

Tribal member
competes in Mrs.
American pageant
— pg. 8



SMOKE SIGNALS

UMPQUA · MOLALLA · ROGUE RIVER · KALAPUYA · CHASTA

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

SEPTEMBER 15, 2022

Female candidates make Tribal history

Voters send George, Tuomi and Harvey back to council

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

With only four candidates on the 2022 ballot, Tribal voters were going to do one of two things – re-elect two incumbents and return a former Tribal Council member to the governing board, or return two former Tribal Council members and re-elect one incumbent.

They did the former.

And Tribal voters did something that has never occurred since 1983's Restoration – elect an all-female trio during a Tribal Council election.

Incumbents Denise Harvey and Kathleen George won two of the three open seats during the Sept. 10 Tribal Council election, which



Kathleen George

marked the smallest slate of candidates ever nominated since Restoration.

Harvey, who was first elected to Tribal Council in 2013 after five un-



Brenda Tuomi

successful campaigns, captured her fourth consecutive three-year term.

Harvey, 60, previously finished first in 2013 and 2019, and third in 2016. She finished third with



Denise Harvey

741 votes.

"My life's greatest work is serv-

See **ELECTION**
continued on page 7

Tribe renames Willamette Falls site Tumwata Village

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

OREGON CITY – Blue Heron is out; Tumwata Village is in. The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde announced on Wednesday, Sept. 7, that it has chosen a new name for the 23-acre site near Willamette Falls that was once home to the former Blue Heron Paper Mill.

Tumwata Village includes the Native name for the falls and reflects the Tribe's longstanding connection to the area.

"As a name, Tumwata Village represents the Grand Ronde Tribe's connection to the falls as well as the sacred lands and practices of our ancestors," said Grand Ronde Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy in a press release announcing the name change. "As a place, Tumwata Village will be a welcoming one that provides public access to the falls, a chance to learn about our heritage and culture, and an opportunity for new prosperity throughout the region."

The Tribe purchased the site in August 2019 for \$15.25 million. It marked the first time that the Tribe owned landed at Willamette Falls in more than 150 years.

Along with the new name, the Tribe launched a new website, www.tumwatavillage.org, so that people can learn more about its vision for the site, development plans, progress and how to support restoration efforts.

"Tumwata Village is a meaningful name for a meaningful site," Kennedy said. "It connects the

See **TUMWATA VILLAGE**
continued on page 5



Photo by Kamiah Koch

Candic Linton sits in a meeting room within Coffee Creek Correctional Facility in Wilsonville, Ore., on Thursday, Sept. 8. She is serving an almost four-year sentence in the facility.

Grief relief

Tribal member turned to drugs to cope with murder of husband

(Editor's note: The U.S. criminal justice system disproportionately affects Native Americans, women in particular, who are overrepresented in the prison population with the highest incarceration rate of any racial group. This story is the fourth and final in a series that examines the effects of mass incarceration on Grand Ronde Tribal mothers and their children. Previous stories focused on early post-prison release, several years after incarceration and the intergenerational effects of the criminal justice system on families.)

By Danielle Harrison

Smoke Signals assistant editor / staff writer

WILSONVILLE — When Grand Ronde Tribal member Candic Linton was sentenced to almost four years in prison in early January 2022 for delivery of methamphetamine, she knew it was time to make changes.

It wasn't her first experience with incarceration.

See **PRISON**
continued on page 9

General Council meeting

11 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 2

Tribal members can participate remotely through the Zoom application and limited in-person attendance.

Call 503-879-2304 for more information.

NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings

DATE	TIME
Wednesday, Sept. 28.....	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 12.....	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 26.....	4 p.m.

Please note that these times and dates are subject to change if needed. Limited in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via the Zoom teleconference application. 503-879-2304.

Letters welcome

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

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

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

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

Correction — A photo cutline that appeared in the Sept. 1 edition of *Smoke Signals* incorrectly identified Harper Hernandez as another student during the Chinuk Wawa graduation ceremony. *Smoke Signals* regrets the error.

TRIBAL OFFICE CLOSURES

Tribal offices will be closed Friday, Sept. 23, in observance of National Native American Day. Offices also will be closed Monday, Oct. 10, in observance of Indigenous Peoples Day.



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TO SMOKE SIGNALS
94 PODCASTS

TRIBAL COUNCIL MEMBER JACK GIFFEN JR. RETIRES

After 18 years on Grand Ronde's Tribal Council, Jack Giffen Jr. has decided to direct his attention from being a Tribal leader to spending more time with his family. He talks with the Smoke Signals podcast about his time on council and his advice for Tribal members thinking of running for council.

For more information, contact Kamiah Koch at 503-879-1461 or kamiah.koch@grandronde.org





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Ad by Samuel Briggs III

smok signalz

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	THURSDAY, SEPT. 22.....	OCT. 1
	FRIDAY, OCT. 7	OCT. 15
	MONDAY, OCT. 24	NOV. 1
	MONDAY, NOV. 7	NOV. 15

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^hapa atqi)

- kwayts-mun (**September**)
- Friday, Sept. 23 – Tribal offices closed in observance of National Native American Day.
 - Wednesday, Sept. 28 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., limited in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via the Zoom teleconference application. 503-879-2304.
- taɬlam-mun (**October**)
- Sunday, Oct. 2 – General Council meeting. Tribal Council Chambers and Zoom. 503-879-2304.
 - Monday, Oct. 10 – Tribal offices closed in observance of Indigenous Peoples Day.
 - Wednesday, Oct. 12 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., limited in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via the Zoom teleconference application. 503-879-2304.
 - Wednesday, Oct. 26 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., limited in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via the Zoom teleconference application. 503-879-2304.

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Welcome back



Photos by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Grand Ronde Police Lt. Tim Hernandez, right, passes out pens to students at the Willamina schools on the first day of school for elementary and second day of school for middle and high school students on Tuesday, Aug. 30. Joining Hernandez is Grand Ronde Police Chief Jake McKnight, center left.



Mental Health Clinical Supervisor Nicole Hewitt welcomes a student at Willamina High School on the second day of school and first day for elementary school students on Tuesday, Aug. 30.

ELDERS NEED COMPUTER HELP?



We have a group that will come in and work with you one-on-one.

We ask you bring your own device so they can work with you on it.

If you are interested, please contact
Kristy Criss-Lawson @ 503-879-2018.

*If transportation is an issue, please let us know upon calling.

Food Bank news

The Grand Ronde Food Bank – iskam məkʰmək haws – is operated by Marion-Polk Food Share, which has been leading the fight to end hunger since 1987 because no one should be hungry.

Recipients of SNAP, TANF, SSI or LIHEAP assistance automatically qualify for assistance at the Grand Ronde Food Bank, 9675 Grand Ronde Road. No one will be turned away in need of a food box.

“We believe that everyone deserves to have enough to eat,” Food Bank Coordinator Francene Ambrose says. “You are welcome to get a food box at each of our regular weekly distributions. No one will be turned away in need of a food box.”

The Food Bank will hold September food box distributions from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fridays. In addition, there is a light food box (mostly bread and produce) distribution from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesdays.

People must check in 15 minutes before closing to receive a food box on both days. If you need immediate assistance, call 211 or visit 211info.org.

Those who are unable to pick up a food box can fill out an authorized representative form and that designated person can pick up a food box on your behalf. The authorization is good for one year.

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

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

The Food Bank is an equal opportunity provider.

