden asked all of the Tribal Emergency Services employees to raise their hands and said that they were the foundation of a department that would continue to be built. The department began with three employees and recently hired 25 more.

“This is your crew that will be taking care of your community,” he said. “We have plans to start an educational program and to build a good cadre of volunteers. My goal is to see this become one of the renowned fire departments in the country.”

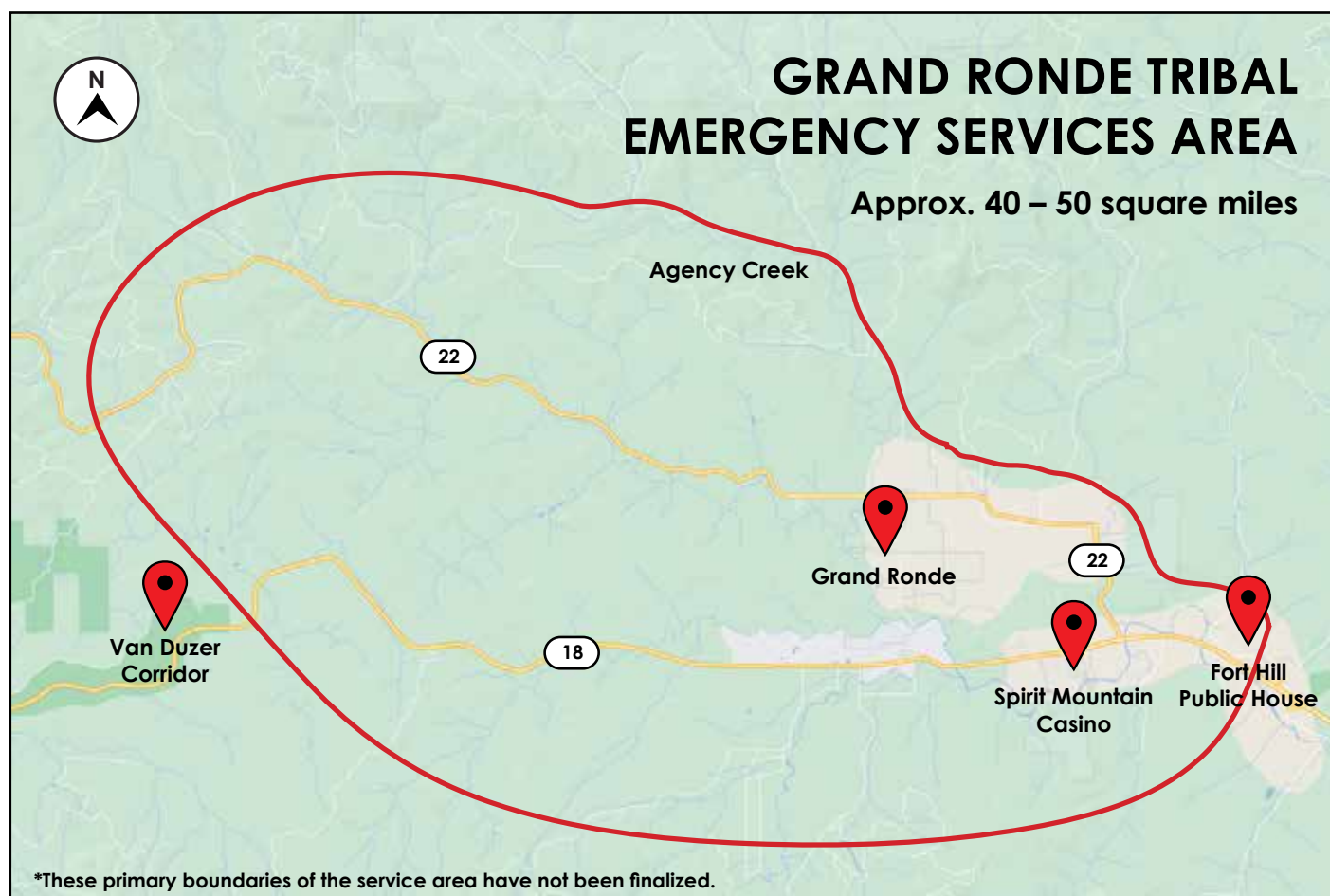
Oregon State Fire Marshal Mariana Ruiz-Temple attended the event with several of her employees.

“It’s a great honor to be here today and see what this means to this community and the people of Oregon,” she said. “The vision of your Tribal Council members, the support of your community and the leadership of Chief Warden is why you are here today. It’s exciting for this area, your people and beneficial to your visitors. You have built a premier fire service agency and it is a shining example of your commitment to the community.”

The event concluded with a “push-in ceremony” where Warden, Supervising Deputy Fire Marshal Jason Cane, Battalion Chief Sean Hoxie and Firefighter/EMTs Kaylene Barry and Erika Alcantar helped push a new fire truck into the station. The tradition dates back to the late 1800s when fire departments used hand-drawn pumpers and horse-drawn equipment. When they returned to the station after a call, the horses could not easily back the equipment in, so they were disconnected from it and firefighters would push the equipment back into the bay themselves.

“This means a lot to me and our crew,” Warden said. “Thank you.”

The Grand Ronde Tribe built the \$1 million fire station and it officially opened in June 2010, reducing response times for West Valley Fire District personnel who used to be dispatched from the station in Willamina for fire and emergency medical calls. ■



\*These primary boundaries of the service area have not been finalized.

Map created by Samuel Briggs III



# Tribal member purchases insurance agency

By Danielle Harrison

Smoke Signals staff writer

SALEM – A chance meeting at one of the Tribe’s vaccination clinics last winter led to Tribal member Darrel Lawrence purchasing a Farmers Insurance branch in Salem.

Lawrence, 54, was standing in a long line at a vaccination clinic when he noticed a man wearing a Farmers Insurance shirt. Lawrence, who was in the process of becoming an agent, started chatting with him and learned he was planning to sell his business.

“I was working with the Eugene district and had planned to buy a location in Albany, but the owner kept dragging his feet,” Lawrence said. “So, I was really excited to learn there was one in Salem because I live there. It was a thumbs up all around.”

Lawrence officially took over operations as of Sept. 1 and offers auto, home, renters, condominium, business and life insurance. He also has specialty insurance for items such as off-road vehicles and mobile homes.

Lawrence’s last job was as a financial advisor with Merrill Lynch, so he is also able to offer retirement savings plans through Farmers.

“That was another big attraction to this business for me,” he said. “I could still offer retirement plans as a licensed financial advisor.”

