



DECEMBER 1, 2023

SMOKE SIGNALS

UMPQUA · MOLALLA · ROGUE RIVER · KALAPUYA · CHASTA

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



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

A 26,000-square-foot Child Development Center will be constructed where the current softball field is on the Tribal campus. The building will take approximately one year to construct and should be open in December 2024.

Tribal Council approves contract to build Child Development Center

By Dean Rhodes
Publications coordinator

Tribal Council approved a \$16.3 million contract with Triplett Wellman of Woodburn on Wednesday, Nov. 15, to construct a new Child Development Center on the Tribal campus.

Engineering and Planning Manager Ryan Webb said during the Tuesday, Nov. 14, Legislative Action Committee meeting that the one-story, 26,000-square-foot building will include 12 classrooms, outdoor play areas, community room, large commercial kitchen, 16 administrative offices, break room, restrooms and other support areas.

"It's a big building," Webb added.

The building will be constructed where the current softball field is located adjacent to the old powwow grounds courtyard in front of the Governance Center. The area was recently fenced off in preparation for construction to begin.

Webb said the building will take approximately one year to construct and should be open in December 2024.

Funding for the Child Development Center is a combination of American Rescue Plan Act monies, grants from foundations and Tribal dollars, Webb added.

In other action, Tribal Council:

- Approved the seventh supplemental budget of 2023 to allocate \$2.94 million more for the construction of the Public Health/Vaccine Clinic building currently under construction at the entrance to the Tribal cam-

See MEETING
continued on page 5



Photos by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal Elder and Ceremonial Hunting Board member Steve Rife shakes hands with Tribal member Vivyan Lopez as he and everyone else who worked on the Tribe's memorandum of agreement with the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife are honored during the Tribe's 40th Restoration Celebration at Spirit Mountain Casino's Event Center on Sunday, Nov. 19.

Celebrating 40 years of Restoration

By Sherron Lumley
Smoke Signals staff writer

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde celebrated 40 years of restoration at a banquet and powwow held at Spirit Mountain Casino on Sunday, Nov. 19.

"Today we rejoice and celebrate

40 years of being restored, from a one-room shack in the cemetery to what we have today," Tribal Council member Jon A. George said. "We knew inside us we were Grand Ronde people."

Restoration Day celebrates Nov. 22, 1983, a major turning point for the Confederated Tribes of Grand

Ronde and all generations to come. Through the efforts of Tribal Elders, restoration of Tribal status became a reality only after many long years of enduring hardship upon hardship, decimation, removal and the Western Oregon Indian Termination Act of 1954.

The first order of Restoration Day was honoring Tribal ancestors. Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy joined George, who led the atudship ceremony at the Grand Ronde cemetery that morning to commemorate those who have walked on and pray for commu-

See RESTORATION
continued on pages 10-11

Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy gives a welcome during the Tribe's 40th Restoration Celebration at Spirit Mountain Casino's Event Center on Sunday, Nov. 19.



General Council meeting

11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 3

Tribal Council Chambers

Tribal members can participate remotely via Zoom and in-person attendance. Call 503-879-2304 for more information.

NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings

DATE	TIME
Wednesday, Dec. 13.....	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 27.....	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 Zoom.

LETTERS

Dear *Smoke Signals*,

A quick note to thank all who contributed to the food drive for iskam məkʰmək haws.

There was 522 pounds of food collected and this was distributed last weekend, thanks to you good folks. Anavey Smith sends her appreciation and gratitude.

Feeling inspired, she has decided to organize a Christmas food drive. Look for collection barrels at the Governance Center, Community Center and Elder Activity Center.

Masi,
Lorena Rivera
Roll No. 980

Dear *Smoke Signals*:

What a wonderful keepsake edition of *Smoke Signals* on Nov. 15, 2023! Thank you for your hard work and dedication to the Tribal members and community.

Rosemary Jameson
Roll No. 883

Dear *Smoke Signals*:

I've just started exploring the special edition insert of *Smoke Signals* about the 40 Years of Restoration, and I'm already captivated by the depth and presentation of the content. It feels like I just received a new book.

Last Sunday, my family and I had the honor of attending the 40th Restoration event. Although we are not Native American, the warmth and kindness extended by everyone we encountered was truly amazing. An Elder seated beside me generously shared her insights and guided me through each part of the event.