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

LIHEAP program is open

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, which helps pay heating bills, is currently open. The program is available to Tribal members who have not received regular LIHEAP assistance as of Oct. 1, 2021, through Feb. 1, 2022, and/or have not received LIHEAP assistance through other agencies. LIHEAP is a first-come, first-served program and income criteria applies. Eligible Tribal members must reside in the six-county service area or Clackamas County. For more information, contact Emergency Assistance Programs Coordinator Tammy Garrison at 503-879-2077 or tammy.garrison@grandronde.org. ■

Committee & Special Event Board meeting days and times

- **Ceremonial Hunting Board** meets as needed. Chair: Marline Groshong.
- **Culture Committee** meets at 5:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at the Grand Ronde Food Bank/iskam məkʰmək haws, 9675 Grand Ronde Road. Chair: Francene Ambrose.
- **Editorial Board** meets monthly. The next meeting will be held 11 a.m. Friday, Sept. 30, via the Zoom teleconferencing application and possibly in-person. Chair: Mia Prickett. Contact: Editorial.Board@grandronde.org.
- **Education Committee** meets at 5:30 p.m. on the last Tuesday of the month in the Adult Education building. Chair: Tammy Cook.
- **Elders Committee** meets at 10 a.m. the third Wednesday of the month in the Elders Activity Center. Chair: Daniel Ham.
- **Enrollment Committee** meets quarterly in Room 204 of the Governance Center. Chair: Debi Anderson.
- **Fish & Wildlife Committee** meets at 5:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at the Natural Resources building off Hebo Road. Chair: Harold Lyon.
- **Health Committee** meets at 10 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month in the Molalla Room of the Health & Wellness Center. Chair: Bernadine Shriver.
- **Housing Grievance Board** meets at 4 p.m. the third Thursday of the month in the Housing Department conference room. Chair: Simone Auger.
- **Powwow Special Event Board** meets monthly at noon at the Community Center. Dates vary. Contact Dana Ainam at 503-879-2037. Chair: Dana Ainam.
- **TERO Commission** meets at 10 a.m. the first Tuesday of the month in the Employment Services building. Chair: Russell Wilkinson.
- **Timber Committee** meets at 5 p.m. the second Thursday of the month at the Natural Resources building off Hebo Road. Interim Chair: Jon R. George.
- **Veterans Special Event Board** meets at 5:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month in the old Elders Craft House. Chair: Rich VanAtta.

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



2017 – Former Spirit Mountain Casino Internal Auditor Michael Langley became the first candidate ever to receive more than 700 votes when he was elected during his second try at Tribal Council. He received 19 percent of the votes cast and surpassed the 690 votes received by Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy in 2006.

2012 – The Tribe celebrated a memorandum of understanding with an encampment at the Rogue River near Table Rocks. The Tribe signed an MOU with the Bureau of Land Management and The Nature Conservancy a year prior that gave the Tribe a say in maintaining almost 5,000 acres of pristine land around the Tribally significant landmark. Grand Ronde Tribal ancestors were held at Table Rocks before being marched to Grand Ronde in February and March of 1856.



2012 File photo

2007 – Tribal member Tamie Spitzer was promoted to detective/corporal with the Spokane County Sheriff's Office in eastern Washington. She was hired 10 years prior and assigned to the patrol division and also worked undercover to investigate drug and gang activity. She said her career goals were to continue being promoted within the Sheriff's Office.

2002 – The second annual Spirit Mountain All-Indian Rodeo held in Grand Ronde was deemed a success, with more than 450 spectators during the two-day event. “It’s nice to be able to put on a good rodeo,” Committee Chairman and Tribal Elder Marvin Kimsey said. “It makes the Tribe look good to have a nice facility to do it in. I want to thank the Tribal Council for their support. It makes me feel proud to be able to put on a nice rodeo.”

1997 – More Tribal members than ever were voting in Tribal Council elections, with more than 700 casting their ballots, which was reported to be an all-time high. Ed Pearsall, Val Grout and Robert Mercier won the election.

1992 – Spirit Mountain Development Corp. hired a new general manager, Beth Oliver. She had just returned to the United States after several years of working with African Tribes and said she looked forward to the challenge of broadening the base of Tribal enterprises in Grand Ronde to help provide employment and economic diversity.

1987 – More than 200 people listened to testimony from supporters and opponents of a Grand Ronde Reservation at a field hearing spearheaded by Oregon Rep. Les AuCoin at Grand Ronde Elementary School. In August, he and Sen. Mark O. Hatfield had submitted two Reservation bills to Congress, one for a 15,665-acre Reservation and another for a 5,116-acre Reservation.

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

• Grand Ronde Community •

Clothes Closet

• Open to All •

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9 a.m.
-Noon

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SEASONAL PROGRAMS

Backpack & School Supply Giveaway
For children ages K-12 at the start of school

Christmas Shop
Adults can pick out 1 new gift for each child in their household. Children can shop for 1 gift for each adult in their household.



Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Tribal Council approved a \$265,000 supplemental budget on Wednesday, Sept. 7, to purchase the 12.36-acre Freeman property at 28075 McPherson Road in Grand Ronde.

Tribal Council approves three supplemental budget increases

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

Tribal Council approved three supplemental budget increases for 2022 during its Wednesday, Sept. 7, meeting.

The largest allocation of \$1,222,600 will fund site work at the Tribe’s home ownership development off McPherson Road.

Tribal Council approved a contract with Scholten Construction of Willamina on July 27 to build the site improvements, which will include laying the foundations and other improvements for the first 20 homes in the Tribal subdivision.

Tribal Council also approved \$265,000 to buy the nearby 12.36-acre Freeman property at 28075 McPherson Road.

Finally, Tribal Council approved the allocation of an additional \$200,000 to the popular small loan program.

The program, which started in March 2021, allows Tribal members to borrow up to \$1,000 and pay back the loan over a two-year period. It is designed to give Tribal members an alternative to borrowing small amounts of money from companies that charge exorbitant interest rates.

The initial \$100,000 allocation was expended in the first few

months of the program and an additional \$300,000 was allocated in August 2021. A total of \$205,000 in loan funding was disbursed in 2021.

The 2022 Tribal budget allocated \$200,000 to the loan program, which was expended by August.

The three supplemental budgets were the sixth, seventh and eighth of 2022.

Tribal Council also approved the agenda for the Sunday, Sept. 11, General Council meeting, which featured Tribal Council election results and an executive session briefing about Spirit Mountain Casino. The meeting was held via the Zoom teleconferencing application.

In other action, Tribal Council adopted amendments to the Enrollment Ordinance that will allow Tribal Children and Family Services staff members to access kinship reports and birth records for use in protecting Tribal children and serving their families, 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.

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

Getting grilled



Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez

From left, IS Application Administrator Dina Sayers and Web Administrator Willie Mercier share a laugh with Grand Ronde Tribal Police Chief Jake McKnight as he tends the grill while cooking food for the Chat With the Chief event held at the Tribal Police Station on Wednesday, Sept. 7. It was the second Chat With the Chief event held since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020. The chats were started in 2017 as a way to improve interaction between the community and the Tribal police force.

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. ■



Smoke Signals file photo

Willamette Falls

Site was once home to the village of the Clowewalla

TUMWATA VILLAGE
continued from front page

Grand Ronde Tribe of today with our ancestors, it dignifies a landscape that is sacred to us, and it offers hope for a prosperous future here at the falls and beyond.”

The site was once home to the village of the Clowewalla – the Willamette band of Tumwaters – and the Kosh-huk-shix village of Clackamas people. Even after the

Willamette Valley Treaty of 1855 forcibly removed Tribal ancestors from the falls area to the Grand Ronde Reservation, Tribal connections to the area remained with people leaving the Reservation to harvest fish and lamprey.

Since 2019, the Tribe has announced a vision for the property, acquired federal grants to help clean up the site and started demolishing the more than 50 dilapidated buildings that were on the site. ■



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Siletz, Coquille Tribes withdraw from Oregon Tribal Gaming Alliance

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

The Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians and Coquille Indian Tribe have withdrawn from the Oregon Tribal Gaming Alliance, an 18-year-old coalition of federally recognized Tribes within the state that own and operate casinos. Tribal Council Vice Chair Chris Mercier, who also is vice chair of the Tribal Gaming Alliance, announced the withdrawal of the Siletz Tribe at the Tuesday, Aug. 30, Legislative Action Committee meeting.

The Gaming Alliance has scrubbed the Siletz and Coquille Tribes and their respective casinos, Chinook Winds in Lincoln City and the Mill Casino in North Bend, from its website at otga.net.

The Gaming Alliance now consists of the Grand Ronde Tribe, Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Tribes, Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians, Klamath Tribes, Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indians and the Burns Paiute Tribe. The Warm Springs Tribe also is not a member. “This isn’t the first time they have withdrawn,” said Tribal lobbyist Justin Martin about the Siletz Tribe. “OTGA is a consensus organization, so even the issues they have concerns about wouldn’t have had any action because all Tribes don’t agree on off-Reservation policy.”

The Siletz Tribe approved a resolution on May 20 to withdraw from the Gaming Alliance and it was received by the organization in mid-June. The Coquille Indian Tribe passed a resolution on July 5 that was received by the Gaming Alliance on July 25. Both are considered “internal documents” that the Gaming Alliance declined to release.

Both the Siletz and Coquille Tribes did not respond to e-mail requests from *Smoke Signals* seeking copies of their respective resolutions.

Martin said Siletz’s withdrawal, along with that of the Coquille Indian Tribe, will not have an effect on the Gaming Alliance.

