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

DECEMBER 1, 2022

Tribal Council approves two land acquisitions

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

Tribal Council approved the purchase of two properties – an apartment building in Salem and forestland in Grand Ronde – during its Wednesday, Nov. 16, meeting.

According to the staff report, Tribal Council OK'd an authorization to proceed in August for the Tribal Lands Department to enter into a purchase and sale agreement to buy a six-unit Salem Transition House property located about six blocks away from the Tribe's Great Circle Recovery medication-assisted opioid treatment clinic on Commercial Street in Salem.

The property was not specifically identified during the meeting and the purchase price was not revealed. Closing is scheduled for mid-December.

The Evey forestlands are located southwest of Spirit Mountain Casino and include approximately 122 acres. Tribal Council approved a \$2 million supplemental budget in July to fund the purchase of the property from Lillian and Edmond Evey.

- In other action, Tribal Council:
- Approved a per capita distribution date of Friday, Dec. 9. Controller Christine O'Day said during the Tuesday, Nov. 15, Legislative Action Committee meeting that the per capita amount will not be known until after Dec. 1;
 - Approved Tribal Court purchasing new civil court software from Tyler Tech for \$110,764. Tribal Court needs the new software because it is losing support from its previous vendor in July 2023;
 - Approved a loan not to exceed \$8.9 million to Spirit Mountain Gaming Inc. to fund the purchase of new slot machines and the casino's surveillance system project. The loan will be funded by the Tribe's line of credit;
 - And approved accepting an approximately \$240,000 grant from the Oregon Department of Human Services that will be used for substance abuse and family preservation efforts, said Children & Family Services Program

See MEETING
continued on page 3



Photos by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Tribal Elder Kathryn Harrison receives a kiss on the cheek from Tribal Council member Michael Cherry as she arrives to take part in the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde 39th Restoration anniversary celebration held at Spirit Mountain Casino on Tuesday, Nov. 22. It was the first in-person Restoration celebration since 2019 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Harrison is a former Tribal Council chairwoman and the Tribe's eldest Elder. The Tribe was restored to federal recognition on Nov. 22, 1983, when President Ronald Reagan signed the Grand Ronde Restoration Act.

In-person Restoration restored for 2022

Tribe celebrates 39 years of returned federal recognition

By Danielle Harrison

Smoke Signals assistant editor / staff writer

Tribal members, family, friends and others gathered at Spirit Mountain Casino's Event Center to fete what many call the most important day in the Tribe's history on Tuesday, Nov. 22.

The first in-person Restoration celebration since 2019 because of the COVID-19 pandemic drew more than 200 eager attendees on a blustery day.

"Take a look around and acknowledge everyone who is here," Tribal Council member and Restoration co-emcee Michael Cherry said. "It's a



Tribal Elders make their way through the buffet line during the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde 39th Restoration anniversary celebration held at Spirit Mountain Casino on Tuesday, Nov. 22.

See RESTORATION
continued on pages 8-9

General Council meeting

11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 4

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

Call 503-879-2304 for more information.

NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings

DATE	TIME
Wednesday, Dec. 14.....	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 28.....	4 p.m.

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

TRIBAL OFFICE CLOSURES

Tribal offices will be closing noon Friday, Dec. 23, and all day on Monday, Dec. 26, in observance of Christmas. Offices also will be closing noon Friday, Dec. 30, and all day on Monday, Jan. 2, in observance of New Year’s Day.

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.



SAVE THE DATE

Tribal Council

Holiday PARTY

Saturday, Dec. 10, 2022
10 A.M. to 2 P.M.

Spirit Mountain Casino



Ad by Samuel Briggs III

smok signalz

PUBLICATIONS OFFICE

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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**.

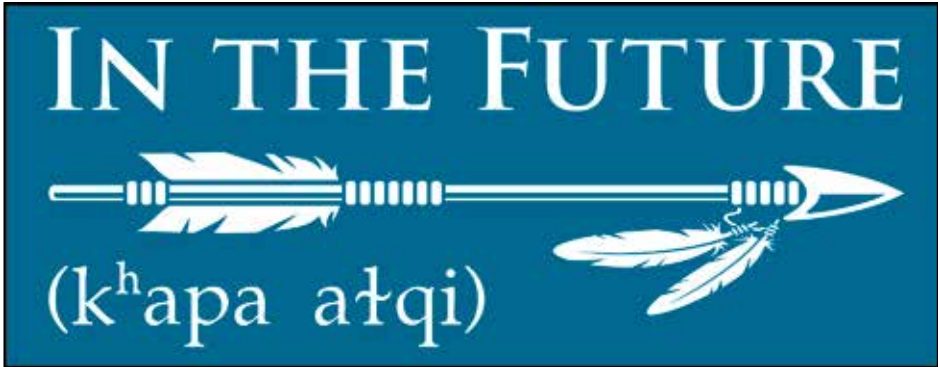
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2022-23

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- taḥlam-pi-wakwst-mun (**December**)
- Sunday, Dec. 4 – General Council meeting, 11 a.m., in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via the Zoom teleconference application. 503-879-2304.
 - Saturday, Dec. 10 – Tribal Council Christmas Party, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Spirit Mountain Casino, 26820 S.W. Salmon River Highway. 503-879-2304.
 - Wednesday, Dec. 14 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via the Zoom teleconference application. 503-879-2304.
 - Friday, Dec. 16 – Christmas Parade, 5:30 p.m., through Elder housing and Tribal housing along Raven Loop and then on to Grand Meadows. More info: Contact Veronica Gaston at 541-992-2234.
 - Monday, Dec. 26 – Tribal offices closed in observance of the Christmas holiday.
 - Wednesday, Dec. 28 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via the Zoom teleconference application. 503-879-2304.

- ixt-mun (**January**)
- Monday, Jan. 2 – Tribal offices closed in observance of the New Year's Day holiday.
 - Sunday, Jan. 8 – General Council meeting, 11 a.m., in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via the Zoom teleconference application. 503-879-2304.
 - Wednesday, Jan. 11 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via the Zoom teleconference application. 503-879-2304.
 - Monday, Jan. 16 – Tribal offices closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.
 - Wednesday, Jan. 25 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via the Zoom teleconference application. 503-879-2304.