These moments remind me of my childhood in Oklahoma, where my father introduced me to the Cherokee and Creek cultures. Now, as a father myself, sharing similar cultural experiences with my son brings me great joy. Our visits to the Chachalu Museum and events at achaf-hammi (Tribal plankhouse) have significantly deepened our understanding and appreciation for your rich culture.

Even at 50, these interactions have inspired me to enroll in courses on sociology and anthropology. The insights shared in *Smoke Signals* are invaluable.

Thank you for all the hard work and dedication.
hayu masi,
Francis Meetze
Tillamook

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.

TRIBAL OFFICE CLOSURES

Tribal offices will be closing noon Friday, Dec. 22, and all day on Monday, Dec. 25, in observance of Christmas. Offices also will be closing noon Friday, Dec. 29, and all day on Monday, Jan. 1, in observance of New Year's Day.

smok signalz

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DEADLINE DATE	ISSUE DATE
FRIDAY, DEC. 8	DEC. 15
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 27	JAN. 1, 2024
MONDAY, JAN. 8	JAN. 15, 2024
FRIDAY, FEB. 9	FEB. 1, 2024
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 23	MARCH 1, 2024

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)

- tałlam-pi-wakwst-mun (December)
- Friday, Dec. 1 – Missing & Murdered Indigenous People Awareness Dinner, 5 to 7:30 p.m., Tribal gym, 9615 Grand Ronde Road.
 - Friday and Saturday, Dec. 1-2 – Elder Committee Holiday Bazaar, Chachalu Tribal Museum & Cultural Center, 8720 Grand Ronde Road. Friday hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 - Sunday, Dec. 3 – General Council meeting, 11 a.m., in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 503-879-2304.
 - Friday, Dec. 8 – Elder Christmas Bazaar, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Elder Activity Center on Blacktail Drive. 503-560-1786.
 - Saturday, Dec. 9 – Tribal Council Holiday Party, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Spirit Mountain Casino, 26820 Salmon River Highway, Grand Ronde. 503-879-2304.
 - Wednesday, Dec. 13 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 503-879-2304.
 - Wednesday, Dec. 13 – Elder Community Outreach Fair, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Elder Activity Center on Blacktail Drive. 503-560-1786.
 - Monday, Dec. 25 – Tribal offices closed in observance of the Christmas holiday.
 - Wednesday, Dec. 27 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 503-879-2304.
- ixt-mun (January)
- Monday, Jan. 1 – Tribal offices closed in observance of the New Year's Day holiday.
 - Sunday, Jan. 7 – General Council meeting, 11 a.m., in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 503-879-2304.
 - Wednesday, Jan. 10 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 503-879-2304.
 - Monday, Jan. 15 – Tribal offices closed in observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. Day holiday.
 - Wednesday, Jan. 24 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 503-879-2304.

To stay informed of future Tribal events, visit www.smokesignals.org/calendar.

Food drive success



Photos by Michelle Alaimo

Senior Miss Grand Ronde Anavey Smith puts away graham cracker pie crusts at the Grand Ronde Food Bank, iskam mək^hmək haws, on Wednesday, Nov. 15. Smith organized a food drive, which ran from Oct. 20 to Nov. 15, with drop-off locations at the Governance Center, Community Center and Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Center, and collected 522 pounds of food. The food was added to the Thanksgiving food boxes that were distributed on Saturday, Nov. 18. Feeling inspired, she has decided to organize a Christmas food drive with drop-off locations at the Governance Center, Community Center and the Elder Activity Center.



Senior Miss Grand Ronde Anavey Smith weighs food at the Grand Ronde Food Bank, iskam mək^hmək haws, on Wednesday, Nov. 15. Smith weighed and unpacked the food that was collected during the food drive that she organized. She has volunteered at the iskam mək^hmək haws since 2021.

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Ad by Samuel Briggs III

Minors!

TRUST FUND

Do you want to know more?

What are my accounts?
What are my options?
How do I access my account?
What about taxes?
Where can I go for financial advice?

The answers to all of these questions and more can be found on the Tribal website / member services.
<https://www.grandronde.org/services/member-services/>

YOUR MONEY YOUR FUTURE

Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
Member Services Department
9615 Grand Ronde Road
Grand Ronde, OR 97347
503-879-2116
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Food Bank news

The Grand Ronde Food Bank – iskam məkʰmæk 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. The upcoming holidays may affect distribution dates.