“OTGA’s main objective is collecting data to use to educate elected officials, the general public and the news media about Tribal gaming in Oregon,” he said.

Siletz’s and Coquille’s withdrawals from the Tribal Gaming Alliance may be part of both Tribes’ efforts to significantly alter Oregon’s long-standing policy of one casino per Tribe on Reservation land.

The Siletz Tribe filed an appli-

cation with the Department of the Interior to build an 180,800-square-foot casino with 2,000 gaming devices and 45 table games north of downtown Salem in April 2020.

During a January 2022 Bureau of Indian Affairs virtual public hearing on the Siletz proposal, 21 of the 28 speakers were Grand Ronde Tribal members or employees who unanimously spoke in opposition to the idea of allowing the Siletz Tribe to leapfrog over Spirit Mountain Casino and build a second casino closer to Salem.

In 2017, the Siletz Tribe proposed building a second casino at the 20-acre site off Interstate 5 and splitting the proceeds with the state of Oregon and eight other federally recognized Tribes in Oregon. The Grand Ronde Tribe objected to that proposal as well.

The Salem market has become more important to Grand Ronde’s Spirit Mountain Casino following the Cowlitz Tribe opening Ilani Casino approximately 17 miles north of the Portland-Vancouver metropolitan area in April 2017.

The Siletz Tribe will need the approval of Interior Secretary Deb Haaland and Gov. Kate Brown or her successor before proceeding with its Salem proposal. The state’s current gaming policy would also have to be shelved.

In 2020, the Coquille Tribe attempted to get a 2.42-acre parcel in Medford – 170 miles from its administrative offices – placed into trust for a proposed second casino, the Cedars at Bear Creek. The proposed casino would have been adjacent to a nine-hole golf course and a planned 111-room hotel.

Should the long-standing state policy end, the Grand Ronde Tribe also is poised to seek permission to build a second casino at the former Multnomah Greyhound Park site in Wood Village just east of Portland. The Tribe purchased the property in December 2015 and is currently working to have it taken into trust.

Despite withdrawing from the Gaming Alliance, the Siletz Tribe hosted the Aug. 30 Oregon Tribes meeting at its casino in Lincoln City and continues to partner with the Grand Ronde Tribe in developing Chemawa Station in Keizer.

“To me, I don’t understand why a Tribe would withdraw from OTGA, but choose to belong to an organization that is a coalition of the nine Oregon Tribes,” Mercier said. “I’d have to think that gaming issues will eventually arise there.” ■

General Council briefed on Spirit Mountain Casino

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

Spirit Mountain Casino Chief Executive Officer Bruce Thomas, Assistant Executive Officer Camille Mercier and Spirit Mountain Gaming Inc. Board Chairman Andy Jenness gave the first presentation of the 2022-23 General Council meeting cycle on Sunday, Sept. 11, via the Zoom teleconferencing program.

Mercier gave a 17-minute presentation in executive session and the trio then fielded nine questions and comments from Tribal members in attendance.

Since the presentation was held in executive session, *Smoke Signals* cannot publish specific details.

In other action, Tribal Council Chief of Staff Stacia Hernandez delivered the Tribal Council election results from Saturday, Sept. 10, that saw two incumbents – Denise Harvey and Kathleen George – re-elected to three-year terms. Former Tribal Council member Brenda Tuomi secured the third seat, replacing six-term Tribal Council member Jack Giffen Jr. who did not run for re-election.

The election of three women in one Tribal Council election has never occurred before since 1983’s Restoration.

The next General Council meeting will be held at 11 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 2, and will feature an executive session presentation about the Tribe’s endowments.

Dakota Ross, Ashlee Webb and Jamieson Smallwood won the \$100 door prizes and Tiny Gibbons, Robert Wiggs, Lee Ann Huffman, Simone Auger and Sydney Clark won the \$50 prizes.

Tribal member Veronica Gaston opened the meeting with an invocation and Tribal Council member Jon A. George performed a drum song.

The non-executive session portion of the meeting can be viewed by visiting the Tribal government’s website at www.grandronde.org and clicking on the Government tab and then Videos.

Tribal members wanting to see the executive session portion should contact Hernandez at stacia.martin@grandronde.org or call 503-879-2304. ■



Camille Mercier

PGE power outages affect West Valley area

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

Portland General Electric warned West Valley residents in the Grand Ronde, Willamina and Sheridan areas that it would turn off power in its Public Safety Power Shutoff areas to prevent the chance of downed power lines starting wildfires.

The weather forecasted for Friday and Saturday, Sept. 10-11, included strong, gusty winds and temperatures in the high 80s and lower 90s.

Tribal General Manager David Fullerton closed the Governance Center at noon Friday and the planned hybrid General Council meeting held on Sunday, Sept. 11, was changed to an all-Zoom meeting.

In-person voting still occurred on Saturday for the 2022 Tribal Council election in the Community Center. Seventy-one Tribal members cast ballots in person.

PGE said it was “highly likely” that it would temporarily turn off power in all 10 of its Public Safety Power Shutoff areas to reduce the risk of wildfires. Shutoffs affected approximately 30,000 customers.

“PGE aims to provide up to four hours of notice to customers before turning off the power,” the company said. “We understand that being without power is difficult and will work as quickly as safety allows to fully restore power. However, a PSPS can extend for days, even after the weather returns to normal because we visually inspect our lines and other electrical equipment and make any repairs that are necessary before re-energizing.”

Tribal Facilities Manager Tyson Mercier said the power was out for about 12 hours on the Tribal campus and was spotty in the surrounding community, but no wildfires started in the West Valley area.

Weather in the Grand Ronde area moderated on Sunday, with highs decreasing into the low 70s and high 60s throughout the following week. ■

School clothing program opens

Social Service’s school clothing program opened on July 30. This is a first-come, first-served program and children who benefit must be an enrolled Grand Ronde Tribal member. The child must be of school age and enrolled in school (preschool, elementary, middle or high school). Income criteria applies. Contact Social Services at 800-242-8196 or 503-879-2034 for an application. Deadline for all applications is Sept. 30. ■

Board on Geographic Names eliminates derogatory name

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Department of the Interior announced on Thursday, Sept. 8, that the Board on Geographic Names voted on the final replacement names for almost 650 geographic features on federal land that featured a derogatory name for a Native woman.

In Oregon, 52 sites were renamed. Closest to Grand Ronde, two creeks in Lincoln County that were named “(expletive) Creek” have been renamed Surveyors Creek and Elephant Rock Creek, respectively.

The final vote completes the last step in the effort to remove a term from federal use that has historically been used as an offensive ethnic, racial or sexist slur, particularly for Indigenous women.

“I feel a deep obligation to use my platform to ensure that our public lands and waters are accessible and welcoming,” said Interior Secretary Deb Haaland, the first Native American Cabinet member in U.S. history. “That starts with removing racist and derogatory names that have graced federal locations for far too long.” ■

2022 election is the lowest voter turnout in recent history

ELECTION continued from front page

ing our people,” Harvey said. “I’m overjoyed, honored and thankful to be serving my fourth consecutive term. Thank you to everyone’s votes of confidence. I will continue to represent you whole-heartedly.”

George, 51, won her third consecutive term on Tribal Council.

She served as director of Spirit Mountain Community Fund beginning in 2011 and finished first in the 2016 Tribal Council election. She secured another council term in 2019 with a second-place finish behind Harvey. She finished first with 762 votes.

“I am honored and humbled by the support of our people,” George said. “Our members have spoken, and they want to keep the work of this Tribal Council moving forward. We will keep engaging with our members on enrollment reform, supporting our culture, restoring our salmon and respectful dialogue in our community.”

Former Tribal Council member Brenda Tuomi, 62, served one term from 2015 to 2018. She finished second in 2015 and lost out on re-election by 24 votes in 2018. She finished second with 758 votes.

“It is an absolute honor to be elected to serve on Tribal Council,” Tuomi said. “I’m thankful for all of the positive support I have received from the membership. I look forward to joining the Tribal Council team and three more years of serving our Tribe.”

Former Tribal Council Chairman Reyn Leno, 71, served 21 consecutive years on Tribal Council from 1996 to 2017 and also served as Tribal Council chair for five years from 2012 to 2017.

Since leaving Tribal Council in 2017, Leno had mounted two attempts at rejoining the Tribe’s governing board, finishing fourth in both 2019 and 2020. He finished fourth again with 537 votes.