SSI recipients eligible for Internet service aid

Any household with an individual receiving Supplemental Security Income is eligible to receive discounted Internet service through the Affordable Connectivity Program recently launched by the Federal Communications Commission. Social Security does not count Affordable Connectivity Program assistance as income or a resource for SSI purposes. The program provides a discount of up to \$30 per month toward Internet service for eligible households and \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands. Eligible households also can receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 toward purchasing a laptop, desktop computer or tablet from participating providers. To enroll in the Connectivity Program, go to www.fcc.gov/asp for more information. ■

Council approved authorization to proceed to purchase tiny homes

MEETING continued from front page

Manager Kristi Petite during the Tuesday, Nov. 15, Legislative Action Committee hearing. Petite said she likes the grant funding because it is “flexible,” which will give the Tribe great latitude in how to spend the funds before next summer’s deadline. Also included in the Nov. 16 Tribal Council packet was an approved authorization to proceed that will allow the purchase of tiny homes to address the homeless housing situation for local Tribal members. The initial purchase will include 10 sleeping units, two bathroom units and two community structures. In addition, it authorizes the site work for the placement of the shelters, the purchase of additional units as needed and creates a case manager position to oversee and manage the tiny home village. The tiny home village will be located near the Tribal police station and Grand Ronde Food Bank on the west side of Grand Ronde Road. To watch the entire meeting, visit the Tribal government’s website at www.grandronde.org and click on the Governments tab and then Videos. ■

Christmas Parade set for Dec. 16

Organizer Veronica Gaston said that this year’s Christmas Parade will occur at 5:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16, with the gathering area near the Governance Center. The parade route will include Elders housing, the Tribal apartments off Tyee Road and Raven Loop and then Grand Meadows. For more information, contact Gaston at 541-992-2234. ■

CTGR 2022 “Surplus” Fish Distribution

Grand Ronde Fish Pickup

When:
Friday, December 16, 2022 9:00am – 5:00pm
One Day Only!
Where:
Natural Resources Department : Fish Lab
47010 SW HEBBO ROAD
Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347
(503) 879-2424



****No Registration required for Grand Ronde Pickup!**

Portland Office Fish Pickup

When:
Thursday, December 15, 2022 10:00am – 3:00pm
Where:
CTGR Portland Office
4445 SW Barbur Blvd #200, Portland, OR 97239
(503)879-1881

Pre-Registration is required to pick up fish at Portland office. Please register by contacting Lisa Archuleta (503)879-1881 by Thursday December 8th at 4:30 PM

GRAND RONDE LIVING and ENROLLED TRIBAL MEMBERS
Must show current photo I.D.
Fish will be handed out in a drive through system. Please follow the signage up the hill to the fish lab, receive your fish and then follow the exit loop road out.
*If picking up for others: A Signed release and **copy of Tribal ID or CIB is required!** Signed Release not required for youth under 18.*
No Early or late Pickups and fish will not be mailed.

2022 Fish Distribution Release Example

I, _____ Roll Number, _____

Give _____ Permission to pick up my fish.

Signature of Tribal Member: _____ Date: _____

2022 Fish Distribution Release Example

I, _____ Roll Number, _____

Give _____ Permission to pick up my fish.

Signature of Tribal Member: _____ Date: _____

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 December 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. ■

POLK COUNTY WIC

Is now in Grand Ronde
for more information please call
503-623-8175 Ext 2297

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, Dec. 9. 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 – Pearl Lyon, the Tribe’s Eldest Elder at 105 years of age, walked on in the early morning of Wednesday, Nov. 29, in McMinnville. Lyon was born Feb. 20, 1912, at Bay City Hospital in Tillamook before the sinking of the Titanic. She was the oldest of three sisters, which included Bernice Jensen and Ruby Bigoni. Lyon attributed her longevity to drinking rich goat’s milk when she was a child.

2012 – During what Tribal Council Vice Chair Jack Giffen Jr. called “a monumental day for Tribal self-governance,” Alvin LaChance Jr. was sworn in as chief of the Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department. LaChance, 60, was a longtime veteran of the Redmond Police Department and he joined fellow Tribal member Jake McKnight, who also was sworn in the same day as a sergeant, as the first two official members of the Tribal police force.



2012 File photo

2007 – Several Grand Ronde officials attended the 10th annual Tribal State Summit. The purpose of the summit was for representatives of Oregon’s nine federally recognized Tribes to meet with state government representatives. Attendees ranged from eight Oregon Tribal chairs to Gov. Ted Kulongoski, and included legislators, state department heads, state agency staff members and Tribal government representatives. The summit’s theme was “Looking 10 Years Back and 10 Years Forward.”

2002 – Twenty-two Tribal Elders traveled to Albuquerque, N.M., for a National Indian Council on Aging event called “Healing Ourselves, Healing Our Spirits, Healing Our World.” With a focus on Elder abuse as an ongoing problem and healing circles as part of the solution, Tribal members came back to Grand Ronde equipped with this new knowledge. Other attendees noted the few programs available to them on their reservations. Tribal Elder Kathryn Harrison noted that even in Grand Ronde, there wasn’t an Elder’s advocate.

1997 – People attended the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde’s 14th Restoration celebration, which featured a meal, historical displays, a blessing of the Sacred Hide and a mini powwow. Tribal Council Chair Kathryn Harrison spoke about the first and past Restoration celebrations. Past Tribal Council member Marvin Kimsey told the audience about the 10-year struggle to get the Tribe restored to federal recognition, which included working out of a small office, volunteering hours of time and traveling to meet with government officials.

1992 – Tribal Health Administrator Cheryle A. Kennedy was honored as Outstanding Portland Area Health Administrator at an awards banquet in Portland featuring more than 250 health care workers. Kennedy served as the Grand Ronde representative to the Native American Indian Health Board and had worked in the Grand Ronde Health Department for eight years. “It was wonderful to be nominated for the award. When I got the invitation to the banquet, I didn’t know I’d won,” she said.

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



Free Playgroup in Grand Ronde!



When: First Thursday of each month 10:00 am-11:30 am

Where: CTGR – Community Service Center 9615 Grand Ronde Road Grand Ronde, OR 97347

Who: Parents and Caregivers of children under 5 years.

Why: Come to play, have a snack and have fun!

Is the IRS really texting you? Nope

Federal Trade Commission hosts webinar on spotting scams and fraud in Indian Country

By Danielle Harrison
Smoke Signals assistant editor / staff writer

Before you reply to that text from an unknown number claiming to be a government agency, the phone call from tech support or your bank, or an e-mail asking you to verify payroll information, it would be wise to pause and not respond.

More likely than not, it's a scammer who wants to steal your personal information for nefarious purposes.


That was the message behind a Federal Trade Commission webinar for Native American news media titled "Spotting and Avoiding Scams in Indian Country."

"Every year, scammers steal hundreds of millions of dollars from people by pretending to be government or tech support, selling useless products or promoting fake lotteries and sweepstakes," an FTC press release stated.

Approximately 40 people logged into the Zoom teleconferencing application on Thursday, Nov. 10, to attend the webinar. The briefing is part of a new national initiative by the FTC to "build public awareness among Native Americans about how to spot and avoid scams in their communities, as well as where to report them."

"The FTC has long been dedicated to protecting demographically diverse communities and it is a priority to reach out to Native American communities," Bureau of Consumer Protection Deputy Director Monica Vaca said. "We are here to start a conversation about what fraud looks like."