Contact Ambrose at fambrose@marionpolkfoodshare.org or call 503-879-3663 for more information.

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. Contact Ambrose for more information or to volunteer. ■

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 məkʰmæk haws, 9675 Grand Ronde Road. Chair: Francene Ambrose.
- **Editorial Board** meets monthly. The next meeting will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 15, at Spirit Mountain Casino: 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: Carmen Robertson.
- **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: Reyn Leno.
- **Health Committee** meets at 10 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month in the Molalla Room of the Health & Wellness Center. Chair: Darlene Aaron.
- **Housing Grievance Board** meets at 4 p.m. the third Thursday of the month in the Housing Department conference room. Chair: Shayla Myrick-Meyer.
- **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 Smoke Signals Editor Danielle Harrison at 503-879-4663 or danielle.harrison@grandronde.org.

Clothes Closet open

The Clothes Closet is open from 9 a.m. to noon Friday on the Tribal campus near the Elders Activity Center at the end of Blacktail Drive.

The Clothes Closet accepts clothing, small appliances and 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. ■



2018 – The 35th Restoration Celebration drew 400 to Spirit Mountain Casino, including all Tribal Council members, Gov. Kate Brown and former Rep. Les AuCoin. Tribal Council Secretary Jon A. George announced a life-sized bronze statue honoring Merle Holmes, Marvin



2018

File photo

Kimsey and Margaret Provost would be created by Steve Bobb Sr. and placed in front of the Governance Center. “The three key Restoration Elders have since walked on – Kimsey and Provost earlier this year,” George said. Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy urged young people to talk to Elders who experienced Termination by the federal government in 1954.

2013 – The Tribe’s Land and Culture staff hosted the first annual history conference with Tribal Historian David Lewis. “We’ve come a long way from our 2.5-acre cemetery,” Tribal Council Vice Chair Jack Giffen Jr. said in opening remarks to 150 attendees. Tribal Archaeologist Briece Edwards discussed cultural connections in ceded lands. Attendees included faculty from several universities, Willamette National Forest, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Oregon Historical Society, Oregon Geographic Names Board and the Willamette Falls Heritage Area Coalition.

2008 – The 25th anniversary of Restoration chronicled the early days of Tribal members meeting in churches, restaurants and Chemawa Indian School. The Temporary Council of the Grand Ronde Indians in 1975 included Marvin Kimsey, Merle Holmes, Margaret Provost, Patti Martin, Vicki Lawrence, Darrell Mercier, Russ Leno, Les Houck and Ken Hudson. On Dec. 7, 1975, the Council Treasurer noted a balance of \$2.27 and Holmes received a letter from Sen. Bob Packwood.

2003 – The Willamina High School girls’ volleyball team, led by Tribal youth, made the state playoffs held at Pacific University in Forest Grove. This was only the second time in the school’s history that this happened. The team went on to place fourth in the 2A division.

1998 – In its first business foray into the Portland area, the Tribe invested \$3.7 million in a \$44 million transit-friendly housing, retail and office project. It included 480 dwellings, a child care facility and community center. Located near the MAX line in southeast Portland, the housing complex would include 40 percent affordable housing. “Our ancestors lived where Portland is now and many of our Tribal members still live there,” Tribal Council Chairwoman Kathryn Harrison said. “We’re proud to help build good housing that people can afford.”

1993 – The 10th anniversary of Tribal Restoration included a mini powwow at Grand Ronde grade school. Special guests included former Rep. Les AuCoin, who introduced the Grand Ronde Restoration Bill to Congress in 1983, his wife Sue, Don Wharton of the Native American Rights Fund, and State Sen. Dick Springer. Powwow Committee Chairman Merle Leno, his wife Claudia and Janell Haller were recognized for their many years of services and for organizing the event.

1988 – A higher education and career awareness workshop, sponsored by the Tribe’s education program, was held at the Nazarene Church in Grand Ronde. Participating colleges included Western Oregon State College, Eastern Oregon State College, the University of Oregon, Portland State University and Chemeketa Community College.