His biggest challenge so far has

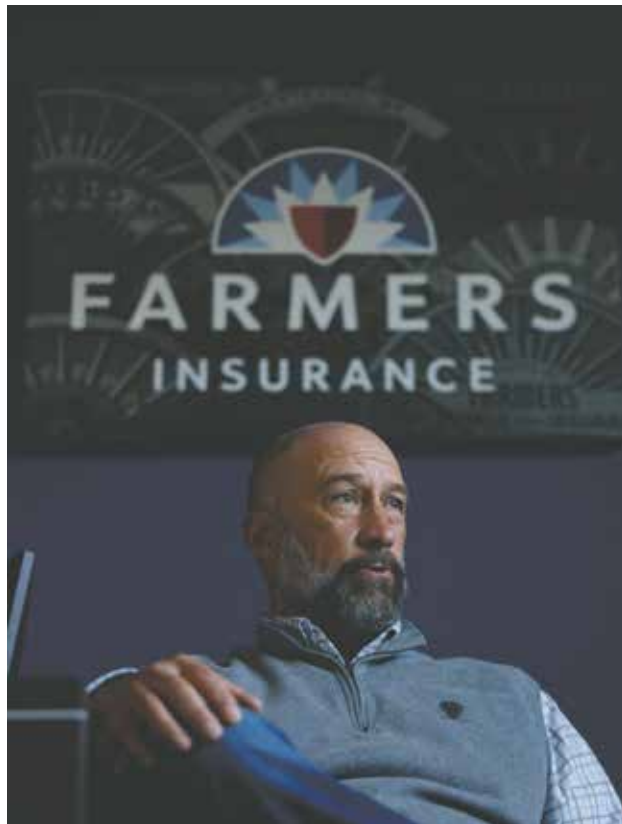


Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez

**Tribal member and former Hatfield Fellow Darrel Lawrence recently purchased a Farmers Insurance agency in Salem.**

been handling the day-to-day servicing of customer accounts.

“I’m trying to get over the hump of people who are surprised the former agent sold the business,” Lawrence said. “It’s been challenging convincing the customers I don’t plan on going anywhere.”

Another challenge has simply been adjusting to a new business system and learning more about home and auto insurance accounts.

“It’s taken some getting used to,” Lawrence said.

The most enjoyable part of his new job has been the independence encouraged from the corporate office.

“Farmers will coach you and support you, but also allows you to run your business as you see fit,” he said.

Goals for the next year include growing the business, but like nearly everyone else, the labor shortage is affecting Lawrence.

“I’m looking for some people to work for me and they can make their own schedule if they like,” he said. “It would be good for someone who is retired and wants to make some extra money. I’d also like to find a new office location and grow my book of business.”

Lawrence’s Tribal roots come from his mother, Victoria Tom Lawrence, and his grandfather, Leon

“Chips” Tom, who also served on Tribal Council from 1991 to 1999.

“I want other Tribal members to know I will provide attention to detail, customer service and a sense of community,” he said. “Farmers isn’t the cheapest, but you will have a local guy who will answer the phone and can meet your needs.”

He gave an example of Farmers claim turnaround times as a way in which the company excels, even though their prices are not as low as some other insurance providers.

“My brother’s house burnt down in Detroit during the fires last year and he was reimbursed for the value within eight days,” Lawrence said. “The biggest part about serving people is promptly getting back to them and getting them what they need. You can’t go wrong from there.”

In his spare time, Lawrence enjoys playing pickle ball, golfing and “everything outdoors.”

He has a wife, Kristie, and two children, Tribal members Rylie, 24, and Davis, 20.

Lawrence also served as the Tribe’s Hatfield Fellow in 2011-12, working in Rep. Suzanne Bonamici’s office.

Lawrence’s office is located at 4985 Battle Creek Road S.E., Suite 102, and he can be reached at 503-399-1077 or dlawrence1@farmer-sagent.com. ■

## Machines would alter competitive landscape

**MACHINES continued from front page**

Prineville, Tillamook and Burns that the lost revenue will increase to \$62 million for the Oregon Lottery and \$31 million for Tribes. In addition, if the machines expand into the 11 off-track betting locations operated throughout Oregon by Grants Pass Downs at 250 machines per site, the losses could increase to \$174 million for the Oregon Lottery and \$86 million for Tribes.

“In the first scenario, Tribal income would fall approximately 5 percent,” the ECONorthwest study states. “In the second, where machines appear at all racetracks in the state, the amount Oregon Tribes earn from gaming and use to pay for necessary Tribal services would fall about 23 percent. With the third scenario, the loss would be 72 percent.”

Historic racing machines are electronic gaming devices whose outcomes are predicated on pari-mutuel wagering – when the public bets on a race. After a player places a wager and presses a button, a video showing the last few seconds of a race that occurred previously is displayed and prizes in the pari-mutuel pool are displayed as the winning slot machine outcomes.

“For all intents and purposes, an HHR is a video slot machine,” the ECONorthwest study states. “Gamblers insert money, select an amount to bet, press a button and watch a brief animated display. Once the display stops, the gambler learns if they won or lost their bet.”

*“All of a sudden it’s like, has the state’s prohibition on casinos been waived. We played under one set of rules. We invested in our facilities in rural Oregon on those rules. And now it looks like the rules are changing.”*

**~ Grand Ronde Tribal lobbyist Justin Martin**

The machines were originally introduced into Oregon at Portland Meadows Racetrack, which closed in 2019 and was subsequently demolished. The machines did not have a significant impact, according to the C3 study, because of the limited library of game titles, lackluster facility where they were housed and general decline in interest in horse racing.

However, historic racing machines have undergone “significant” improvements in design, technology and marketing appeal, C3 states, and points to their introduction into gaming markets in the Midwest to bolster its contention that they will negatively affect Tribal casino and Oregon Lottery revenues.

For instance, when the new historic racing machines were installed at Derby City Gaming in Louisville, Ky., in 2018, the nearby Caesars Southern Indiana casino saw a 12 percent decline in annual net slot revenue.

When 902 of the machines were installed at Red Mile Gaming & Racing in Lexington, Ky., the Belterra Casino Resort 90 minutes away saw a 7 percent decrease in net slot revenue over a 10-month period.

In addition to Kentucky, the new-

est generation of historic racing machines can be found in Wyoming and Virginia and are about to enter the gaming market in New Hampshire.

“Given the number of racetracks and OTB facilities in Oregon, the introduction of these new HHR machines will alter the competitive landscape, and they are expected to cannibalize gaming revenue from the Oregon Lottery and Oregon Tribal casinos,” the C3 study states. “What policy makers must ask is do they want an expansion of gaming in the state and, if so, how will this increase in supply impact existing (Oregon Lottery) operations and Tribal casinos.”

Boersma offered a study that estimates Grants Pass Downs and the Flying Lark would generate more than \$10.7 billion in spending in southern Oregon over 30 years of operation.

The threat of historic racing machines to Tribal casino revenues convinced the Seminole Tribe in Florida to support a number of recent referendums in the state that gave voters and not legislators the right to decide on expansion of gaming. In addition, when the Tribe renegotiated its compact with the state of Florida, it was able to introduce language that essentially

prohibits any historic racing machine manufactured over the past 15 years.