The webinar included fraud sta-



"Never, ever give your information to someone over the phone. I'd also like to remind people no law enforcement department, no matter where they're from, would ever ask for money over the phone. If that happens, call us right away."

~ Grand Ronde Tribal Police Chief Jake McKnight

tistics, legal action the FTC took to fight it and get money back for consumers, free resources to help protect against scams and a personal story from a Navajo Nation member about her experience being scammed by an auto dealer near the Reservation.

Vaca shared some sobering fraud statistics from 2021: There were more than 2.9 million reports of fraud to the FTC, of which 25 percent of people reported losing money, adding up to a staggering \$6.1 billion.

"That's just the ones we actually heard about," she said. "We know fraud losses exceed that number."

The top scam of 2021 was the "imposter scam." Essentially, a scammer contacts a person via phone, e-mail and increasingly through a text message, and pretends to be someone a person trusts from a well-known business, bank or government agency. They'll tell you your Social Security number was compromised, you've been implicated in a crime, your bank account information is needed to process a refund, or there is a family member in need of help, to give a few examples.

Vaca implored those who have been the victim or intended victim of a scam to report it to reportfraud.ftc.gov.

"We can use the information to bring civil lawsuits to stop illegal practices and, when it is possible, to get money back for people who lost it to scams or unscrupulous business practices," she said.

She cited a case example of Tate's Auto Group in Arizona and New Mexico, which were charged in 2018 with deceiving customers and falsifying information on vehicle financing forms. Many of those affected were members of the Navajo Nation. Ultimately, the dealerships paid a \$450,000 settlement to approximately 3,500 consumers who had been scammed by the dealership's deceptive business practices.

"Cars are one of the biggest purchases consumers make and it's a lifeline, a necessity to get from place to place," Vaca said.

A Navajo Nation Tribal member, "Sherrie," who only used her first name, told attendees about her experience being the victim of predatory dealership lending.

The Navajo Reservation is approximately 27,000 square miles and very dispersed, often with dirt and gravel roads, which can become treacherous during the winter. Sherrie, who owned a Nissan Sentra, wanted something more durable and safe.

After receiving a flier in the mail, she visited a local dealership at the Reservation border town of Winslow, and ultimately was scammed into buying a new vehicle with a verbal promise that she could trade in her Nissan. A few weeks later, she began receiving phone calls about her car payment being late and was ultimately sent to collections for a \$10,500 debt. Her car, which she thought was used for a trade-in, was auctioned off. With bills mounting and her credit ruined, she sought legal help from a Flagstaff nonprofit, DNA-People's Legal Services, and after more than 18 months received a settlement from the auto dealer.

Assistant Director of the Midwest Region Joannie Wei noted that other common scams in Indian Country include phishing e-mails with authentic-looking invoices, companies offering debt relief, tech support scams and callers asking for payment via gift cards or wire transfers.

"That's always 100 percent a

scam," she said. "Those issues are impacting communities broadly. We need to talk about these scams because the more we know, the more we will help people to avoid them."

If someone suspects they're being targeted by a scam artist, Wei advises never giving out personal or financial information and resisting the pressure to act immediately.

"Before you give out any information, tell somebody you trust about what is going on," Wei said.

She also advises browsing [ftc.gov/consumer-alerts](https://www.ftc.gov/consumer-alerts) to get up-to-date information about the latest frauds and scams.

Grand Ronde Tribal Police Chief Jake McKnight provided some local context, but was not a participant in the webinar.

"We've tried to get out and educate as many people as we can in the community about these scams," he said. "A common one is someone claiming to be from a government agency, usually the IRS, saying you need to pay back taxes now or go to jail."

McKnight said another scam is a variation of the imposter scam, where the caller poses as a federal agent and tells the intended victim someone rented a car in another state in their name and it contained drugs and their Social Security number linked to different accounts. If they don't cooperate with the investigation, the scammer says, they'll go to jail.

"We had a young Tribal member and her dad come in to tell us about the scam and we immediately told her to cancel her credit cards and check if her Social Security number had been used," McKnight said.

McKnight said that in the past few years the department hasn't received as many reports as it used to, but that Tribal members should remain vigilant when interacting with someone they don't know via phone, e-mail or text, especially if they insist on being paid via wire transfers or gift cards.

"Never, ever give your information to someone over the phone," he said. "I'd also like to remind people no law enforcement department, no matter where they're from, would ever ask for money over the phone. If that happens, call us right away."

The nonemergency line for the Grand Ronde Tribal Police is 503-879-1835.

McKnight cautions that getting consumers' money back after they've been scammed is very difficult.

"We do the best we can, but it's a very rare occasion that anything happens," he said. "If you don't know the person, don't give out your information. You just can't do that anymore. Scams are happening everywhere." ■

Winter Crafts for Preschool Families

Wednesday, December 21, 2022
2:00-3:30 or 5:00-6:30 p.m.
In the Kwis Kwis & Chak Chak classrooms

All preschool families are invited to come spend quality time together.

Cocoa & treats

Come make pipe cleaner Ornaments and Holiday cards!



Grand Ronde Head Start Preschool

We want to hear from you!

The Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Center Comment Box is located at the entrance of the Health & Wellness Center, next to the drinking fountain. Share your experience, good or bad with us! ■

Tribal Council hears comments on spray policy

Kamiah Koch
Social media/digital journalist

Community concerns about the Tribe’s herbicide spray policy were heard during an input meeting held Thursday, Nov. 9, in Tribal Council Chambers and over Zoom.

Tribal staff in attendance included Natural Resources Specialist Anna Rumthun, Facilities Manager Tyson Mercier, General Manager David Fullerton, Tribal Council Chief of Staff Stacia Hernandez, Communications Director Sara Thompson, Tribal Council Vice Chair Chris Mercier, Tribal Council Secretary Michael Langley and fellow Tribal Council members Jon A. George, Denise Harvey, Brenda Tuomi, Lisa Leno and Kathleen George.

Rumthun began the 90-minute meeting by explaining how the current list of herbicide weed killers was chosen.

“We were trying to take a pretty conservative approach to the chemicals we were using,” Rumthun said.

Rumthun said 10 chemicals were chosen that present minimum risk after Tribal employees filtered through recommendations provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Thurston County Board of Health and a software program.

Rumthun added other alternatives like agricultural vinegar are not recommended because they can damage aquatic environments and

salts can build up in the soil.

Fullerton said there are two spray policies in use at the Tribe: one for the Natural Resources management plan approved in 2021 by Tribal Council and one for campus spraying that was approved in May. Tribal Council recorded comments about the on-campus spray policy during the Nov. 9 meeting.

After staff explanations, attendees expressed concern and confusion about what was being exterminated and the chemicals used to do so.