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

Drop box installed

The Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department, 9655 Grand Ronde Road, 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. ■

Timber revenue payment of \$741 to be made Dec. 12

MEETING continued from front page

pus off Grand Ronde Road. The 10,000-square-foot building near the clinic will include epidemiology services, exercise classes, social activities and vaccination clinics. It also will have a demonstration kitchen and outdoor salmon pit and gathering area. The project is being funded by an Indian Community Development Block Grant and Health & Wellness Clinic revenues;

- Approved an amendment to a cooperative agreement with the Environmental Protection Agency that will fund the Tribe’s work on the Portland Harbor Super-

fund Site cleanup in 2024. Lands Department Project Administrator Brandy Humphreys said the Tribe is requesting \$417,254 in 2024 because a lot of remedial work is on tap in 2024;

- Approved a \$741 timber revenue payment to be made in conjunction with the fourth-quarter per capita distribution on Tuesday, Dec. 12;
- 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 Videos tab. ■

Tribal Council approve conservation property acquisition

By Danielle Harrison
Smoke Signals editor

Tribal Council approved a resolution to acquire a 57.8-acre property donation during its Wednesday, Nov. 29, meeting.

Tribal Lands Manager Jan Reibach said during the Tuesday, Nov. 28, Legislative Action Committee meeting that due to the declining health of the property owner and his “strong desire” to donate the land to the Tribe, the property known as Deer Path East near Falls City needed to be transferred as soon as possible.

“If things go well, we will own it by the end of the year,” Reibach said.

The property will be pulled out of the total 110 acres that the Tribe will eventually acquire as part of the Willamette Wildlife Mitigation Program. In 2022, the Tribe’s Natural Resources Department submitted an application to the program to begin the acquisition process.

“It is the largest donation in Willamette Wildlife Mitigation Program history,” Reibach said.

The Tribe will pay the approximate \$45,000 closing costs out of the Lands Department’s existing 2023 budget and be reimbursed later by Bonneville Power Administration. A conservation easement will be

granted to BPA.

Deer Path East will become the Tribe’s 12th conservation property and increase the conservation property acreage to more than 2,051 acres.

In other action, Tribal Council:

- Approved the fourth amendment to the Bureau of Indian Affairs Self-Governance funding agreement. The Tribe will receive \$3,652,713 in 2024, which is an increase of \$692,107 from 2023;
- Approved appointing Tribal Council member Matthew Haller to the Spirit Mountain Gaming Inc. Board of Directors with a term ending on Sept. 30, 2026, or until he is no longer on Tribal Council;
- Set the agenda for the Sunday, Dec. 3, General Council meeting. The Natural Resources Department will give a program report. Additionally, there will be Elders Committee nominations taken both virtually and in-person;
- And approved an amended contract between the Tribe and GLAS Architects of Eugene for professional services relating to a future Tribal charter school.

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



WIFI HOTSPOTS



NOW AVAILABLE FOR CHECKOUT AT THE TRIBAL LIBRARY!

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.



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. ■

WOMEN'S HEALING CIRCLE

A safe space to come together and support one another through community healing. We will be discussing ideas for the new year- personally and for the group. Bring one of your favorite holiday dishes for the Potluck.

Monday December 18th, 2023
10am-1pm
4445 SW Barbur Blvd
#101
Portland, OR 97239





PLEASE JOIN US FOR A Tribal Council Holiday Party

Spirit Mountain Casino
Saturday, December 9, 2023
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
11:30 a.m. Lunch buffet
Hot Chocolate Station

Tribal Police officers honored for lifesaving efforts

By Sherron Lumley
Smoke Signals staff writer

The Oregon Peace Officers Association honored the lifesaving efforts of Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department officers Angel Arenas and Austin Gomez at its annual statewide awards banquet at Spirit Mountain Casino on Friday, Nov. 17.

The awards are given to law enforcement personnel and citizens throughout Oregon for exemplary deeds and service in their communities.

Both men used CPR in separate emergency situations this year, each saving a life. Gomez received a Lifesaving Award and Arenas was presented with a Lifesaving Award with Valor.

“I’m really proud of their bravery, composure and training to give lifesaving actions,” Tribal Police Chief Jake McKnight said. “These were proactive patrolling calls that show how important it is that the Tribe has its own police department.”

At 1:28 p.m. Thursday, March 9, Gomez responded within one minute to an emergency dispatch call to the intersection of Fire Hall and Andy Riggs roads in Grand Ronde.

“I arrived on scene and observed a white Mazda CX-9 parked on the side of the road with its hazard lights on,” he said. “Hanging out the driver’s door was a male unconscious, not breathing, and his skin was a bluish gray.”