“Clearly, the Seminole Tribe of Florida recognized that modern HHR machines offer an electronic gaming experience that is very similar to the Class III machines that the Tribe offers,” the C3 study states. “To prevent any possible erosion of market share, it insisted on language that all but eliminated the gaming entertainment experience of modern HHR machines.”

Ultimately, the ECONorthwest study concludes, if Grants Pass Downs and the Flying Lark are unable to increase the number of gamblers and the amount Oregonians gamble, the money it earns from historic racing machines will come at the expense of the Oregon Lottery and Tribes.

“All of a sudden it’s like, has the state’s prohibition on casinos been waived,” Grand Ronde Tribal lobbyist Justin Martin was quoted as saying in *The Oregonian*. “We played under one set of rules. We invested in our facilities in rural Oregon on those rules. And now it looks like the rules are changing.”

Other Tribal leaders who signed both letters were Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Chairwoman Debbie Bossley, Siletz Chairwoman Delores Pigsley, Klamath Chairman Donald Gentry, Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians Chairman Dan Courtney and Umatilla Chairwoman Kathryn Brigham.

In addition to Brown, the letter was sent to Oregon Senate President Peter Courtney and Speaker of the House Tina Kotek. ■



Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG)  
U.S. Department of Housing & Urban  
Development Program  
Community Development Statement  
Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde  
Grand Ronde Child Care Center Project

Following HUD’s Notice of Funding Availability, the Tribe solicited for ICDBG project suggestions from Tribal departments. This was followed by discussions and updates with the General Manager and Tribal Council. Council reviewed five eligible ICDBG project suggestions and construction of a Child Care Center was selected by Tribal Council.

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

To comment on the proposed application, please contact Kim Rogers, Planning & Grants Manager, at 503-879-2250 or send your comments to him at 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347 or kim.rogers@grandronde.org.

Council will review comments collected to date at its Oct. 12, 2021, Legislative Action Committee meeting and again at its Oct. 13, 2021, Council meeting at which time Council will consider authorizing this application. Council will also consider comments provided by Grand Ronde community members in determining whether to make any modifications to the application. The resulting application will be available for review. The ICDBG grant application is due on Oct. 25, 2021.

The Tribe’s Early Childhood Education Center was built in 2001 and has to turn away children and families in need of service based on not having space to serve them. Lack of child care is a major barrier to family members obtaining training and achieving employment and self-sufficiency. The proposed project will construct a 3,500-square-foot Child Care Center with three classrooms (infant through age 2). The estimated development cost is \$2.1 million with \$1.9 million for the structure and \$200,000 for parking and utilities. The ICDBG application will be for \$750,000, plus \$250,000 in Tribal matching funds planned to come from the Tribe’s Indian Housing Block Grant funding, plus \$500,000 from a planned amendment of the Tribe’s Child Care Development Fund grant, and an expected \$400,000 in grant funding from foundations. Added building operation and maintenance costs are expected to be \$20,000 a year. Adding staffing costs are expected to be primarily funded by increased Early Head Start and Child Care Development funding. ■

# Future housing site



Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez

**Workers from Scholten Construction Inc. of Willamina have started moving earth at the 86.5-acre Rink 2 property off McPherson Road and east of Grand Meadows in Grand Ronde. The site has been designated for the Tribe’s new home ownership property recently named tipsu-ili’l (grassland in Chinuk Wawa). The home ownership project is starting with 20 residential lots on which Tribal members can build homes with 75-year leases. Tribal Council approved the \$612,000 professional services agreement with Scholten Construction during its Aug. 25 meeting. The Tribe held a blessing and ribbon-cutting ceremony at the property on Tuesday, Sept. 7.**

# Fee assistance available

Enrolled Tribal members can request assistance with test fees (i.e. GRE, SAT, LSAT, ACT) and admissions application fees.

Contact Higher Education for more information at 1-800-422-0232, ext. 2275. ■



# TRIBAL VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

Ramona Quenelle, Tribal Veterans Service Officer, (TVSO)US Navy Veteran (IT2 SW)  
Phone: 503-879-1484 | CTGRTribalVSO@grandronde.org

CTGR Social Services Department, Attn: Tribal Veterans Service Officer  
9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347

**VETERANS CRISIS LINE, CALL 1-800-273-8255 AND PRESS 1 OR TEXT 838255**

**VETERANS CORNER, October 2021:**

**E-mail CTGRTribalVSO@grandronde.org to register for events and training!**

All CTGR veterans send us your e-mail address so we can include you on the monthly CTGR Veterans Newsletter Distribution List and periodic e-mail information updates.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**August 2021 until completed**  
**Coffee & Chat with the TVSO**

The original plan was to take you out to coffee and meet with you face to face. Due to the pandemic, that isn't possible and I do not want to risk anyone's health and safety. Because I still want to connect with you, I will be reaching out to you via phone call to speak with you about your benefits or other related veteran topics. In return for your time the TVSO will send you a gift card as a token of appreciation.

The Tribal Veterans Service Officer will call all Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde veterans to review Veteran Benefits the veteran might be eligible for. Reviewing and applying for benefits can mean more money in your pocket and/or more benefits that you qualify to use. In some cases, spouses can also benefit in case of the veterans passing. Let's chat!

**Oct. 28, 2021 2 p.m. (Virtual)**  
**A Community Wellness Gathering: Living in Balance**  
**Register on Zoom. Use Meeting ID: 810 8041 1541**  
**Passcode: 241701**

The last in our series of Behavioral Health trainings for 2021. Please join us! The Native Wellness Institute will facilitate a community virtual gathering to laugh, learn and connect with one another in a good way. We'll visit about living in balance, how our cultural teachings can give us strength and share with each other what makes us feel good. We'll uplift each other and leave feeling better than when we arrived.

**Nov. 11, 2021 at 12:00 p.m.**  
**Veterans Day Drive Through Luncheon**

Honoring Tribal and community veterans on Veterans Day. Begins at noon until supplies run out. Come get a boxed lunch, a

T-shirt and some goodies from the Tribal Veterans Service Office and the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Behavioral Health Department. #ctgrhonorsveterans

**SAVE THE DATE CALENDAR:**

**Month of November**  
**Veterans Wellness & Mental Health & Suicide Awareness Walk (Virtual)**

Contact the CTGR TVSO to sign up and to give us your T-shirt size. Walk or run 2.2 miles sometime during the month of November 2021.

Veterans and veteran family members are welcome to participate in our first walk to bring awareness to veteran mental health and suicide. Each participant will receive a T-shirt in return for completing the walk/run. If participants choose to, they are welcome to post a selfie on the CTGR TVSO page and/or send a photo to the CTGR TVSO with the hashtags: #ctgrvetmentalhealthwalk2021, #iamaveteran or, #ctgrhonorsveterans

**Dec. 2021 (Date/Time TBD)**  
**Veterans End of the Year Event**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**SOUTHWEST ASIA THEATER OF OPERATIONS?**

The Department of Veterans Affairs began processing disability claims Aug. 2, 2021 for asthma, rhinitis and sinusitis on a presumptive basis based on presumed particulate matter exposures during military service in Southwest Asia and certain other areas – if these conditions manifested within 10 years of a qualifying period of military service. Contact the Tribal Veterans Service Office to determine if your dates of service and location of service fall within the qualifying dates.