Jack Giffen Jr., 70, did not seek re-election after serving six terms, or 18 years, on Tribal Council. He served two terms from 2003 to 2009 and was re-elected in 2010 and has

Gender breakdown of elected candidates

Since Restoration, Grand Ronde Tribal voters have elected the following combination of candidates based on gender:

- Two males, one female: 23 times
- Two females, one male: 10 times
 - All men: 4 times
 - All women: 1 time (this year)

served since then.

Giffen retires as the third longest serving Tribal Council member ever behind current Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy, 23 years, and Leno, 21 years.

This year marked the ninth consecutive year of single-digit candidates running for Tribal Council. The last time 10 or more candidates threw their proverbial hats in the ring was in 2013.

Turnout was 27.2 percent, with 1,199 of 4,402 eligible voters casting ballots. This marks the lowest voter turnout in recent Tribal Council election history.

Winners were sworn into office at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 14, in the Governance Center Atrium.

Also on the ballot were four advisory votes. The results were:

- Should the Tribe develop Tribal housing for Tribal and nonTribal employees of the casino and the Tribe, as well as those needing a first-time apartment? 566 yes and 508 no.
- Should the Tribe build a stand-alone library building in the Grand Ronde community for Tribal members? 615 no and 461 yes.
- Should the Tribe amend the Constitution to hold Tribal Council elections at a time of the year other than September, such as in November like state/federal elections? 887 no and 192 yes.
- Should the Tribe create a webpage portal or mobile app for Tribal member-only access for communication? 718 yes and 362 no. ■

Grand Ronde Station offering a 30-cent gas discount

Grand Ronde Tribal members, as well as Tribal and Spirit Mountain Casino employees, can receive a 30-cent per gallon discount on gasoline at the Tribally owned Grand Ronde Station convenience store

There are, however, a few rules. Tribal members and employees must go inside and show either their enrollment card or employee identification card to receive the discount.

“Your service to keeping the Tribe and casino operational have been invaluable,” General Manager David Fullerton said via e-mail in announcing the discount to governmental employees. “The Tribe wants to reward that commitment by helping you ease the burden of rising gas prices. ... We know that we have a number of employees commuting to and from Grand Ronde for work, and we are aware that rising gas prices create an additional hardship. We hope that this new system will make life a little easier.” ■

SEPT. 10, 2022, ELECTION RESULTS

CANDIDATES FOR COUNCIL

KATHLEEN GEORGE	762
BRENDA TUOMI JEFFERS	758
DENISE HARVEY	741
REYN L. LENO	537

ADVISORY VOTE QUESTIONS

QUESTION # 1

SHOULD THE TRIBE DEVELOP TRIBAL-OWNED HOUSING FOR TRIBAL AND NON-TRIBAL EMPLOYEES OF THE CASINO AND THE TRIBE, AS WELL AS THOSE NEEDING A FIRST-TIME APARTMENT?

YES - 566 / 52.7% NO - 508 / 47.3%

QUESTION # 2

SHOULD THE TRIBE BUILD A STANDALONE LIBRARY BUILDING IN THE GRAND RONDE COMMUNITY FOR TRIBAL MEMBERS?

YES - 461 / 42.8% NO - 615 / 57.1%

QUESTION # 3

SHOULD THE TRIBE AMEND THE CONSTITUTION TO HOLD TRIBAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS AT A TIME OF YEAR OTHER THAN IN SEPTEMBER (E.G., IN NOVEMBER LIKE STATE/FEDERAL ELECTIONS)?

YES - 192 / 17.7% NO - 887 / 82.2%

QUESTION # 4

SHOULD THE TRIBE CREATE A WEBPAGE PORTAL OR MOBILE APP FOR TRIBAL MEMBER ONLY ACCESS FOR COMMUNICATION?

YES - 718 / 66.4% NO - 362 / 33.5%

Tribal member named Mrs. Oregon American

By Danielle Harrison

Smoke Signals assistant editor / staff writer

Tribal member Brittney Frederick says she never imagined being in the running for the Mrs. Oregon American title, let alone the national crown.

“I absolutely did not think I would be on the stage here,” she says. “I joined the pageant program to bring awareness to the opioid epidemic and to bring the community together.”

In July, the 33-year-old Beaverton resident was crowned Mrs. Oregon American at the state pageant in Salem. From there, it was a quick turnaround to the national pageant held in the Westgate Resort, Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas on Friday, Aug. 19.

“It was such an incredible experience,” she says. “I wasn’t nervous until I actually walked on stage in front of so many people.”

At the national pageant, Frederick competed with 46 women from across the United States in the categories of fitness, evening gown and an interview.

Frederick’s journey began in 2021 after a social media post about not letting trauma get in the way of letting your future unfold caught the eyes of the then-reigning 2020 Mrs. Oregon American, Salena Griffith, who contacted Frederick and asked if she’d ever considered doing pageants. During a 2021 *Smoke Signals* interview, after she’d been named Mrs. Washington County, Frederick reflected on that initial experience.

“I was like, ‘No way, I’m a mom, I’m married and is that even a thing for us?’”

With a husband, three children ages 11, 3 and 1, as well as a full-time job, Frederick wasn’t sure if she could also juggle pageant obligations at that time.

At the pageant, Frederick learned about Victoria’s Voice, an organization dedicated to keeping teenagers away from drug abuse. It was founded after a family lost their 18-year-old daughter, Victoria, to an opioid overdose. They believe that by Victoria’s death, thousands will be saved through their foundation that supports ways to reduce drug experimentation, addiction



Photos courtesy of Brittney Frederick/Gilliam Photography

Tribal member Brittney Frederick was crowned Mrs. Oregon American in July. She decided to enter the pageant to bring awareness to the national opioid epidemic and as a way to bring the community together during the pandemic.

and overdoses.

“That really struck a chord with me,” Frederick says. “I didn’t realize it was that big of an aspect in the event and that there was so much community outreach. That’s when I decided to think about doing this. I wanted to get back to working with youth.”

As a teen and young adult growing up in Grand Ronde, she worked for the Tribe’s Youth Education Department and the Native Wellness Institute as a facilitator, educating other youth about healthy alternatives to using drugs and alcohol.

“Growing up in a small town, I saw drug overdoses a lot and it has also affected my own family,” Frederick says. “My overall plan was to do community outreach to make Oregon a healthier place, whether that means food boxes for families, having Narcan (an anti-overdose spray) available or helping cancer survivors.”

Frederick decided to apply for Mrs. Washington County, the first step to becoming Mrs. Oregon American. During that time, some events were canceled or scaled down due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but Frederick still had the



Tribal member Brittney Frederick wears her 100-year-old traditional regalia during a portion of the national Mrs. American pageant held at the Westgate Resort, Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas on Friday, Aug. 19. “If you asked me what I was most excited about for the pageant it was this part. I got to show a major part of who I am, and where I came from,” she said.

opportunity to work with several nonprofits representing a number of causes, attended the St. Paul Rodeo, Hillsboro Rotary 4th of July Parade and the Spirit Mountain Community Fund’s 25th anniversary celebration in July.

The statewide pageant in July involved a panel interview, then a dance, fitness, evening gown and onstage question portion. When Frederick was named the 2022 winner, she was happy and surprised.

“I had no idea so many incredible women would be there,” she says. “I was pretty nervous about it, but kept my nerves at bay by having as much fun as possible.”


Mrs. America was established in 1976 to honor married women throughout the United States. Each contestant represents one of the 50 states and the District of Columbia, and participants range in age from

their 20s to their 50s. Participants earn the right to participate in the national event by winning their state competition.

Frederick hasn’t served as Mrs. Oregon for long, but she’s excited about representing her Tribe at the state level for the next year. During the national competition in August, she wore her traditional regalia and enjoyed the opportunity to share information about what the Grand Ronde Tribe does for the people of Oregon.

Frederick’s Tribal roots come from her father, Dennis Linton, grandfather Thomas Linton and great-grandmother Geraldine “Toots” Mercier.

“I feel it is such an honor to represent my Tribe,” she says. “I feel so proud and happy, and I enjoy the opportunity to let people know we are still here. I’m very thankful.” ■




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





Are you frustrated with your diabetes control?

Do you have questions about diabetes?

Do you need help managing your diabetes?

If so...

Call the Medical Clinic today at 503-879-2002

To schedule an individual diabetes education appointment

‘Drugs is always what has brought me back to prison’

PRISON continued
from front page

tion or even the second. This would be the third sentence she would serve at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility in Wilsonville on drug-related charges. Coffee Creek houses all of the state’s female inmates.