When the man did not respond and based on the original call details, Gomez administered Naloxone, an overdose reversal medicine, into



Photos by Michelle Alaimo

Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department Officer Austin Gomez is awarded the Life Saving Award during the Oregon Peace Officers Association Law Enforcement Awards Banquet at Spirit Mountain Casino’s Event Center on Friday, Nov. 17.

each nostril. He then performed seven minutes of CPR

“The male would breathe on his own for a moment then would become unresponsive again,” Gomez said.

He continued CPR until medics arrived.

The incident Arenas responded to occurred during a routine patrol at 4 p.m. Wednesday, May 24.

“I was driving through the Tribal main campus



Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department Officer Angel Arenas, middle, is awarded the Life Saving Award with Valor during the Oregon Peace Officers Association Law Enforcement Awards Banquet. At left is OPOA Board of Directors past President Robert Wirt and OPOA Board of Directors incoming President Darren Pomeroy is on the right.

and saw a mother holding her child in distress yelling for help,” he said. “I quickly exited my police vehicle and saw the child was having a severe medical issue and was not responsive at the time. I called for medical personnel to respond to my location. While medics were in route, I started providing medical aid to the child to include CPR, and was able to get the child conscious and alert by the time medical personnel arrived on scene.”

Tribal Police provide service 24 hours a day, seven days a week to the Grand Ronde community, and respond to local calls through a mutual aid agreement with Yamhill County. ■

Willamina opens discussions with Tribe for law enforcement contract

By Sherron Lumley
Smoke Signals staff writer

The Willamina City Council voted unanimously to begin discussions with the Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department regarding the city’s law enforcement contract in a public meeting held on Tuesday, Nov. 14.

Currently, through a mutual aid agreement, Tribal Police and Yamhill County coordinate coverage for the city of Willamina, although this is not a monetary agreement.

The Yamhill County Sheriff’s Office, which has provided law

enforcement under contract to Willamina for 30 years, and city councilors expressed appreciation and admiration for the Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department.

“The Sheriff’s Department and Tribal Police just blend and it has been a relief,” Patrol Capt. Sam Elliot said. “We have been so completely impressed. They do a tremendous job.”

The Tribal Police Department, with approval from Tribal Council, approached Willamina city staff about the law enforcement contract,

which runs annually from July 1 to June 30.

“We do work well together,” Tribal Police Chief Jake McKnight said. “At this point, we are just going to have some talks.”

Oregon law allow cities to contract with county sheriffs and governing bodies for police services to incorporated cities.

In fiscal year 2023-24, Willamina Mayor Ila Skyberg and outgoing Yamhill County Sheriff Tim Svenson signed the annual \$358,553 agreement for police services, paid in monthly installments of \$29,879. This covers personnel expenses, such as salaries, health and life insurance for two deputies, overtime, vehicle costs and uniforms. This is an increase from \$299,655 in 2021 and \$338,454 in 2022.

Willamina City Manager and Budget Officer Bridget Meneley addressed an underlying issue in her written summary: “Police departments, nationwide, have experienced a staffing shortage. Yamhill County Sheriff’s Office is included in that shortage and is not able to maintain an adequate minimum staffing level and effectively conduct policing for the entire county.”

Grand Ronde could provide three full-time officers, a supervisor and adequate minimum staffing levels within Willamina’s current law enforcement budget, McKnight said. There also would be an increase in

community engagement opportunities working collaboratively with Willamina city staff.

“We are asking for a decision in the next couple of months, by mid-January or so, to have time to hire on and train,” McKnight said.

Willamina pays for the law enforcement contract through a combination of general fund monies and a public safety fee. The city’s total budget for fiscal year 2023-24 is \$10,039,724.

In addition to infrastructure improvements, Willamina anticipates economic development, planning and land use development, increasing the number of homes and franchise fees, according to the fiscal year 2023-24 budget message.

As Willamina prepares for growth, its leaders “aim to provide the most complete service to our community,” which includes adequate law enforcement.

The Tribe has greatly expanded the emergency services it provides to the West Valley area since building a fire station in Grand Ronde in 2010.