**IRAQ or AFGHANISTAN?**

Did you serve in Operation Desert Storm/Desert Shield, New Dawn, Iraqi Freedom/Enduring Freedom? The Open Burn Pit Registry allows eligible veterans and service members to document environmental exposures, such as smoke from burn pits, oil-well fires or pollution during deployment, as well as record health concerns, through an online questionnaire.

**VIETNAM VETERANS - AGENT ORANGE EXPOSURE?**

The list of conditions presumed to be caused by Agent Orange exposure has recently expanded. Whether you were on land, air or sea, you may be entitled to compensation from the VA.

**Blue Water Navy: Agent Orange Presumptive Exposure in the Republic of Vietnam.**

1. Are you a Vietnam veteran (includes military, naval or air service) who served in the Republic of Vietnam between Jan. 9, 1962, and May 7, 1975?
2. Did you serve aboard a vessel operating not more than 12 nautical miles seaward from the demarcation line of the waters of Vietnam and Cambodia?
3. Do you have one or more of the Agent Orange presumptive conditions listed below: IHD, type 2 diabetes, Parkinson's disease, respiratory cancers, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease, multiple myeloma, soft tissue sarcomas, prostate cancer, bladder cancer, hyper thyroidism, etc.

Contact the Tribal Veterans Service Office for more information.







# Watchlist: ‘Activists hold rally on Indigenous Peoples’ Day outside White House’

By Kamiah Koch  
Social media/digital journalist

The Guardian’s YouTube channel, Guardian News, posted video clips from protests held near the White House in Washington, D.C., on Oct. 11, 2021, also known as Indigenous Peoples’ Day.

The video describes hundreds of Indigenous people and activists rallied together to demand President Biden declare a national climate emergency. The description of the video also states the protestors requested “Joe Biden stop approving fossil fuel projects.”

In the audio of the video you can hear Native drums, chanting and jingle dresses of the Indigenous people marching down the street. Others are seen wearing traditional ribbon skirts and carrying signs that read “land back” and “people vs. fossil fuels.”

About halfway through the video, police arrive at the scene and order people to leave the area.

Many are seen continuing to peacefully dance in front of the White House fence. The Guardian reports there were confrontations between police and “a number of arrests were made.”

CBS News reported this march was expected as this year’s Indigenous Peoples’ Day was the first formally recognized Indigenous holiday by an American president.

You can see the clips from the Indigenous Peoples’ Day rally at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=IE\\_1UdYRZ8c](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IE_1UdYRZ8c) or find the on the *Smoke Signals* Watchlist on YouTube.

# 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.

For more information or for kitchen and hall rental, contact Janelle Justen at 503-550-0923. ■

Fall  
in love with Reading

ALL AGES  
READING PROGRAM

KIDS AND ADULTS CAN SIGN UP!

REGISTRATION STARTS  
OCTOBER 12TH-OCTOBER 22ND

REGISTER BY:  
TURNING IN REGISTRATION FORM  
PHONE: 503-879-1488  
OR  
EMAIL: KATHY.COLE@GRANDRONDE.ORG

- COMPLETE READING LOGS & EARN RAFFLE TICKETS INTO OUR PRIZE DRAWING!
- WEEKLY LITERACY ACTIVITY + BOOK



BECOME A TRIBAL WATER OPERATOR


HELP KEEP TRIBAL COMMUNITIES SAFE ONE DROP AT A TIME



For more information, contact your local tribal utility or the ITCA Operator Training Program at 602.307.1548.

The Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. is an equal opportunity provider and employer. This material is based upon work supported under a grant by the Rural Utilities Service, United States Department of Agriculture. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Rural Utilities Service. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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CULTURAL EDUCATION

Are you missing out on what Cultural Education has to offer? Follow us on Facebook to get detailed class information, photos from events, and updates.

Plus, check out the tribal calendar for a quick glance of upcoming events and classes.

Open to Tribal and Community members. Join us!

Search Facebook for Grand Ronde Cultrual Education

FALL READING PROGRAM

REGISTRATION  
OCTOBER 12TH-OCTOBER 22ND

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

AGE: \_\_\_\_\_ READING LVL: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PICKUP EVERY THURSDAY AT:

- Housing basketball court @ 11:00am-11:30am
- Tribal Library 9:00am-5:00pm



*Presented by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Tribal Veterans Service Office  
and the Native Wellness Institute*

**A Community Wellness Gathering:**  
**Living in Balance**

The Native Wellness Institute will facilitate a community virtual gathering to laugh, learn and connect with one another in a good way. We'll visit about living in balance, how our cultural teachings can give us strength and share with each other what makes us feel good. We'll uplift each other and leave feeling better than when we arrived.


**October 28, 2021**  
**2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

**A Virtual Zoom Training**

**Meeting ID: 810 8041 1541**  
**Passcode: 241701**

**Presented by: The Native Wellness Institute**


**Jillene Joseph (Aaniiih – Gros Ventre)**




Jillene raised four children and a nephew for many years as a single mother and now is in a beautiful and healthy relationship. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in community health education and is currently the Executive Director for the Native Wellness Institute, a national non-profit organization that she and a handful of others founded in 2000. For the past 35 years she has traveled throughout North America providing wellness and healing training and technical assistance to tribes, First Nations and aboriginal organizations in a variety of areas such as youth leadership development, healthy relationships, wellness in the workplace and more. She has visited hundreds of Native and Indigenous communities through North America, the island of Guam, Australia and New Zealand, providing information as well as furthering her own knowledge and understanding of our People and the Native ways. She prides herself in choosing to be drug and alcohol free and by living a life that she knows is making her ancestors proud. Jillene is one of the 8 members of the International Indigenous Council of the Healing Our Spirits Worldwide movement. Jillene has worked for her own tribe, for tribal health board's and has always lived by her personal mantra of "Living the Warrior's Spirit: being positive, productive and proactive." Her passion and life's work are dedicated to bringing wellness and healing to individuals, families, places of work and communities throughout Native North America and beyond!

**Robert Johnston (Muscogee Creek/Choctaw)**


"When you hold back, you stand behind the mountain. When you step up, you stand on top of it!" Robert is a founding member of the Native Wellness Institute and a popular Native American speaker and coach who has served Indian Country for over 15 years. He uses humor, storytelling, and music in his highly interactive presentations. As a leadership trainer for youth, Robert has served many organizations including White Bison, United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY), National Congress of American Indian (NCAI), and the Native Wellness Institute. He is a certified hypnotist and has studied Sports Motivation. Robert's hypnosis shows have delighted Native communities all over the United States and Canada.