“Drugs is always what has brought me back to prison,” she says.

Speaking from a drab prison conference room in early September, Linton, 43, is subdued and reflective. Tears slide down her face as she recalls certain events.

Linton pinpoints her trouble with the law and drug addiction starting after her husband, Ryan, was murdered at Niagara County Park near Santiam Pass in 2001.

“After he was murdered, I didn’t know how to deal with my grief so I used drugs and life never got better,” she says. “I took my kids to my mom’s in Grand Ronde and basically just stepped away and that’s what led to this.”

The next 20 years included a string of drug arrests and stints in county jail, then prison. Despite her intermittent incarceration, Linton did her best to remain a part of her children’s lives, who range in age from 25 to 14. She says they remain her motivation to do better.

“I’m pretty proud of them because they are all successful and I want them to be proud of me as well,” Linton says.

Currently, she’s enrolled in cosmetology school that the prison offers to inmates who meet the criteria for the program. When Linton is released, she hopes to open her own salon.

“I’m doing what I can so that I have something when I get out,” she says. “I have really made changes to my life.”

She video chats with her four



younger children, ages 14 to 17, every weekend. So far, they’ve been unable to visit in person due to COVID-19 restrictions and time constraints because they live in Prineville, which is an approximate three-hour drive away.

“I’d like to see them, but my daughter is the only one who drives and she has been pretty busy with school,” Linton says.

The 17-year-old will graduate high school in June 2023 and will also earn an associate degree as a certified nursing assistant that year. CNA training programs in Oregon must include at least 80 hours of classroom learning and 75 hours in a clinical setting, according to registerednursing.org.

While serving her sentence this time, Linton says she has been able to maintain a relatively close bond with her children.

“We were close before but we are way closer now,” she says. “Before, drug use really impacted my relationships because when I wasn’t

on the right path, my kids could tell. They weren’t stupid. Now, it’s amazing and I don’t know what I would do without them.”

Linton took parenting classes offered through the prison the second time she was incarcerated, but now puts all of her energy toward her schooling.

“My focus is my college class and doing well with that,” she says. “I’ll leave here with my license for hair, nail and eyelashes. This is the first time I have focused on me and not someone else.”

A typical day begins at 6:30 a.m. when she and other cosmetology students complete classwork and see clients at the prison’s cosmetology studio. After a lunch break, they repeat the routine until 3:30 p.m. Weekends are spent doing homework packets that the students receive every Thursday. In order to earn her cosmetology license, Linton must complete 1,800 hours of schooling.

“I have really learned a lot about myself this time,” she says. “I’m not always worrying about someone else. Now, I am working on myself.”

Linton says her methamphetamine addiction and returning to the same familiar lifestyle after she was released from prison or jail was the main reason she was unable to break the cycle of incarceration.

When living “on the outside,” Linton was able to have a relatively normal life at times, and worked as a housekeeper and veterinary

technician.

“I pretty much did meth continually for 20 years, but now I’ve been sober for 13 months,” she says. “If I would have gotten help for my grief over my husband’s death instead of turning to drugs, I would have been able to deal with it a lot better. That dragged me through the dirt for a long time.”

When asked what advice she would give to other Tribal member mothers who are struggling, Linton pauses, wipes her eyes, and says, “Don’t be afraid to ask for help and to get the help you need, especially when it comes to grief. It will mess you up for a long time if you don’t.”

During her incarceration, Linton’s counselor gave her an assignment: Every time she asked someone for help, she had to write down what the experience was like and how it made her feel.

“I’ve always kind of been on my own and drifted away from everyone for a long time,” she says. “I was really good at not asking for help.”

Linton says she is most excited about being back together with family after her release from prison in 2025.

“I can’t wait to see my kids and my two grandkids,” she says. “I also want to take classes at the Tribe and open up my own salon. It was a bit of a struggle going back to school and I would have never done it if I was out. This gives me a really good start.” ■

Tribal nonemergency text line

The Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department has a nonemergency text line at 541-921-2927.

“If you have a nonemergency situation or question, feel free to contact my officer via text through this line,” said Grand Ronde Tribal Police Chief Jake McKnight. “When one of my officers receives the text, they will call you back when they have time.”

McKnight said that emergency situations still require calling 911. For more information, contact McKnight at 503-879-1474. ■

Healing Circle

Where:
4445 SW Barbur Blvd,
Portland, OR 97239
Date: September 19
Time: 11 am

A WOMEN'S HEALING
CIRCLE FOR HEALING
MIND, BODY, AND SPIRIT
WE WILL MEET ONCE A
MONTH. A GROUP CIRCLE
TO CONNECT WITH EACH
OTHER AND OUR
TRADITIONAL PRACTICES.

Good Medicine Back to School Jam

LOCATION: Basketball Court in Tribal Housing
DATE: Friday, September 16, 2022
TIME: 5-8pm

Come join us as we prepare for a new school year!
We will have singing, dancing, Indian Tacos, and goodies.
Bring your own lawn chairs and blankets.



Watchlist: ‘The Navajo Water Lady’

(Editor’s note: It is estimated that there are approximately 149 billion videos on YouTube, and the number continues to grow. Grand Ronde Tribal member and Social Media/Digital Journalist Kamiah Koch sifts through those myriad videos twice a month to recommend a worthwhile Indigenous video to watch. Follow her bimonthly recommendations and enjoy!)

By Kamiah Koch
Social media/digital journalist

In 2015, CBS Sunday Morning featured Navajo member Darlene Arviso, known on the Navajo Reservation as the “Water Lady.”

CBS reported an estimated 40 percent of those living on the Reservation at the time did not have access to running water.

Journalist Lee Cowan asked Navajo Reservation resident Loretta Smith what she used her sink for.

“We don’t use the sink because there is no running water,” Smith said.

The sink is instead filled with buckets where water is shown being hand-poured.

The water residents do get is either accessed by driving miles through New Mexico or waiting for the giant yellow water-tank truck driven by the Water Lady.

“I am proud of what I am doing for my people and I love my job,” Arviso said. “I go out every day to meet different families.”

Although she goes to different houses on the Reservation daily, she can only get to one house at a time, meaning she will make it to a family’s home only once a month. But her arrival is received as a celebration.

The water from the Water Lady’s tank is poured into any vessel family members can get their hands on.

“Sometimes I wish I could do more,” Arviso said. “They just have to stretch out their water.”

CBS followed Arviso to some of the 250 families she delivers to.

You can watch the video for yourself to see how they use their limited water, an explanation for why the water resources are so limited and what government and organizations are doing about it.

You can find the “The Navajo Water Lady” video at www.youtube.com/watch?v=hk8Rm9EsET4 or find it linked in the *Smoke Signals* “Watchlist” Playlist on our YouTube channel. ■



Navajo member Darlene Arviso, known as the “Water Lady” in the Navajo Nation, stands in Nina Garcia’s home on the Reservation. Garcia, who has never had running water in her life, is one of Arviso’s 250 customers that she delivers monthly water to with her water-tank truck.

Play commemorates Klamath fish kill anniversary Sept. 23-25

EUGENE – Minority Voices Theatre will present a concert reading of illioo Native Theatre’s “Salmon Is Everything” at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Sept. 23-24, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 25.

The presentation commemorates the 20th anniversary of the devastating fish kill on the Klamath River and celebrates the resiliency of the community.

Based on historical events, the play follows three families that represent three constituent communities in the Klamath River watershed: a ranching family, descendants of longtime residents and a Karuk-Yurok family.

The 90-minute reading is suitable for family audiences and will be followed by a post-play discussion with representatives from local and regional watershed groups and Native community members.

illioo Native Theatre was founded by Grand Ronde Tribal Elder Marta Lu Clifford, Lori Tapahonso (Dine/Acoma Pueblo) and Theresa May in 2020. The company showcases Native/First Nations/Indigenous dramatists and artists through productions, concert readings and workshops.

Tickets went on sale on Sept. 5 with a sliding scale of \$5 to \$20. For more information, visit the [VLT.com](https://theVLT.com). ■

INDEPENDENT TRIBAL PRESS ORDINANCE OPEN FOR COMMENT

Tribal Council is considering amendments to the Independent Tribal Press Ordinance. The proposed amendments were given a First Reading at the Aug. 24, 2022, Tribal Council meeting.