More than 10 people gave comments, most using the entire five minutes they were allotted to present personal testimonies against the current use of herbicides.

Some said they could smell the chemicals and were concerned about the effects they could have on future generations exposed in Tribal Housing.

“What specifically are we spraying? What are we trying to kill?” Tribal member Shayla Meyer asked. “Blueberries and crab apples are intended to be eaten. Anything outdoor that is supposed to be eaten should be picked by our kids and that’s where firsthand education comes from.”

One commenter was concerned with the “stone people,” or stones used in the sweat lodges being contaminated with chemicals and later inhaled.

The Tribe currently contracts

through Springer Spray Services in Salem.

Several commenters, including Tribal Elders Carol Logan and Kathleen Provost, were upset with the company’s alleged lack of warning signs around spray sites.

“I’ve watched the spraying increase greatly. I now have cancer,” Provost said. “Why does a contract sprayer have more protection than Tribal members themselves?”

Provost’s husband, Don Hendricks, made an emotional plea to Tribal Council to change the policy.

“Grand Ronde should be leading the way,” Hendricks said. “People are always talking about being stewards of the land.”

Other alternatives were offered by community members during the meeting. Tribal Elder Perri McDaniel suggested community work parties, increased participation, goat grazing and ground cloths.

The meeting ended around 7 p.m. with Tribal Council members and staff thanking participants for their comments and agreeing they had a lot of information to discuss. ■

COME TO JOIN US FOR

A HOLIDAY BAZAAR

FRIDAY, DEC. 16

Vendors such as LulaRoe, Chase Paw Treats, Chalk Couture, Scentsy, Native Beadwork, Tumblers, Decals, T-shirts, Jewelry, and more.

FREE FOR ALL


9 A.M. – 3 P.M.

At the Community Center

9615 Grand Ronde Rd., Grand Ronde, OR 97347

Raffle \$ 1 for one ticket and \$ 5 for 6 tickets. Money from Raffle is going to be donated to a Mental Health Organization for suicide prevention.

Ad by Samuel Briggs III



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

Youth Empowerment & Prevention Activity Calendar

December 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	Parent Connections, 12-1pm @ Community Center *Drop In*	2	3
Youth Council 4 Regular Meeting 1-3pm @ Com. Center *Drop In*	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	Art & Healing 12 w/ BH 5-7:30pm @ Chachalu Museum *Drop In*	13	14	Bingo & Game Night 4:30-6:30 @ Com. Center *Drop In*	16	17
18	19	20	Gift Making Day 10-1pm @ Com. Center *Drop In*	Parent Connections, 12-1pm @ Community Center *Drop In*	CTGR Campus Closed 1-5pm	24
Christmas 25	CTGR Campus Closed 8-5pm	27	28	29	CTGR Campus Closed 1-5pm	NYE Sobriety 31 Family Movie Night *RSVP* YC NYE Sobriety Party! @ Gym 9-1am *Drop In*

If you would like any further information on our events, please check our Facebook page @ Grand Ronde Youth Empowerment, our Instagram @ctgryouthempowerment, or email the YEP team @ yep@grandronde.org.

Tribal leaders discuss future of ICWA

By Danielle Harrison
Smoke Signals assistant editor/staff writer

In its Tuesday, Nov. 15, Facebook Live session, Tribal leaders and employees discussed the importance of keeping Tribal children connected to each other and their culture through the Indian Child Welfare Act.

Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy shared her personal connection to ICWA.

“I was one of four people in the Northwest that helped prepare draft language for ICWA before the Tribe was restored,” she said. “There was research done at that time to gauge the level of demand for this law and the results of the research were appalling to see. ... I lived this experience and also tried to right this wrong for our Indian people.”

Kennedy was joined in the discus-

sion by fellow Tribal Council member Michael Cherry, Social Services Manager Dana Ainam, Children & Family Services Program Manager Kristi Petite and CFS Supervisor Amber Zimbrick.

Congress passed the federal Indian Child Welfare Act in 1978 to extend protection to Tribal families by keeping Tribal children connected to their culture and to help preserve Tribes. Before the act was passed, children were frequently removed from their families and communities, and typically placed with non-Native families, often permanently without reason or any connection to their roots.

The constitutionality of the federal act was argued before the U.S. Supreme Court on Wednesday, Nov. 9, during the *Haaland v. Brackeen* case, a lawsuit brought by Texas (and previously Indiana

and Louisiana) and several individual plaintiffs who say the ICWA is unconstitutional and racist. The government lawyers say it is not based on a racial classification, but a political relationship that is written into the Constitution. The Supreme Court generally issues its rulings on cases in May and June, according to [supremecourt.gov](https://www.supremecourt.gov).

“ICWA is a good law and it is not race-based. It is because of a legal remedy for the original people of this land,” Kennedy said.

As a child, Kennedy recalled hiding with five other siblings by a creek every time an unrecognizable vehicle came down the gravel road near her home.

“In the 1950s, my father was murdered and the state law in Oregon at the time was to save Indian children from their Native heritage,” she said. “When you were a single parent, a mother, you were looked at as not being able to provide for your children. The state would take you. A number of laws tried to erode Indian families.”

Thankfully, she and her siblings were adopted by her grandparents and continued to live in the same home.

“We would joke with our mother, ‘You’re our sister, right?’” Kennedy said.

When Kennedy worked in mental health services several years later, those memories never left and she and others worked hard to garner support for the federal passing of ICWA.

“There were a number of hearings across the United States to gather Tribes into supporting this,” she said.

ICWA remained an unfunded and often unfollowed federal law for several years, but Tribes rallied

around the idea of keeping children in their community and with their extended family, and eventually ICWA came to be seen as the “gold standard” of the foster care system.

“I hear a lot of times that ICWA was needed for a long time,” Zimbrick said. “It makes me feel really emotional to think of Native children being two to three times more likely to be removed from their homes than white children. Every day, I go and advocate for ICWA and our families in the system. I worry if the law is deemed unconstitutional, the impacts it could have on families and Tribal sovereignty.”

Cherry, who began her career with the Tribe working in child welfare, noted that Oregon is the sixth highest state in the country for children who are placed into foster care.

“By comparison, all other ethnic minority groups (in foster care) have stayed steady or decreased,” she said. “Native American children in foster care have increased. It’s alarming and shows how important it is to continue this work and education. ... It’s been very eye opening for me.”

Ainam added that Native American families are also more likely to be reported to the state, have an investigator assigned and the children stay in foster care longer.

“ICWA brings a sense of relief and connection for families and children,” she said. “It’s critical that we are able to be at the table.”

In 2020, the Legislature passed the Oregon Indian Child Welfare Act, which aligned with the federal law while also recognizing the needs of the nine federally recognized Tribes in the state. If ICWA is overturned by the Supreme Court, the state law will still be in place. ■



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



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



For additional terms and agreements please contact the library
Kathy.Cole@grandronde.org
503-879-1488

These hotspots were made possible through funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and in cooperation with the Chemeketa Community College and the Chemeketa Cooperative Regional Library Service.