**Josh Cocker (Kiowa/Tongan)**




Josh is from the Kiowa, or Ka'igwu people in Oklahoma, and the kingdom of Tonga in the South Pacific. Josh is a certified outdoor instructor and facilitator, with an associate's degree from Whitireia Polytechnic in Wellington, New Zealand. He has traveled extensively in the South Pacific for work and service including: Papua New Guinea, Tonga, and Australia. Most recently he has worked in the Tonto National Forest in Arizona as a trail walker, coordinator, and trainer for an outdoor behavioral healthcare foundation. From the age of 14, Josh was given a position in a military society of his tribe, and trained as a youth leader to preserve and share traditional knowledge with his generation. He seeks to honor and share that knowledge with everyone. "My hope is that I can help reintroduce people from all walks of life to our First Mother in all her wisdom and beauty. I hope to inspire healing, harmony, and connection through the use and passing of traditional skills in the outdoors."



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SERVICE OFFICE**

For more information please email: [CTGRTribalVSO@GrandRonde.Org](mailto:CTGRTribalVSO@GrandRonde.Org) or, call (503) 879-1484

*Let's share in wellness...Register Now!*



# Online Native Club

## October 27 at 5:30pm

### JOIN YOUTH ENRICHMENT FOR OUR FIRST ONLINE NATIVE CLUB

- THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO CONNECT WITH TRIBAL PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES.
- DISCUSS TOPICS THAT INTEREST YOU.





**HTTPS://BIT.LY/OCTOBERNATIVECLUB**

**MEETING ID:**  
**889 8945 3126**

**MEET PASSCODE:**  
**721469**



# SERVE UP ENERGY SAVINGS FOR YOUR BUSINESS WITH THE HELP OF ENERGY EXPERTS.

With business booming again for local hotels and restaurants, it's time to consider improving your customers' experience through smarter energy use. Energy Trust of Oregon offers a full menu of energy-efficiency tools and resources – so the only thing that's piping hot in your kitchen is your daily special. Learn more at **EnergyTrust.org/forbusiness**.

ENERGY TRUST for BUSINESS  
Run Better



EnergyTrust  
of Oregon



# On-time graduation rates dip for Native students

By Danielle Harrison  
*Smoke Signals staff writer*

WILLAMINA — High school graduation rates decreased for Native American students in Willamina amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

According to individual school district numbers released by the Oregon Department of Education on Thursday, Oct. 7, Native American 2019-20 on-time graduation rates at Willamina High School were 73 percent, a drop from 88 percent the year before the pandemic shuttered schools.

Statewide, Native American on-time graduation rates for 2020 is at 67.2 percent, down half a percentage point from the year before.

Officials say the dips are not unexpected given the sudden pivot to distance learning that occurred in March 2020 and continued for most students through much of the 2020-21 school year.

“The pandemic played a significant role in our rates dipping in all areas,” Willamina School District Superintendent Carrie Zimbrick said. “In addition, we had a smaller senior class last year, 54 students.”

Zimbrick said that there is typically a difference in the state’s graduation rates and her records because of how students self-identify on the enrollment forms, which is what the state uses to track racial and ethnic data.

“My records show that 85 percent of our Native students received a

diploma. The problem is that many of our students that have 506 forms (forms to determine Native American school population for federal funding purposes) do not identify as (such) on the school registration form. Therefore, they are not counted toward our (Native American) subgroup for (state) accountability.”

Willamina has the largest Native American student population in the area, with approximately 40 percent of students identifying as such, and most of those students are Grand Ronde Tribal members or descendants.

The overall Willamina on-time graduation rate stands at 84 percent, slightly above the statewide rate of 82.6 percent, which is also the highest graduation rate ever recorded in Oregon.

Students who take career and technical education classes have consistently higher graduation rates across all ethnic and racial groups. Statewide, those figures are 87.4 percent for Native American students and 93.5 percent across all ethnic groups.

Willamina High School has two full-time CTE instructors and classes include welding, construction, drones, woodworking, small engine repair, horticulture, agricultural science, veterinary science and robotics.

Going forward, the district is focused on meeting students where they are and addressing unfinished

learning.

“Our kids have not had full-day, in-person instruction for more than 18 months, so getting back to routines and embracing the lessons learned is important,” Zimbrick said.

This past summer, the district offered a summer credit recovery program. There is also an afterschool program for academic support and a Monday schedule for sixth through 12th grade that supports unfinished learning.

“At the elementary we have added staff to our reading intervention program to support unfinished learning,” Zimbrick said. “We also will be focusing on building relationships with students and families to support all needs of our community, particularly health, safety, well-being and re-building academic stamina. One thing we can all agree on is not adding more to the already full plates of our students and staff. We want to focus on what is most important and give kids opportunities to demonstrate learning and knowledge in multiple ways.”

The school district profiles con-

tain previously released graduation data for the class of 2020 as well as profiles for the 2020-21 school year, including student and teacher race and ethnicity, on-time graduation for the class of 2020 and college going rates for the class of 2018.

“The 2020-21 school year was unlike any other our state has ever faced, but the strength, resiliency and resolve of students, families and educators saw us through,” said Oregon Department of Education Director Colt Gill. “We’re relying on that same strength and resolve during our first few months of school as our educators focus on minimizing COVID-19 and connecting with students to support their mental health. Oregon’s schools are ready, eager and committed to serving our students. Data is key to tell us how to better invest and serve students and we look forward to using this year’s profiles to continue focusing on diversifying and strengthening our educator workforce and providing all students the supports they need to graduate.”

To view district profiles, visit [ode.state.or.us/data/reportcard/](https://ode.state.or.us/data/reportcard/). ■

## 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. ■

### Grand Ronde Editorial Board position opening

The Grand Ronde Editorial Board, a Tribal board assigned the duty by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde (“Grand Ronde”) of overseeing its independent Tribal press (*Smoke Signals*), invites applications to serve on the **Grand Ronde Editorial Board**. There is one (1) open board position with a term that expires in March 2023.

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

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

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

Applicants will be interviewed by the Grand Ronde Editorial Board before a recommendation is forwarded to Tribal Council.

Preference will be given to qualified Tribal members.