The proposed amendments will, among other things: (1) emphasize the Tribal press is a critical and essential service to the Tribe; (2) provide language for funding of Tribal press operations; (3) ensure all Smoke Signals staff adhere to the ethics of journalism as defined by the Society of Professional Journalists and endorsed by the Native American Journalists Association; and (4) may include other minor and technical changes.

Tribal Council invites comment on the proposed amendments to the Independent Tribal Press Ordinance. For a copy of the proposed amendments, 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, OR 97347 or by e-mail to legal@grandronde.org.

Comments must be received by Sept. 30, 2022. ■



LIHWAP program is open

The Low Income Home Water Assistance Program assists with water bills that are current or past due, and also assists with rates and fees associated with reconnection.

LIHWAP assistance is a limited funded and first-come, first-served program. Income criteria applies. Eligible Tribal members must reside in the six-county service area or Clackamas County. For more information, contact Emergency Assistance Programs Coordinator Tammy Garrison at 503-879-2077 or tammy.garrison@grandronde.org. ■

Spirit Mountain Gaming, Inc.
Board of Director’s Position Openings

Spirit Mountain Gaming, Inc. (“SMGI”), a Tribal corporation chartered by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde (“Grand Ronde”), operates Spirit Mountain Casino – the largest casino in Oregon. Spirit Mountain Casino offers Las Vegas-style slots and provides superior entertainment and resort amenities. Spirit Mountain is one of the Pacific Northwest’s premier casinos. Grand Ronde invites applications to serve on the Spirit Mountain Gaming, Inc. Board of Directors. There are two board seats expiring on September 30, 2022.

The SMGI Board of Directors is responsible to the Grand Ronde Tribal Council. The Board oversees strategic planning, overall fiscal accountability, budgets and operations of Spirit Mountain Casino.

The SMGI Board meets monthly. From time-to-time, additional special meetings may be held. Board members are expected to attend all meetings in person, which are held at Spirit Mountain Casino – although participation by telephone will occasionally 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 have a superior understanding of and experience with financial statements, strong communication and analytical skills, experience in a hospitality or customer service driven environment, 10 years of experience in a senior management position, and a solid understanding of the Portland metro and Salem area economies. Experience in the following areas is also preferred: gaming, tourism, corporate finance and accounting, marketing and promotions, human resources, and management of senior executives. Experience with and knowledge of Native American organizations is also preferred.

Ability to pass a thorough background check and obtain a gaming license from the Grand Ronde Gaming Commission is required. Preference will be given to qualified Tribal members.

Submission Deadline: 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 14, 2022

Interested individuals should submit a letter of interest describing their qualifications, a résumé, and three references to:
Stacia Hernandez, Chief of Staff
Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
9615 Grand Ronde Road
Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347
Phone: 503-879-2304
E-mail: stacia.martin@grandronde.org

Neuroplasticity

the science behind growth mindset



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

80%
NEGATIVE

95%
REPETITIVE

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

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

the pathways are like grooves



continue doing this to deepen the new grooves

Choosing positive thoughts can create new pathways



just like exercise

It takes practice and daily commitment

LOOKING FOR WORK?

SIGN UP FOR THE TERO SKILLS BANK!

CARPENTERS, GENERAL LABORERS, CONCRETE MASONS & LABORERS, ASPHALT LABORERS, AND MORE!

HOW? Contact the TERO Office at 503-879-2188 or email tero@grandronde.org

WHO CAN SIGN UP? Grand Ronde Tribal members and members of other federally recognized Tribes. Must be 18 years or older.

WHAT IS NEEDED? TERO Skills Bank application and Tribal ID



TRIBAL EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS OFFICE

Ad by Samuel Briggs III

Elderberry Wisdom Farm

Native Agriculture Biodiversity Accelerator



Elderberry Wisdom Farm is offering business ownership and microenterprise opportunities to Native adults in habitat restoration, horticultural, conservation, and/or organic agriculture in the Mid-Willamette Valley.

The Native Agriculture Biodiversity Accelerator (NABA) will provide these interns with 2-3 years of training to become owners/operators of their own business.

Interns will receive \$2,000 stipends for completing classes 10/5 - 12/17/2022; free tuition for 2 irrigation and horticulture classes at Chemeketa Community College; and an IDA savings account at MercyCorps NW.

To apply, contact Sara: elderberrywisdom@gmail.com
www.elderberrywisdom.org

Paid ad

RABBI TRUST FUND AND MINORS’ CUSTODIAL TRUST FUND

This announcement is to inform you of the upcoming election opportunity to recommend an investment option that best suits your tolerance for investment risk. The election deadline is Sept. 24, 2022, and the investment period will be effective from Oct. 1, 2022, until modified.

Recognizing that each Tribal member’s tolerance for investment risk may be different, parents of minor members age 17 or younger having balances in the Rabbi Trust Fund and Minors’ Custodial Trust Fund, or members age 18 or older can recommend that these funds be invested in one of five possible investment options.

Please e-mail deanne.norton@grandronde.org or call 503-879-2215 to receive your Investment Risk Assessment Recommendation Form. This is optional and open only to those who participate in the Rabbi and Minors’ Custodial Trust Funds. ■

FISH AND WILDLIFE ORDINANCE OPEN FOR COMMENT

Tribal Council is considering amendments to the Fish and Wildlife Ordinance. The proposed amendments were given a Second Reading at the Aug. 10, 2022, Tribal Council meeting.

The Fish and Wildlife Ordinance has not been updated since 2015. The proposed amendments went out for First Reading on April 6, 2022. Comments were received on or about May 6, 2022. After a Work Session with Tribal Council and Natural Resources staff, additional revisions were made to address the comments received. Tribal Council asked that the proposed revisions to the Ordinance go out for a Second Reading. The proposed amendments reflect updates to the ceremonial hunting and fishing program, limit the number of transfer tags that are available to Tribal members to five (5) per year, provide for a mentored youth hunting program, suspend the ability to receive a hunting tag if a Tribal member fails to turn in their tag from the previous season, and make other minor and technical changes.

Tribal Council invites comments on the proposed amendments to the Fish and Wildlife Ordinance. For a copy of the proposed amendments, 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, OR, 97347 or by e-mail to legal@grandronde.org.

Comments must be received by Oct. 1, 2022. ■

Veterans!

Thursday Meetups

Contact the TVSO at (503) 879-1484 or CTGR Tribal VSO@GrandRonde.Org to sign up. You may bring one guest. Limited to 30 spots for each meet up.

July 14, 2022

10 a.m to 12 p.m.

Come enjoy coffee and a hot meal

September 8, 2022

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Visit with your fellow veterans

November 10, 2022

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Learn about various veteran benefits

At 25500 SW Grand Ronde Rd. Grand Ronde, OR 97347 ~ The “Q” Building



TRIBAL VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

TERO Worker of the Month

August 2022

Name: True Rimer
Employer: Dalke Construction
Position: Excavation laborer

True Rimer first applied to the TERO program in August 2018 and was dispatched to Seabold Construction on the casino-lodge remodel project. Since then, he has worked on many Tribal projects where he has proven to be very dependable.

Currently, True is working for Dalke Construction on the Spirit Mountain Casino RV park project where he is learning many new skills, such as excavation, laying pipe and operating heavy equipment.

True’s hard work and willingness to learn new tasks in different trades has earned him the August TERO Worker of the Month honor. True has participated in many of the trainings that TERO has offered and says he is very thankful for the TERO program. True says that TERO has also helped him find a great company that employs good people and has given him many opportunities to learn new skills.

Great job, True.

For more information on the TERO Skills Bank and any other TERO opportunities, contact the TERO office or the TERO director.

TERO Office: 503-879-1488 or tero@grandronde.org



True Rimer



HEALTH & WELLNESS CENTER

NEW SIGN AT THE HWC

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





TRIBAL VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

(503) 879-1484 • CTGR Tribal VSO@GrandRonde.Org

Veterans, do you want to file for a service-connected disability?

This is all you need (the 3 legged-stool):

To file a successful claim for service-connection

In-Service Event

Link between the In-Service Event and Current Diagnosis

Current Diagnosis

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IN THE TRIBAL COURT OF THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE
GRAND RONDE COMMUNITY OF OREGON

ENTERED
AUG 26 2022
CTGR COURT

In the Matter of:

Tawnie L. Ivey

Petitioner.

Case No.: C-22-007

ORDER GRANTING REQUEST TO
CHANGE NAME

Based on the allegations set forth in the Petition for Name Change filed by Petitioner on
July 15, 2022.