HOLIDAY Market

Vendors Wanted

DECEMBER 9TH


11a-6p
Tribal Gym
9615 Grand Ronde Rd

Please call 503.851.8406 to register




THE GRAND RONDE TRIBAL LIBRARY INVITES YOU FOR A NIGHT OF HOLIDAY FUN!

ANGEL OCASIO CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE



5:15 PM
Tuesday, December 13th
at the gym

JOIN US FOR A NIGHT FULL OF HOLIDAY SING ALONGS, COMEDY AND VERY SPECIAL HOLIDAY GUESTS



‘It’s such a great time to get together, to

RESTORATION continued
from front page

beautiful day and we haven’t been able to gather in person for so long. Happy Restoration Day and we’ll celebrate all day long.”

The celebration began with a Canoe Family procession of singing and drumming led by Cultural Advisor Bobby Mercier. Approximately 30 Tribal members from toddlers to adults joined him.

After Grand Ronde Royalty and Veterans Royalty members introduced themselves, Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy welcomed the crowd to a day of celebration.

“How great is this (to gather in person)?” she said to claps and cheers from the audience. “This is a wonderful time. It’s such a great time to get together, to celebrate what Restoration means to us. It was not a small accomplishment. It was a great accomplishment. We were just ordinary people like you, people who came together and said we will not remain a faceless people. ... We know who we are. We’re the great people who are the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.”

Kennedy acknowledged key Restoration figures Marvin Kimsy, Margaret Provost and Merle Holmes, who have all walked on and asked for a moment of silence to remember them and others who worked tirelessly on Restoration efforts.

“In the spirit world, I believe they are able to hear us,” she said. “I want to thank all of them as it was truly a gift that they have given all of us here. Tell your children who these people are. There are very few of us left here today.”

The three key Restoration Elders are commemorated with a life-sized bronze sculpture “Visionaries” at the entrance to the Governance Building. It serves as a permanent reminder of their life’s work and was designed by Tribal Elder and former Tribal Council member Steve Bobb Sr., who walked on in August.

When Restoration efforts were in full swing, Kennedy recalled late nights attending meetings with local, state and federal officials to advocate for the Tribe, not knowing for sure how the message would be



Tribal Council member Jon A. George reads a raffle number during the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde 39th Restoration anniversary celebration held at Spirit Mountain Casino on Tuesday, Nov. 22.

SEE MORE OF THIS STORY
Visit **YouTube**
CTGRsmokesignals



received.

“We would be unexpectedly called in to talk to people and sometimes we would feel awkward, like we were shy, but we knew we had to do it. We persisted. We knew the desire and love in our heart for all of you here, that you could enjoy being a Tribal member, being a person with an identity. We celebrate today because of that. ... Restoration was done to restore you: The culture in you, the memories and history, so you know what we did, how we lived and how important that is.”

Kennedy also acknowledged past and current Tribal Council members in attendance. She also noted that throughout its 39-year history, there have only been six Tribal Council chairs, including herself.

Past council members in attendance included Reyn Leno, Candy Robertson, Angie Blackwell and the Tribe’s eldest Elder and key Restoration figure Kathryn Harrison, who is 98 years old.

Harrison was also gifted with

a necklace for the honor of being eldest Elder.

All Tribal Council members attended Restoration. They are Cherry, Kennedy, Jon A. George, Kathleen George, Lisa Leno, Secretary Michael Langley, Denise Harvey, Vice Chair Chris Mercier and Brenda Tuomi.

“Thank you for being here,” Kennedy said. “Your service is greatly appreciated. ... Never will we ever put our destiny in another’s hands. We’re making it with the help of Creator and moving forward.”

At the 35th anniversary event in 2018, Kennedy issued a challenge for all Tribal members in attendance: Find out which Tribal chief they are descended from. She reissued that challenge at this year’s event.

“It’s still on the books,” she said. “I want you to continue to work on that.”

After co-emcee Jon A. George gave the invocation, attendees lined up to feast on fruit, smoked salmon, shrimp, potatoes, biscuits and gravy, roast beef, ham, eggs, sausage, bacon, pasta salads, cheese and crackers, pastries and dessert bars served by casino staff members, who took two days to prepare all of the food.

Raffle drawings were held throughout the event, which included water bottles, Chachalu Museum & Cultural Center gift bags, stuffed animals, a bicycle and other items.

Restoration ended at approximately 1 p.m. with Jon A. George thanking everyone who had worked to make it a success. After he finished, tables and dishes were quickly whisked away and the Event Center was transformed for the Restoration Powwow.

The powwow began at 5:30 p.m. with host drum Bad Soul providing Grand Entry music as the Honor



Tribal members gathered in the Event Center to participate in the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde 39th Restoration anniversary celebration.



Tribal Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde 39th Restoration anniversary celebration.

celebrate what Restoration means to us'



Elder Alton Butler, carrying the eagle staff, leads the Veterans Honor Guard during Grand Entry of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde 39th Restoration anniversary celebration powwow held at Spirit Mountain Casino on Tuesday, Nov. 22. It was the first in-person Restoration celebration held since 2019 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Tribe was restored to federal recognition on Nov. 22, 1983, when President Ronald Reagan signed the Grand Ronde Restoration Act. The powwow followed a celebration luncheon held earlier in the day.



Round bustle dancer Tyee Russell-Tom (Grand Ronde/Siletz/Yakama) participates in Grand Entry during the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde 39th Restoration anniversary celebration powwow held at Spirit Mountain Casino on Tuesday, Nov. 22.

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Photos by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Guard brought in the colors.
Tribal member Anthony Quenelle served as arena director, with Tribal member Tynan George as the powwow emcee-in-training and Warm Springs Tribal member Carlos Calica as emcee.
Grand Ronde Tribal members Marcel Allen Jr. and Halona Butler were head man and head woman.
Dance categories included golden age, adult, teen, junior and tiny tots. Specials featured \$1,000 in prizes for old style and contemporary fancy shawl, dance your style, a head woman family team dance, and head man grass dance and chicken dance.
To commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Grand Ronde Health

& Wellness Center, Kennedy, Tresa Mercier and Bonnie Tom were honored during the powwow.
Mercier, who is the Tribe's longest-serving employee with 38 years of service, worked as the health

clerk. Tom was the Community Health representative and Kennedy, who has served as Tribal Council chairwoman for several years, was the first director of the Tribal Health Department, starting shortly after 1983's Restoration.
After the Tribe was terminated by the federal government in 1954, a vast majority of Tribal members were forced to relocate from Grand Ronde in order to survive.