**Submission deadline: Friday, Oct. 15, 2021**

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

Grand Ronde Editorial Board  
c/o *Smoke Signals*  
Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde  
9615 Grand Ronde Road  
Grand Ronde, OR 97347  
Phone: 503.879.1463  
E-mail: [editorial.board@grandronde.org](mailto:editorial.board@grandronde.org)

## Attention All Artisans

**The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde is seeking bids for our 2022-23 crowns and medallions.**

**Submit full design that includes:**

- The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde logo (including feathers)
- Court Year 2022-23
- Titles: Little Miss Grand Ronde  
Junior Miss Grand Ronde  
Senior Miss Grand Ronde
- Crowns and medallions must be completed and delivered by July 29, 2022

**Must submit photos of progress when requested**



**Bid Deadline is Jan. 14, 2022**  
(deadline is firm and no bids will be accepted after 5 p.m.)

Mail bids and designs to:  
CTGR Royalty c/o Public Affairs  
9615 Grand Ronde Road  
Grand Ronde, OR 97347

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


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



‘Acts of Kindness’

Did you know that practicing kindness increases energy, happiness and lifespan while decreasing stress, anxiety and blood pressure? Royalty participants for the CTGR and Veterans SEB groups show that it is “cool to be kind.” It is your turn to get out there and pay it forward!  
The collections also can be found at [www.facebook.com/CTGRRoyalty](http://www.facebook.com/CTGRRoyalty) and [www.facebook.com/CTGRVeteransSEB](http://www.facebook.com/CTGRVeteransSEB).

"CARRY OUT A RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS,  
WITH NO EXPECTATION OF REWARD, SAFE  
IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT ONE DAY  
SOMEONE MIGHT DO THE SAME FOR YOU."  
- PRINCESS DIANA



RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS  
FOUNDATION\*  
[www.randomactsofkindness.org](http://www.randomactsofkindness.org)



Make  
kindness  
the norm.  
It's your  
turn!



"CARRY OUT A RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS,  
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- PRINCESS DIANA



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[www.randomactsofkindness.org](http://www.randomactsofkindness.org)


Aubrey Campbell  
Little Miss Princess  
2021/2022






Good deed quarantine edition:  
Helping my little brother  
with his homework.

"CARRY OUT A RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS,  
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- PRINCESS DIANA




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Anavey Smith  
Sr. Miss Princess



2021/2022



You never know who  
will come across your  
words and need them.  
  
You are enough!

Ila Mercier  
Little Miss Grand Ronde  
2021/2022

"CARRY OUT A RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS,  
WITH NO EXPECTATION OF REWARD, SAFE  
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Hi my name is Ila Mercier and I am Little Miss Grand Ronde. For my act of kindness I like to pick apples and give them to the neighbors and gathering crawdads for my family's dinner. I feel good when I gather food for family and friends.



"CARRY OUT A RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS,  
WITH NO EXPECTATION OF REWARD, SAFE  
IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT ONE DAY  
SOMEONE MIGHT DO THE SAME FOR YOU."  
- PRINCESS DIANA



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FOUNDATION\*  
[www.randomactsofkindness.org](http://www.randomactsofkindness.org)

Kalea Liebelt Veterans  
Junior Queen  
2021/2022  
Nacoma Liebelt,  
Veterans  
Warrior



Kalea and Nacoma came home from school and picked up trash in the neighborhood.





**KALEIGHA SIMI**  
**SR. MISS GRAND RONDE**

For my acts of kindness I decided to write encouraging post-it notes and left them around my school

"CARRY OUT A RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS, WITH NO EXPECTATION OF REWARD, SAFE IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT ONE DAY SOMEONE MIGHT DO THE SAME FOR YOU."  
- PRINCESS DIANA



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2021/2022



"CARRY OUT A RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS, WITH NO EXPECTATION OF REWARD, SAFE IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT ONE DAY SOMEONE MIGHT DO THE SAME FOR YOU."  
- PRINCESS DIANA



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www.randomactsofkindness.org

2021/2022

WE ARE LEARNING HOW TO MAKE CATTAIL BRACELETS. BECAUSE THESE ARE OUR FIRST ONES, WE ARE EACH GIVING THEM TO SOMEONE SPECIAL:

LELOO QUENELLE, VETERANS LITTLE QUEEN - I AM GIVING MY BRACELET TO MY GRAMA. I LOVE HER AND WANT HER TO HAVE SOMETHING I MADE.

MARIE QUENELLE, JR. MISS GRAND RONDE - I AM GIVING MY BRACELET TO MY OLDEST SISTER BECAUSE SHE IS A GOOD ROLE MODEL.

ULALI QUENELLE, TINY TOT - I AM GIVING MY BRACELET TO MY UNCLE BOB. HE'S AWESOME.



Kindness is an everyday act, and for the month of September that included helping out our grandpa! We went fishing with him, helped around the house, and helped his neighbors move. We also helped our brother make a birthday cake for our dad.



Satara Blanchard  
Jr. Miss Princess  
~  
Sophia Catron  
Tiny Tot

"CARRY OUT A RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS, WITH NO EXPECTATION OF REWARD, SAFE IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT ONE DAY SOMEONE MIGHT DO THE SAME FOR YOU."  
- PRINCESS DIANA



RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS FOUNDATION  
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2021/2022



"CARRY OUT A RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS, WITH NO EXPECTATION OF REWARD, SAFE IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT ONE DAY SOMEONE MIGHT DO THE SAME FOR YOU."  
- PRINCESS DIANA



RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS FOUNDATION  
www.randomactsofkindness.org

Willow Squetinkin  
Tiny Tot 2021/2022

Willow picked flowers and made cards for her neighborhood.





Tasina Bluehorse  
Veterans Sr. Queen  
2021/2022

"CARRY OUT A RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS, WITH NO EXPECTATION OF REWARD, SAFE IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT ONE DAY SOMEONE MIGHT DO THE SAME FOR YOU."  
- PRINCESS DIANA



RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS FOUNDATION  
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You're doing  
👍 awesome!

"CARRY OUT A RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS, WITH NO EXPECTATION OF REWARD, SAFE IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT ONE DAY SOMEONE MIGHT DO THE SAME FOR YOU."  
- PRINCESS DIANA



RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS FOUNDATION  
www.randomactsofkindness.org

2021/2022



Act Of Kindness Month

I Enjoy Holding My Niece When She's Upset And Watching Her After School When I Can.

- Desirae Hernandez  
Little Miss Princess







# GRAND RONDE POLICE LOG

**Thursday, Sept. 16**

- Trespass arrest occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Suspicious person reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Intoxicated person reported in the 8500 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Assist outside agency in the 8600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Welfare check performed in the 100 block of Wind River Drive.
- Assist outside agency in the area of milepost 26 on Highway 18.

**Friday, Sept. 17**

- Warrant arrest occurred in the 8700 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Warrant arrest occurred in the 8700 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Assist outside agency in the 8100 block of Fire Hall Road.
- Assist outside agency in the 800 block of Main Street in Willamina.
- Driving complaint received in the area of milepost 26 on Highway 18.
- Assist outside agency in the Willamina area.

**Saturday, September 18**

- Warrant arrest occurred in the 7000 block of Fire Hall Road.
- Property found in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Theft reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Theft reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

**Sunday, Sept. 19**

- Drug complaint received in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Hit-and-run reported in the 26800 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Fraud reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Warrant arrest occurred in the 25600 block of Yamhill River Road.
- Criminally driving while suspended arrest occurred in the area of Lamson and Main streets in Willamina.
- Disabled vehicle reported in the area of milepost 22 on Hebo Road.
- Assist outside agency in the 8500 block of Grand Ronde Road.