THE COURT FINDS AS FOLLOWS:

1. This Court has jurisdiction over the Petitioner and the subject matter of the Petition
herein;

2. The Petitioner is over 18 years of age;

3. The Petitioner is an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
Community of Oregon, roll number 4971;

4. The Petitioner has not petitioned and been granted a change of name by the Tribal
Court within the past twelve (12) months;

5. The Petitioner has no Creditors or Former Spouses to whom an obligation is owed
under a divorce decree.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. The name of the Petitioner is changed from Tawnie Lane Ivey to Tawnie Lane
Kimsey;

1 Order Granting Request To Change Name

2. The Clerk of the Tribal Court shall cause a copy of this Order to be published in the
Tribal Newsletter;

3. The Clerk of the Tribal Court shall submit a certified copy of this Order to the Grand
Ronde Tribal Enrollment office;

4. The Clerk of the Court shall provide a certified copy of the Order to the Oregon State
Department of Vital Statistics.

DATED THIS 23rd DAY OF AUGUST, 2022.

/s/ David D. Shaw

David D. Shaw

Chief Judge

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IN THE TRIBAL COURT OF THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE
GRAND RONDE COMMUNITY OF OREGON

In the Matter of:

Tawnie L. Ivey

Petitioner,

Case No.: C-22-007

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Julie Bookhoff, do hereby certify that I served true copies of the
attached Order Granting Request to Change Name, dated August 23, 2022, upon
the parties listed below, by placing the same in the United States Mail at
Grand Ronde, Oregon, postage prepaid, certified mail, return receipt
requested, (except that service was provided electronically to Smoke Signals
and by interoffice mail as to the Tribal Enrollment Department), this 26th day
of August, 2022.

Tawnie Kimsey
Address Redacted for Publication

Conf. Tribes of Grand Ronde
Enrollment Department - Hand Delivery
9615 Grand Ronde Rd.
Grand Ronde, OR 97347
(Inter-office mail)

Conf. Tribes of Grand Ronde
Smoke Signals - Electronically
9615 Grand Ronde Rd.
Grand Ronde, OR 97347

Oregon Vital Records
PO Box 14050
Portland, OR 97293-0050

Julie Bookhoff

Julie Bookhoff

Judicial Operations Supervisor

1 CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF GRAND RONDE
TRIBAL COURT
9615 GRAND RONDE RD.
GRAND RONDE, OR 97347
PHONE: (503)879-2303 FAX: (503)879-2269

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IN THE TRIBAL COURT OF THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE
GRAND RONDE COMMUNITY OF OREGON

ENTERED
AUG 30 2022
CTGR COURT

In the Matter of:

Candi Buswell

Petitioner.

Case No.: C-22-006

ORDER GRANTING REQUEST TO
CHANGE NAME

Based on the allegations set forth in the Petition for Name Change filed by Petitioner on
June 1, 2022.

THE COURT FINDS AS FOLLOWS:

1. This Court has jurisdiction over the Petitioner and the subject matter of the Petition
herein;

2. The Petitioner is over 18 years of age;

3. The Petitioner is an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
Community of Oregon, roll number 1528;

4. The Petitioner has not petitioned and been granted a change of name by the Tribal
Court within the past twelve (12) months;

5. The Petitioner has no Creditors or Former Spouses to whom an obligation is owed
under a divorce decree.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. The name of the Petitioner is changed from Candi Buswell to Candi Marie Henry;

2. The Clerk of the Tribal Court shall cause a copy of this Order to be published in the
Tribal Newsletter;

3. The Clerk of the Tribal Court shall submit a certified copy of this Order to the Grand
Ronde Tribal Enrollment office;

4. The Clerk of the Court shall provide a certified copy of the Order to the Oregon State
Department of Vital Statistics.

DATED THIS 26th DAY OF AUGUST, 2022.

/s/ David D. Shaw

David D. Shaw

Chief Judge

Are you moving?

Do you need help with First, Last, and Deposit?

This program has limited funding and will be a
first come, first served program.

Contact Social Services for more information
(503) 879-2034 or (800) 422-0232

You can also email us at
ssdinfo@grandronde.org





TEACH

our children
our stories

BECOME A TEACHER.
APPLY TO AITP
www.pdx.edu/aitp



Clothes Closet open Fridays

The Clothes Closet is open from 9 a.m. to noon Fridays on the Tribal campus near the Elders Activity Center at the end of Blacktail Drive. The Clothes Closet accepts clothing, small appliances, small pieces of furniture, electronics and household goods that are clean and in good condition. It does not accept books, large TVs or furniture, but there is a community board where people can post those items.

For more information or emergency clothes, contact Lori Walker-Hernandez at 559-847-7565. ■



JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

CTGR EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
Posted September 09, 2022



Job#	Position Title	Grade	Min. Start Wage	Max Start Wage
1594	Certified Nursing Assistant – AFC *	7	\$19.60/hr.	\$25.42/hr.
1666	Health Administrator	12	\$31.56/hr.	\$40.58/hr.
1669	Lodge Caregiver *	7	\$19.60/hr.	\$25.42/hr.
1670	Tribal Civil Engineer	15	\$85,766.70/yr.	\$112,005.60/yr.
1671	Lodge Caregiver - On Call *	7	\$19.60/hr.	\$25.42/hr.
1718	Staff Accountant	11	\$28.69/hr.	\$36.95/hr.
1721	Firefighter – On-Call	9	\$23.71/hr.	\$30.64/hr.
1724	Copywriter	10	\$26.08/hr.	\$33.65/hr.
1725	Dental Assistant	7	\$19.60/hr.	\$25.42/hr.
1736	Community Health Aide IV	14	\$79,431.66/yr.	\$101,890.31/yr.
1744	Community Health Manager	17	\$103,777.71/yr.	\$135,273.51/yr.
1754	Grant Assistant	9	\$49,320.81/yr.	\$63,721.53/yr.
1757	Tribal Court Programs Coordinator	9	\$23.71/hr.	\$30.64/hr.
1758	Chinuk Wawa Outreach Teacher	10	\$54,252.90/yr.	\$69,982.47/yr.
1760	Academic Coach	10	\$26.08/hr.	\$33.65/hr.
1768	High School Intern	1	\$16.00/hr.	\$16.00/hr.
1771	Public Health Registered Nurse	15	\$85,766.70/yr.	\$112,005.60/yr.
1774	Inclusion Specialist	9	\$23.71/hr.	\$30.64/hr.
1775	Firefighter – Paramedic Preferred	9	\$49,320.81/yr.	\$63,721.53/yr.
1781	Staff Pharmacist (On-Call)	19	\$58.11/hr.	\$78.63/hr.
1782	Enrollment Officer	10	\$26.08/hr.	\$33.65/hr.
1783	Teacher Aide/Bus Monitor	5	\$16.53/hr.	\$21.10/hr.
1616	Temporary Pool	2	\$16.00/hr.	\$16.00/hr.

Job#	Position Title	Grade	Min. Start Wage	Max Start Wage
1708	Peer Support Specialist/Female – Salem	9	\$23.71/hr.	\$30.64/hr.
1726	Physician – Salem/Portland	25	\$198,820.72/yr.	\$289,247.17/yr.
1776	Client Registration Specialist	8	\$21.56/hr.	\$27.90/hr.
1777	Clinical Manager - Portland	14	\$79,431.66/yr.	\$101,890.31/yr.
1778	Licensed Practical Nurse – Portland	12	\$65,646.00/yr.	\$84,415.32/yr.
1779	Licensed Practical Nurse PART TIME – Portland	12	\$31.56/hr.	\$40.58/hr.

ALL POSTINGS ARE OPEN UNTIL FILLED AND WILL BE REMOVED WITHOUT NOTICE

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde offers generous benefits and competitive pay.

\$500 Hire-On Bonus - AFC Positions *

Lodge Caregivers and CNA's hired after March 4, 2022, are eligible when employed for 120 days.

\$500 Referral Bonus – Current CTGR Employees who refer applicants to the AFC Lodge Caregiver positions. Applicants must list the referring CTGR Employee at time of application. Lodge Caregivers must be hired after May 13, 2022, and complete their introductory period. Please contact the Employment Team for details.

Apply online at: www.grandronde.org

INTERVIEWS WILL BE GIVEN IN THE FOLLOWING RANKING ORDER:

- Grand Ronde Tribal members.
 - Qualified Grand Ronde Tribal members who show they meet the minimum qualifications of the position during the course of the interview process will be given first consideration for hire and the recruitment process will end)
- Tribal member spouses, parents and/or legal guardians of Grand Ronde Tribal member children and current regular employees.
- External candidates.