Tribal leaders saw the realization of a dream when the Grand Ronde Restoration Act was signed on Nov. 22, 1983, by President Ronald Reagan. Since then, the Tribe has gone from having little money and only five acres of land to operating a successful casino that generates millions in revenue every year, having its hunting and fishing rights restored, and rebuilding Tribal institutions and culture.
Every year since the Tribe was restored, it has held a celebration that includes a meal, giveaways, speeches, dancing, drumming, singing and a Restoration Powwow. However, in 2020 and 2021 those celebrations were held virtually due to the pandemic. ■



Fancy dancer and Grand Ronde Tribal member Elizabeth Ulestad, 7, participates in a tiny tot dance.



Traditional dancer and Tribal member Chad Leno participates in Grand Entry during the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde 39th Restoration anniversary celebration powwow.

Sisters Tessa, center left, and Cheyenne Simmons, center right, dance during the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde 39th Restoration anniversary celebration.

Tribal Youth Restoration Powwow

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Tribal youth William Craig, 3, drums during the opening song “New Beginnings” during the Preschool Restoration Powwow held in the Tribal gym on Friday, Nov. 18.



From left, Tribal youths and jingle dancers Emmalynn Warren and Nevaeh Grijalva, both 8, participate in the Preschool Restoration Powwow.



Tribal youths participate in the Preschool Restoration Powwow held in the Tribal gym on Friday, Nov. 18.

Photos by Timothy J. Gonzalez



Your health coverage
could be free.

Health coverage can expand your options and help pay for additional services so you can get the care you need. It covers a wide variety of providers and services including Tribal/IHS clinics and non-tribal providers, hospitals, pharmacies and more. If you’re a member of a federally recognized tribe, you can sign up anytime, year-round. If you qualify, your insurance may even be free.

Do you qualify?

Tribal members are eligible for additional savings through the Marketplace. Find out if you’re eligible for free coverage and payment assistance to eliminate your out-of-pocket costs:

- Preview savings at **OregonHealthCare.gov**.
- Get **free help** at your tribal headquarters.
- Or call the Oregon Health Insurance Marketplace at **855-268-3767** (toll-free) and ask for free, local help.

Visit OregonHealthCare.gov

Grand Ronde Editorial Board
position openings

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 will be two (2) open board positions occurring 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. Terms run for three years.

Preference will be given to qualified Tribal members.

Submission deadline: Friday, Jan. 13, 2023

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

Health & Wellness Center hours

The Health & Wellness Center has additional access for patients during holiday weeks on Thursday mornings.

The clinic will be scheduling patients at 8 a.m. every Thursday preceding or following a holiday closure. Urgent care also will be available during this time. ■

**CULTURAL
DANCE CAMP**

A GRHWC GOOD MEDICINE EVENT

THURSDAY/FRIDAY
12/15-16, EVENING (TIMES TBA)
CTGR TRIBAL GYM

Hosted By:
Creighton and Dottie Scabbyrobe

- Sessions for Ages 4-9 and 10+
- Must attend both evening sessions and the 12/17 Winter Gathering
- Sponsored by ILAUNCH and Behavioral Health
- Register by 12/2 with ILAUNCH

QUESTIONS?
EMAIL ILAUNCH

ILAUNCH@GRANDRONDE.ORG
OR 503-879-1697

NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND
NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

These Notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon (CTGR) Engineering and Planning department.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about Dec 1, 2022, CTGR will submit a request to HUD for the release of U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG-ARP 22RP4105300) funds under Title I of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 to undertake a project known as Public Healthcare Vaccination Building Project for the purpose of constructing a new 10,000-square-foot, one-story health care clinic, and an open and largely flat vacant lot. The new building, comprised of six medical examination rooms, two dental examination rooms, medical and dental laboratories, two community rooms with kitchen, 10 administrative offices, break room, restrooms and other support areas, entry and circulation space. The Work will also include excavation, site grading and site utility connections to existing utility lines in the street. Other site improvements include a new 12-space, asphalt paved parking lot with approach drives, as well as associated concrete curbs, sidewalks, and storm drainage. Landscaping of the area around the new building, parking lot and street-side medians and adjoining areas is also included.

Location (Address): 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347
Estimated Total Cost: \$6,600,000
Grant Amount: \$1,725,000

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

CTGR has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Assessment (EA) on file at the Public Works Department, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, OR, 97347 and may be examined or copied weekdays 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The EA will be available to the public for review either electronically or by U.S. mail. Please submit your request by U.S. mail to:

Ryan Webb, Engineering and Planning Manager
The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
9615 Grand Ronde Road
Grand Ronde OR 97347

U.S. mail requests must be postmarked no later than Dec. 22, 2022, to meet the Request for Release of Funds date of Dec. 22, 2022, reporting date.

Additionally, the EA will be available via a file sharing link by e-mailing Ryan Webb at Ryan.Webb@grandronde.org. Please place “Request to Review EA” in the e-mail subject line. An e-mail reply will follow with a link to the file sharing website.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any interested agencies, groups or persons disagreeing with the decisions are invited to submit e-mail comments to the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and to Tom.Carney@hud.gov. This publication is in response to the COVID-19 National Disaster, and we are publishing under the Emergency Provision at 24 CFR 58.33 which allows Tribes to publish the combined Finding of No Significant Impact and Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds (FONSI/NOI-RROF) simultaneously with the submission of the RROF to HUD. The funds are needed on an emergency basis due to a declared disaster. All comments received by Dec. 22, 2022, will be considered by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and HUD prior to the release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

CTGR certifies to HUD that Cheryle A. Kennedy in her capacity as Tribal Council chairwoman consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD’s acceptance of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and allows CTGR to use program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde certification for a period of 18 days during the simultaneous comment period under the emergency provision of 24 CFR Part 58.33. Objections may be submitted to HUD on one of the following bases: (a) The certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde; (b) The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) The grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) Another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be submitted to the HUD designated e-mail address: Tom.Carney@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

The Honorable Cheryle A. Kennedy, Tribal Chairwoman
Confederated Tribes of the
Grand Ronde Community of Oregon
9615 Grand Ronde Road
Grand Ronde, OR 97347-9712



Watchlist: ‘First Lady Jill Biden hosts the First Reception in Honor of Native American Heritage Month’

(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

The first reception honoring Native American Heritage Month was held in the White House on Tuesday, Nov. 15. The event host, First lady Jill Biden, announced notable Native attendees that included Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland, Kansas Rep. Sharice Davids, National Endowment for the Humanities Chair Shelly Lowe and many other Tribal leaders sitting in the audience.

Attendees also included more than 6,000 viewers on YouTube, where the event was streamed live and remains available for viewing.

The first lady spent the first part of the reception recognizing Hopi Nation member Lori Piestewa, who was the first woman to die on the front lines in Iraq and the first American Indian to die serving the armed forces in 2003.