**Monday, Sept. 20**

- Assist outside agency in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Assist outside agency in the area of Bockes Loop in Sheridan.
- Domestic disturbance reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Warrant arrest occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.

**Tuesday, Sept. 21**

- Open door reported in the 9600 block of Raven Loop.
- Theft reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Suspicious person reported in the area of milepost 24 on Hebo Road.
- Warrant arrest occurred in the area of milepost 27 on Highway 18.

**Wednesday, Sept. 22**

- Animal complaint reported in the 26800 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Drug complaint received in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Assist outside agency in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Suspicious vehicle reported in the 8500 block of Grand Ronde Road.

**Thursday, Sept. 23**

- Drug complaint reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Suspicious vehicle reported in the area of Hebo and Old Fort roads.
- Warrant arrest occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Fraud reported in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Fraud reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

**Friday, Sept. 24**

- Warrant arrest occurred in the 100 block of Wind River Drive.
- Drug complaint reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Warrant arrest occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Driving complaint received in the area of milepost 24 on Highway 18.
- Driving complaint received in the area of milepost 16 on Highway 18.
- Fraud reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Driving complaint received in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

**Saturday, Sept. 25**

- Welfare check performed in the 8500 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Crash reported in the area of milepost 20 on Highway 18.

- Deceased person reported in the 48800 block of Blacktail Drive.
- Drug complaint received in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Assist outside agency in the 1000 block of West Main Street in Sheridan.

**Sunday, Sept. 26**

- DUII arrest occurred in the area of milepost 22 on Highway 18.

**Monday, Sept. 27**

- Theft reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Property found in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Overdose reported in the 27700 block of Andy Riggs Road.
- Attempt to elude in the area of Blacktail Drive and Grand Ronde Road. The driver was located and arrested without incident.

**Tuesday, Sept. 28**

- Warrant arrest occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Identity theft arrest occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Attempt to locate a stolen vehicle in the area of Highway 22 and Red Prairie Road.

**Wednesday, Sept. 29**

- Drug complaint reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Theft reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Warrant arrest occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

**Thursday, Sept. 30**

- Theft reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Stolen vehicle reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway. The suspect was arrested without incident.
- Drug complaint received in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Warrant arrest occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Drug complaint reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

**Friday, Oct. 1**

- Warrant arrest occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Stolen vehicle reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Intoxicated person reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Driving complaint received in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

**Saturday, Oct. 2**

- DUII arrest occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Driving complaint received in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Assist outside agency in the area of milepost 25 on Highway 18.
- Theft reported in the 26800 block of Salmon River Highway.

**Sunday, Oct. 3**

- Menacing call reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Animal complaint reported in the area of Tyee and Grand Ronde roads.
- Fraud reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Warrant arrest occurred in the area of Hebo Road and Highway 18.
- Assist outside agency in the 300 block of First Street in Willamina.
- Assist outside agency at the 500 block of Fifth Street in Willamina.

**Monday, Oct. 4**

- Overdose reported in the 28800 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Driving complaint reported in the area of milepost 21 on Highway 18.
- Assist outside agency in the area of Blacktail Drive and Salmon Way.
- Suspicious vehicle reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

**Tuesday, Oct. 5**

- Property found in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Suspicious activity reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

**Wednesday, Oct. 6**

- Crash reported in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Theft reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

*Compiled by Grand Ronde Tribal Police  
Department Officer Tyler Brown.*



Walking On...

Gloria Hudson Engelson

Feb. 15, 1934 – Oct. 3, 2021

Mom enjoyed hunting and fishing, long drives around the valley and, in her younger days, water skiing and boating. Mom was from the Valley, but always called eastern Oregon her home and wanted to be here at the end of her life.

As mom aged, she moved back home, and Russ and Kelly provided her with a home and watched over her until her death. She passed peacefully with the love and nurturing of her children by her side.

She was preceded in death by her sons, Bob and Larry Risteen, her siblings and parents.

Gloria leaves behind her four children and their spouses: Rod and Marty (Marladeen) Risteen of Island City, Ore., Kelly and Russ Smith of Summerville, Ore., Missy Sweeney and Arnie Moralez of Grand Ronde, Ore., and Shelly and Bill Fox, also of Grand Ronde; grandchildren, Melissa Pierce and Jeremy of Boise, Idaho, Shawn and Niki Risteen of La Grande, Ore., Krista and Robert Ray of Union, Ore., Kenny and Niki Haggerty of Island City, Joey and Brittney Fox of La Pine, Ore., Larry and Glenda Whitley of Grand Ronde and Daniel Fox also of Grand Ronde; 15 great-grandchildren, Taylor, Ella, Ari, Isabelle, Alex, Kaighen, Justin, Brody, Kennedy, Star, Chase, Brayden, Anthony, Rylan and Lucielle; and 2 great-great-grandsons, Lynkin (L.J.) and Grayson.

Oh, how she loved her children and grandchildren. We can't forget Pudgy and her kitties. We all told mom that when we died, we wanted to come back as her pets because they were spoiled more than any of us kids.

Other passings

Cordelia Emogene Kneeland

July 9, 1925 – Sept. 30, 2021

Tribal Elder Cordelia Emogene Kneeland walked on Thursday, Sept. 30, 2021, at the age of 96. She was the Tribe's fourth oldest Elder and the mother of Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy.

A funeral service was held Monday, Oct. 4. Bollman Funeral Home assisted the family.

Oregon senators urge Treasury to open Tribal Affairs Office

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Oregon U.S. Sens. Jeff Merkley and Ron Wyden have joined a bipartisan push to urge the Treasury Department to establish an Office of Tribal Affairs.

Establishing a dedicated office would help provide enough permanent personnel to help improve the department's Tribal consultation process, strengthen the department's relationship with Tribal Nations and provide more in-house expertise on matters affecting Tribes.

Treasury has long had a role in matters, including tax and finance issues, which have seriously affected the welfare and sovereignty of Tribal Nations. The role has increased and become extremely important during the COVID-19 pandemic since Congress charged Treasury with the responsibility of disbursing billions of dollars in federal relief funds to Tribal Nations.

"The recent Tribal consultations and interactions between Treasury and Tribal Nations underscore the need for sufficient, dedicated, in-house expertise at Treasury on Tribal policy matters," the two lawmakers wrote. "The establishment of such an office has support from Indian Country and would improve Treasury's ability to fulfill its trust responsibilities to respect the nation-to-nation relationship between the federal government and Tribal Nations."

The senators requested a response from Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen no later than Wednesday, Oct. 13. ■



Happy 16th birthday, Anavey!

We are incredibly proud of you and love walking on this journey with you. Continue to reach for the stars and be the light that you are. Love, Mom, Dad & family.