ACUPUNCTURE with Mallory

THURSDAYS starting
MAY 12

@ Grand Ronde Health and
Wellness Center



Acupuncture can help
with...

- pain
- headaches/migraines
- digestive issues
- women's health issues
- emotional pain & trauma
- diabetic neuropathy
- addictions
- and so much more!

Questions or to schedule:

CALL OR TEXT: 503-482-9370

EMAIL: info@yourdearbody.com

dearbody
ACUPUNCTURE + NATURAL REMEDIES



find your path CTGR TEMP POOL

ELIGIBILITY

- AGE REQUIREMENT**
Candidates must be at least 18 years in age.
- TRIBAL PREFERENCE**
Tribal Preference applies. However, nonTribal candidates can be considered based on business need, certifications and skills required.
- AVAILABILITY**
Most positions work Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Part-time and full-time work is available. Specific schedules will be communicated upon job placement. Candidates will be expected to adhere to work and schedule requirements.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE MULTIPLE **CAREER PATHS?**

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A WAY TO DEVELOP YOUR SKILLS AND ABILITIES IN THE WORKPLACE?

APPLY TO THE **CTGR TEMP POOL** AND START YOUR JOURNEY TODAY!

The CTGR Temp Pool was designed to fill the immediate staffing needs of CTGR Programs, and provides opportunities for participants to explore Part-Time and Full-Time job placement opportunities throughout the campus.

We often have opportunities in the Health & Wellness Clinic, Social Services, Facilities, Human Resources, TERO, Housing, the MAT Clinic in Salem, Adult Foster Care, and many more.

Apply online to begin your journey!

APPLY ONLINE: <https://www.grandronde.org/employment/>



POSTING TITLE	CLOSE DATE	WAGE/SALARY
Bartender (Full-Time & *Part-Time)	9/15/2022	\$14.58/hr. + Tips
Guest Safety Card Clerk	9/15/2022	\$18.02/hr. DOE
Lodge Bellstaff (Full-Time & *Part-Time)	9/15/2022	\$18.02/hr. DOE
Assistant Food & Beverage Manager	Until Filled	\$48,329.22/yr. DOE
Baker (Full-Time & *Part-Time)	Until Filled	\$18.29/hr. DOE
Guest Safety Specialist I	Until Filled	\$18.29/hr. DOE
Guest Safety Specialist II	Until Filled	\$18.55/hr. DOE
Lodge Houseperson – RV Park Club House (Full-Time & *Part-Time)	Until Filled	\$18.02/hr. DOE
Lodge Room Attendant (Full-Time & *Part-Time)	Until Filled	\$18.02/hr. DOE
Pastry Sous Chef	Until Filled	\$48,329.22/yr. DOE
Player Services Representative I	Until Filled	\$18.02/hr. DOE
Sportsbook Writer	Until Filled	\$18.02/hr. DOE
Surveillance Agent II	Until Filled	\$18.82/hr. DOE
Surveillance Agent III	Until Filled	\$21.22/hr. DOE
Table Games Dealer (Full-Time & *Part-Time)	Until Filled	\$14.58/hr. + Tips

\$500 Referral Bonus
SMC & CTGR Employees

\$1,000 Hire-On Bonus
All Positions

Due to the nature of the interactions with other employees and the public we serve, Spirit Mountain Casino employees are required to provide documentation of receiving their first shot of the COVID-19 vaccine at time of hire and must have second shot of vaccine within 45 days of hire and booster vaccines are required.

***Part-time employees are eligible for a 20% differential pay to their base wage if they are scheduled to work up to 29.99 hours per week.**

SPIRIT MOUNTAIN CASINO EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

- ✓ Positions are offered depending on experience (DOE) within the range
- ✓ SMGI adheres to a Tribal hiring preference policy for enrolled members of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon.
- ✓ Please reference the Job Description for job duties, qualifications, and required knowledge/skills.
- ✓ Job postings are updated every Friday with remaining and new positions; applications must be received by 5:00pm on the following Thursday to be considered.
- ✓ Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- ✓ **** Applicants that are hired for this position may be eligible for an incremental Hire-on Bonus ****

✉ employmentteam@spiritmtn.com <https://www.spiritmountain.com/careers>
Call (503) 879-3737 for application assistance.



HEALTH & WELLNESS NEWS

If you or a family member needs fentanyl strips, please contact the Grand Ronde Behavioral Health program at 503-879-2026.



The Truth About Fentanyl

This handout contains information everyone should know about fentanyl.

The facts

- Fentanyl is a powerful opioid, 50-100 times more potent than heroin
- Fentanyl gets added into many drugs, including "normal looking" pills
- A pill containing fentanyl can look exactly like a pill without fentanyl
- Two pills with different amounts of fentanyl can look exactly the same
- Many people don't realize they are taking fentanyl
- Fentanyl is causing a dramatic increase in overdoses
- Anyone who uses drugs can overdose, even if it's their first time or if they have been using for a long time

Naloxone

Naloxone (Narcan or Kloxxado) can reverse a fentanyl overdose. Fentanyl is a strong opioid, so you may need multiple (3, 4, or more) doses of naloxone. The biggest risk in giving someone too much naloxone is a more intense withdrawal.





Help people who are overdosing

If you have gloves and a mask, wear them for extra safety. You've got to breathe in a VERY LARGE amount of fentanyl over a REALLY LONG time to even begin to feel its effects - like dust-storm levels in a closed room for over 3 hours.

If you get fentanyl powder on you

Dry fentanyl powder is not absorbed by skin. Your skin will only absorb fentanyl powder if it's mixed with a liquid.

- While dry, brush off as much as you can
- Don't touch your mouth or eyes where fentanyl can be easily absorbed
- Flush with water (to dilute the fentanyl)
- Wash your clothes



What can I do?

- Share the facts without judgment
- Learn how to use naloxone and always keep it with you
- Help people who are overdosing
- Encourage the people in your life who use drugs not to use alone, always have naloxone, and accept treatment when they are ready
- Make sure your tribe/clinic offers fentanyl testing strips



Fentanyl test strips

Test strips can't detect all versions of fentanyl. But they can reveal the most common versions in a drug. This can save lives.

Healing medications

Medications that treat opioid use disorder—like "bup" (buprenorphine) and methadone—work for people who take fentanyl. Ask a substance use treatment provider for more information.

There is hope

We can heal our communities by educating ourselves, supporting each other, and accepting help when we need it.





Text "OPIOIDS" to 94449 to receive videos, quizzes, facts, and more to grow your knowledge about opioids.



Visit the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board's website at www.npaihb.org/opioid to learn more about treatments, reversing an overdose, and other important topics.



This document was developed [in part] under grant number T1083243 from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The views, policies, and opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of SAMHSA or HHS.


HAVE YOU HAD YOUR *mammogram* THIS YEAR?

Schedule an Exam with the Mobile Unit


WHEN: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH
WHERE: UPPER PARKING LOT, GRHWC
CONTACT: KLAMATH.HENRY@GRANDRONDE.ORG
OR CALL 503-879-1693 TO SCHEDULE AN EXAM

Eligibility

- MUST BE 35 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER
- MUST NOT BE PREGNANT
- MUST BE AT LEAST 1 YEAR SINCE LAST MAMMOGRAM
- MUST NOT HAVE BREAST FED IN THE LAST 6 MONTHS
- HAVE NO KNOWN BREAST LUMPS, DISCHARGE OR BREAST PAIN
- PLEASE NOTE, OHSU HMC BREAST HEALTH SERVICES ARE NOT A PREFERRED PROVIDER FOR KAISER



early detection
SAVES LIVES





GREAT CIRCLE RECOVERY

Opioid Addiction can happen to anyone.

So can recovery.

Walk-in's Welcome

1011 Commercial St. NE Salem OR.
1-888-983-9866
GreatCircleSalem.org



When you choose recovery:
You take back your life.



SMOKE SIGNALS

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

NOW AVAILABLE, SMOKE SIGNALS HOODIES, T-SHIRTS AND STICKERS!

HOODIES \$30 • T-SHIRTS \$12 • STICKERS \$1

FREE SHIPPING!



ALL ITEMS NOW RESTOCKED

	Sizes	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL	Total
Hoodies	QTY								
T-Shirts	QTY								
	Total								

Stickers

Total

Name:

Address:

E-mail:

Phone:

Checks or money orders only please: Make payable to Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. Memo: Editorial Board

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