“When her community back home in Tuba City heard that she was missing, they refused to give up hope,” Biden said. “They turned porch lights on every night to help her find her way home, even in the darkness.”

The first lady received several cheers as she discussed the White House’s Tribal Youth Forum held on Monday, Nov. 14, and the White House Tribal Nations Summit planned for the end of this month.

Cheers became even louder when Biden introduced Laguna Pueblo Nation member Deb Haaland to the podium.

“When I look around this room at so many friends, family and leaders,” Haaland said with tears. “I can’t help but think that those who came before us worked and fought and sacrificed so that we could all be here together.”

Following Haaland’s emotional speech, she introduced Hopi and Tewa member ShanDien LaRance to hoop dance on stage, accompanied by her father Steve LaRance to drum and sing.

You can find the video recording from the first Native American Heritage Month reception at the White House at www.youtube.com/watch?v=WZH1EApuF5s. You can also find it linked in the “Watchlist” playlist on the *Smoke Signals* YouTube channel. ■

TERO Workers of the Year



Contributed photo

Grand Ronde Tribal member Matt Lux, left, and Klamath Tribal member Jerry Yanez were honored as Workers of the Year during the TERO Appreciation Dinner held Nov. 4 at Spirit Mountain Casino. Lux was honored for 2001 and Yanez was honored for 2022. The dinner was attended by approximately 100 people and Tribal Employment Rights Office Director Harris Reibach was the master of ceremonies.

A black and white photograph of a young woman with long dark hair, wearing a vest over a long-sleeved shirt and jeans, sitting on a small stool in a classroom. She is smiling and looking towards the camera. In the background, there is a whiteboard with some writing and a map of the United States on the wall.

TEACH our children our stories

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

AMERICAN INDIAN TEACHER PROGRAM

In collaboration with CTGR TERO, BurchEnergy presents:

Green Construction Career Workshop

If you or someone you know is interested in a new career in the energy efficiency world, please take a second to register for an upcoming training that will be announced in the near future. Please see details of how you could get into the world of energy efficiency below:

This workshop will immerse participants in the world of green building. This training is organized in 2 sections: 1) the green construction landscape, and 2) career pathways in energy efficient home construction.

In Part 1, the instructor will provide an overview in energy-efficient home construction, including:

- Quality insulation and tight envelopes
- High-performance windows
- Efficient water heating
- Well-designed space heating, cooling, and ventilation systems
- Options to add renewable energy

In Part 2, participants will learn how to transition into a career in green building:

- Career tracks, including computer and field-based positions
- Low and no-cost training, internship, and apprenticeship programs
- Opportunities to make connections with local projects and companies

To register, contact Jacob Boekhoff @ 503-879-2146 or Jacob.boekhoff@grandronde.org

Please contact Eric at ejordan@burchenergy.com with questions.



ODHS Self-Sufficiency Program in Grand Ronde

Located in the Community Center
Monday's & Wednesday's 9-4pm

This program can help with food benefits (SNAP), cash for families (TANF), childcare assistance and more!

Walk-in's Welcome

Contact:
503-879-2034

Walking On...

Other passings

Darla Ann Wilson

May 24, 1959 –Nov. 8, 2022

Tribal Elder Darla Ann Wilson passed on Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2022, at the age of 63.

Musgrove Family Mortuary in Eugene, Ore., is assisting the family.

There were no funeral service arrangements available at press time.

Ann Belle Clevenger

Nov. 24, 1937 – Nov. 8, 2022

Tribal Elder Ann Belle Clevenger passed on Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2022, at the age of 84.

Bateman Funeral Home in Newport, Ore., is assisting the family.

There were no funeral service arrangements available at press time.

Melissa Jeannie Marr

June 14, 1973 – Nov. 14, 2022

Tribal member Melissa Jeannie Marr passed on Monday, Nov. 14, 2022, at the age of 49.

Weddle Funeral Service in Stayton, Ore., is assisting the family.

There were no funeral service arrangements available at press time.

TERO Individual Funding Spotlight

Kaylene Barry signed up with the TERO Individual Funding Program in 2021. She was seeking financial assistance with an emergency medical technician course. After successfully completing the course, Kaylene has been working on an ambulance since October 2021 for the Grand Ronde Tribe.

Kaylene first heard about the Individual Funding opportunity through some of the other Tribal services at Grand Ronde.

Kaylene is very appreciative and thankful for the help and assistance offered from TERO.

The TERO staff thanks Kaylene for your hard work and great representation!



Kaylene Barry

For more information on the TERO Skills Bank and other TERO opportunities, contact the TERO office or the TERO director. TERO Office: 503-879-2188 or tero@grandronde.org

MARRIAGE ORDINANCE OPEN FOR COMMENT

The Tribal Council adopted amendments to the Marriage Ordinance on an emergency basis at the Oct. 12, 2022, Tribal Council meeting.

The amendments include: 1) Removing the requirement to record marriages with a county recorder or with the Oregon vital statistics office; 2) Providing that any marriage that has been issued a license, had a ceremony and been issued a marriage certificate as authorized by the ordinance is presumed to be valid; 3) Allowing the Court to charge fees for providing additional copies of the Marriage Certificate, and; 4) And other minor and technical edits.

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

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

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

Let's Celebrate!

DECEMBER 31 AT 9PM

YOUTH COUNCIL INVITES YOU TO:
NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY AT TRIBAL GYM
GAMES, SNACKS, PRIZES AND MORE!

9 PM-1 AM
AGES 12-24

THIS IS A DRUG AND ALCOHOL FREE EVENT

It's never too late to heal from addiction.

Have a courageous spirit. Reach out now, for you and your children.

Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Center
Behavioral Health Program
9605 Grand Ronde Rd.
Grand Ronde, OR 97347
503-879-2026



Turkey tossers



Photos by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Facility Department Maintenance Technician Brent Bruckner participates in the 18th annual Turkey Bowling event held at the Youth Education Covered Area on Thursday, Nov. 17. The annual event is sponsored by the Tribe’s Human Resources Department and attracted 33 turkey bowlers. Winners were Leo Ayala, Nick Larsen and Andrew Puerini in the men’s division and Gloria Schwalger, Angie Sears and Hilary Edwards in the women’s competition.



Youth Education Academic Coach Calum Craft bowls a frozen turkey during the 18th annual Turkey Bowling event held at the Youth Education Covered Area on Thursday, Nov. 17.