USDA Distribution

~ Salem ~

Oct. 18: 1:30 to 6:30 p.m.  
Oct. 19: 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.  
Oct. 20: 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.  
Oct. 21: Appointment only

~Siletz~

Nov. 1: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Nov. 2: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Nov. 3: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Nov. 4: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Nov. 5: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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

CTGR Youth Enrichment and Education Programs

LET'S CONNECT!



Enter for a chance to win exciting prizes!

How To Enter

Submit an ROI (release of information) and/or fill out the student communications form below and the students will be entered into a drawing.

Please note: Parents and students who have submitted 2021-22 School year applications or ROI forms will automatically be entered into the Grand prize drawing.

First Drawing: October 29  
Second Drawing: November 12  
Third Drawing: December 3rd



To complete the ROI:  
<https://bit.ly/ctgreducationroi>

To complete the communications form:  
<https://bit.ly/ctgrcommunication>



Have Questions?

Contact [youtheducation@grandronde.org](mailto:youtheducation@grandronde.org) or 503-879-2101

Cultural Gatherings: Southern Oregon Acorn Virtual Camp

Hosted by the Indigenous Gardens Network

Date Saturday Nov. 13th 2021

4pm

Please contact Cristina Or Nick

[Cristina.Lara@grandronde.org](mailto:Cristina.Lara@grandronde.org) (503)879-1690

[nickv@ctsi.nsn.us](mailto:nickv@ctsi.nsn.us) 541-484-4234



# EARN \$500 CASH!



## CTGR TRIBAL MEMBER REFERRAL PROGRAM

**Tribal members who refer applicants, to Spirit Mountain Casino, who successfully complete their introductory period will receive **\$500 cash award per applicant.****

## Participation is easy!

Just send someone to [spiritmountain.com/careers](https://spiritmountain.com/careers) and have them put your name and Tribal enrollment number in the "**Referral Name**" box when they start their job application.

**If your referral gets hired and makes it through the introductory phase, we'll send you \$500 Cash for EACH referral!**




SPIRIT MOUNTAIN  
CASINO





# HEALTH & WELLNESS NEWS




NORTHWEST PORTLAND AREA  
INDIAN HEALTH BOARD


Indian Leadership for Indian Health

3.25.21


### Elder Voices Supporting the Covid Vaccine



"Here at Makah, my aunt tested positive for COVID, she is the eldest in our tribe. Also, our only Doctor at our clinic tested positive for COVID, and he has been battling it for well over a month. With that in mind, my choice was easy, to vaccinate in order to make our little village [be] that much more safe." -Nate Tyler, Makah Tribal Council.




"We need to help protect Our People from dying. So, if they do become exposed [to COVID-19], with a vaccine, we do not have to lose them." -Delegate from the Upper Skagit Indian Tribe, THD, Marilyn Scott.




"I was not hesitant [to get the vaccine] at all. I was more fearful of NOT getting the vaccine. We got the vaccine at Chemawa and they were so helpful, friendly, and efficient. They made you feel good. They answered questions before you asked."

**Did you have any side effects?** "I was lucky, I was good. I'm 81 years old, so I don't know why. Only a little arm soreness." -Marie Sagaberd, Lummi & Quinault Elder.




"For me, I knew it was a decision between life as I know it now, or the possibility of being on a respirator and possibly dying alone and struggling for that final breath. As a 69-year-old, my side effects were extremely mild. I was a little bit sleepy the next day, but that was gone by the afternoon."

"Overall, I considered this a good experience. It brought back hope for the future. I wish everyone would choose life and science by getting this vaccine." -Harriette Cheeka, Makah Elder.



"I have been a nurse for 40 years. I am very pro-vaccine, for myself and others. And, I do it for my Tribe, the Makah. I was not concerned at all. I know the vaccine had been through trials for safety and efficacy."

**What would you tell others?** "I would [tell them] of my positive experience. I would assure them it is safe. And, I remind them of the possible effect of getting COVID – severe illness or even death." -Terri Markisium, Makah Elder and nurse.



### Temporary Change In Services for Optometry

Effective October 19, 2021 through February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022, the Health and Wellness Center will be open for glasses, adjustments to glasses and contact lens orders only, as follows:  
Monday-Thursday, 8am-5pm, Friday 8am to 2:30 pm Please call to schedule a time (503) 879-2097

For patients with Shasta, we would like to coordinate services at Dallas Vision Clinic (503) 623-9233 and Central Vision Clinic in Monmouth (503) 838-1244 or you can go to an optometry provider of your choice. It will be important to take your Shasta Card to your appointment to verify coverage.

If you have a current prescription for glasses or contacts, you may be able to bring your prescription here to be filled. Please contact our optometry department with questions (503) 879-2097. For eye drop refills, please contact our pharmacy at (503) 879-2342.

Support wherever  
and whenever  
you need it.

Text Native to 741741.  
#WeNeedYouHere



# Neuroplasticity

the science behind growth mindset



Our brains are composed of **86 MILLION** neurons **CONSTANTLY** firing

We think **60,000-80,000** thoughts every day

**80%**  
NEGATIVE

**95%**  
REPETITIVE

## STUCK IN A NEGATIVE PATTERN?

Every time you have the same thought, you increase the chances of having it again!

**BUT THERE'S**

**Good News!**

**WE CAN REWIRE OUR BRAINS**



Habitual thoughts form **NEURAL PATHWAYS**



Choosing positive thoughts can create new pathways

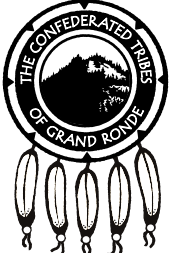


just like exercise

It takes practice and daily commitment

## CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF GRAND RONDE COMMUNITY HEALTH

### COVID-19 Relief Community Health Representatives



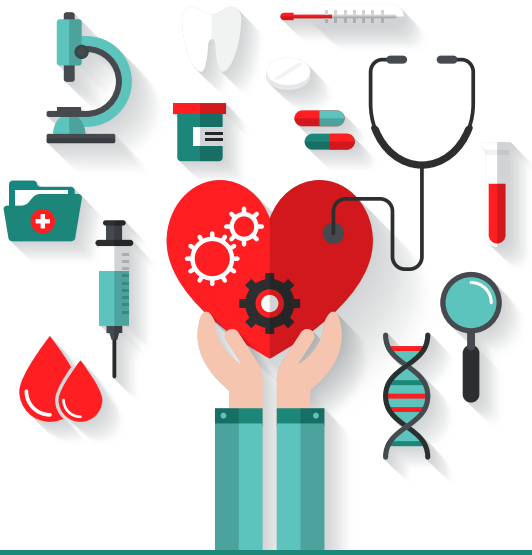
Community Health is pleased to announce the creation of a new program provided to the community. The COVID-19 Relief Community Health Representatives provide service to all Tribal members who have needs or questions regarding COVID-19.

**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