TO SEE MORE PHOTOS
Find us on 
SmokeSignalsCTGR

MARRIAGES IN GRAND RONDE TRIBAL COURT

Tribal Court is issuing marriage licenses and is able to perform marriage ceremonies for a filing fee of \$40.
Contact the Tribal Court at 503-879-2303. ■



Posted November 18, 2022

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.
1725	Dental Assistant	7	\$19.60/hr.	\$25.42/hr.
1744	Community Health Manager	17	\$103,777.71/yr.	\$135,273.51/yr.
1753	Grant Program Manager	15	\$85,766.70/yr.	\$112,005.60/yr.
1757	Tribal Court Programs Coordinator	9	\$23.71/hr.	\$30.64/hr.
1775	Firefighter/Paramedic Preferred	9	\$49,320.81/yr.	\$63,721.53/yr.
1782	Enrollment Officer	10	\$26.08/hr.	\$33.65/hr.
1784	Literacy Specialist	12	\$31.56/hr.	\$40.58/hr.
1787	Teacher Aide/Bus Monitor - On Call	5	\$16.53/hr.	\$21.10/hr.
1793	Tribal Court Volunteer – Court Appointed Special Advocate			
1794	Enrichment – College Intern PART TIME	5	\$16.53/hr.	\$21.10/hr.
1795	Enrichment Curriculum Developer & Trainer	10	\$26.08/hr.	\$33.65/hr.
1800	Infant/Toddler Teacher – Entry Level	9	\$23.71/hr.	\$30.64/hr.
1806	Secretary - Housing	6	\$18.19/hr.	\$23.15/hr.
1812	Administrative Assistant – Social Services	8	\$21.56/hr.	\$27.90/hr.
1814	TPREP College Intern – Social Services	3	\$16.00/hr.	\$17.54/hr.
1616	Temporary Pool	2	\$16.00/hr.	\$16.00/hr.

Job#	Position Title	Grade	Min. Start Wage	Max Start Wage
1776	Client Registration Specialist - Portland	8	\$21.56/hr.	\$27.90/hr.
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.
1786	Billing-Auditing Specialist - Salem	8	\$21.56/hr.	\$27.90/hr.
1803	OTP Care Coordinator - Portland	9	\$49,320.81/yr.	\$63,721.53/yr.
1804	Substance Use Disorder Therapist - Portland	10	\$54,252.90/yr.	\$69,982.47/yr.
1805	Peer Support Specialist - Portland	9	\$23.71/hr.	\$30.64/hr.
1808	Milieu Safety Technician - Portland	6	\$18.19/hr.	\$23.15/hr.
1809	Milieu Safety Technician PART TIME - Salem	6	\$18.19/hr.	\$23.15/hr.
1810	Substance Use Disorder Therapist – Salem	10	\$54,252.90/yr.	\$69,982.47/yr.
1811	UA Tech PART TIME - Portland	6	\$18.19/hr.	\$23.15/hr.

\$500 Hire-On Bonus - AFC Positions * Lodge Caregivers and CNA's hired after March 4, 2022, are eligible when employed for 120 days.

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde offers generous benefits and competitive pay. ALL POSTINGS ARE OPEN UNTIL FILLED & WILL BE REMOVED WITHOUT NOTICE *

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.

Apply online at: www.grandronde.org

A learning opportunity to reduce parental stress:

How to Handle The Holiday Give-me-ees!



KIM DEMARCHI, M.ED.
Certified Parent Educator,
Family Coach & Speaker

Guest speaker:
Diana Robertson

Join us Monday, 12-5-22 at 8:45 Am

Zoom: bit.ly/happyatholiday

Call: +1 253 215 8782

Enter Meeting ID: 815 3164 1216

Passcode: 749577



Grand Ronde Head Start Preschool





POSTING TITLE	CLOSE DATE	WAGE/SALARY
Amore Waitstaff (Full-Time & *Part-Time)	Until Filled	\$14.58/hr. + Tips
Cage Cashier	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
Surveillance Agent I	Until Filled	\$18.55/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

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.

\$1,000 Hire-On Bonus

All Positions

**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

ALERT on RAINBOW FENTANYL

BACKGROUND

Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that can quickly cause overdose. It is 50 times more potent than heroin and 100 times more potent than morphine, making it a major contributor to the 150+ synthetic overdose deaths occurring every day.

SITUATION

In recent months, brightly colored fentanyl tablets, powder, and blocks that look like candy or sidewalk chalk have been trending nationally amongst our youth (see images below). These products, known as rainbow fentanyl, are targeted to increase addiction in young people and are often packaged in commercial product packaging (such as holiday candy). Due to their potency, very small amounts can cause damage to the brain, and lead to overdoses or overdose death.

ACTION

Naloxone saves lives by reversing opioid overdose. It is quick and easy to administer, with trainings available across the country. Communities, parents, and teachers working with youth should consider educating on the dangers of rainbow fentanyl and seek naloxone training to prevent overdose deaths.

To complete training online, visit <https://www.ihs.gov/opioids/naloxone/naloxonetoolkit/>.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- <https://www.cdc.gov/stopoverdose/fentanyl/index.html>
- <https://www.dea.gov/press-releases/2022/08/30/dea-warns-brightly-colored-fentanyl-used-target-young-americans>
- <https://www.dea.gov/fentanylawareness>



GREAT CIRCLE
RECOVERY

Opioid addiction
can happen to anyone.
So can recovery.

Call us today
1-888-983-9866

Your privacy and confidentiality is
important to us.



ACUPUNCTURE in GRAND RONDE

THURSDAYS

@ 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

Acupuncture in PORTLAND

For tribal members
and employees

(acupuncture covered under Skookum
and employee plans)



TUE, WED, & FRI

4233 S Corbett Ave
Portland, OR 97239
**3 blocks from CTGR Office!

dearbody
ACUPUNCTURE + NATURAL REMEDIES

To schedule or ask questions:
CALL 503-482-9370
EMAIL info@yourdearbody.com



ADVERTISEMENT



How to avoid spinning your wheels when shopping for a used car

Used cars have gotten more expensive during the pandemic. It pays to do some work up front, so you'll feel better driving out. In fact, start by researching the price of cars you're interested in. Then, before you shop for the car, shop for financing. Check with banks, credit unions, and finance companies — you don't have to finance a car through the dealer.



When you think you've found the car you want:



- **Call the dealer.** Make sure the car is really on the lot and get the out-the-door price in writing, before you head to the dealership.



- **Get a vehicle history report and check the Buyer's Guide.** The report will tell you that car's history, and the Guide will tell you if it has a warranty or is being sold "as is."



- **Discuss the out-the-door price first if you want to talk financing with the dealer.** That means the total price, before financing, including taxes and fees.



- **It's ok to say no to add-ons, or at least ask the price.** Add-ons are extra things dealers offer along with the car, like extended warranties and service contracts. Make sure you know what they are, how much they cost, and how they'll change your monthly payment.



- **Review the terms before you sign for the purchase and financing.** Make sure everything you agreed to is in writing. Spoken promises are hard to enforce.



FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

To learn more, visit [ftc.gov/usedcars](https://www.ftc.gov/usedcars). If you spot a scam, report it to the Federal Trade Commission at [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](https://www.ftc.gov/ReportFraud).