In 2020, the Tribe and the West Valley Fire District worked out a transition plan for the Tribe to assume control and operations in Grand Ronde. In 2022, Tribal Council approved a five-year agreement to operate the Willamina Fire Station from Jan. 1, 2023, through Dec. 31, 2027. ■



12/1/23

5:00PM-7:30PM

-Location-

Tribal Gymnasium

9615 Grand Ronde Rd,

Grand Ronde, OR 97347

Missing & Murdered Indigenous People

AWARENESS DINNER

• Traditional Meal

• Speakers

• Education

• Awareness

• Raffle

#MMIP

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. ■

Fowl bowling

Almost 50 employees participated in the 19th annual Turkey Bowling event held at the Youth Education building’s covered area on Thursday, Nov. 16. In the women’s division, Grand Ronde Emergency Services Firefighter-EMT Jennifer Colton won first place, Human Resources Department Senior Executive Assistant Danielle Dickey won second place and Tribal Attorney’s Office Manager/Paralegal Kerrina Mishler placed third. In the men’s division, Facilities & Maintenance Department Maintenance Technician Brent Bruckner took first place, Youth Empowerment & Prevention Program Teen Pregnancy Prevention Coordinator Matt Bucknell took second and Natural Resources Department Forester Justin Fasana placed third.



Photos by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal Attorney’s Office Manager/Paralegal Kerrina Mishler reacts when the turkey did not release as she bowls during the 19th annual Turkey Bowling event on Thursday, Nov. 16.

Natural Resources Department Forester Justin Fasana bowls his way to a third place finish during the 19th annual Turkey Bowling event.



Prepare for tax season

Help us get your tax documents to you in a timely manner:
It is that time of the year where we in the Finance Department are starting to prepare for tax season.
In an effort to have current information for W2s and 1099s, we are asking everyone who has moved in the last calendar year to update their address.

How to update:
If you are a Tribal member, contact Member Services at memberservices@grandronde.org or 503-879-2116.
If you are an employee, contact Human Resources at compensation_HRIS@grandronde.org or 503-879-2109 and the reception desk will direct your call to the appropriate person. Alternatively, an employee can make any updates in the timesheet module as well.
If you have recently updated your address at the clinic/pharmacy, you will still need to update your information with either Member Services and/or Human Resources. The clinic/pharmacy does not share your private information due to HIPAA regulations.
Remember that even if you have direct deposit you will need to update your address, as W2s and 1099s are mailed.
The Finance Department thanks you in advance for your assistance in making the upcoming tax season go as smoothly as possible.
The deadline for updating addresses is **Sunday, Dec. 31, 2023**. We cannot guarantee changes after this date. Both W2 and 1099MISC forms will be mailed before the Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2024 deadline. ■

Youth Community Gathering

CTGR YOUTH COUNCIL
WITH A THANKS TO YEP FOR SUPERVISION

COME AND LEARN SINGING, DANCING & MEAL
WITH YOUTH COUNCIL AT THE TRIBAL GYM!

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL AGE YOUTH

DATE	DECEMBER 3, SUNDAY
TIME	4:00 - DOORS OPEN 4:30 - MEAL 5:00 - SINGING & DANCING 6:00 - CLOSING

FOR QUESTIONS CONTACT ANGEY @ 503.879.4533

The Elder Committee invites you to attend

Holiday Bazaar

Where: Chachalu Gym
8720 Grand Ronde Road

When: Dec. 1-2

Time: Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Saturday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Call Tammy Cook 503-879-2130 vendors.

Grand Ronde Editorial Board
position opening

The Grand Ronde Editorial Board, a Tribal board assigned the duty by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde (“Grand Ronde”) of overseeing its independent Tribal press (*Smoke Signals*), invites applications to serve on the Grand Ronde Editorial Board. There will be one (1) open board position occurring in March 2024.

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 Indigenous 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: 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 1, 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: 503-879-4663
Email: editorial.board@grandronde.org

Tribe receives \$2 million EPA
grant to reduce basin toxins

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde has received almost \$2 million from the Environmental Protection Agency to help reduce toxins in the Columbia River Basin.

As part of the agency’s 2023 Tribal Grants announced on Thursday, Nov. 16, the EPA is investing \$31.7 million across seven Oregon projects and programs designed to reduced toxins in fish and water, address climate change and help restore the health of the almost 260,000-square-mile basin, which includes the Willamette River.

EPA Administrator Michael Regan visited Oregon in August 2022 at the invitation of Sen. Jeff Merkley to, among other things, announce new investments from the recently passed infrastructure law that would support reducing toxins in the Columbia River Basin.

“EPA is taking decisive action to protect public health and the environment for Oregonians and people across the nation,” Regan said during his visit. “We passed the infrastructure law, investing billions in important work like the restoration of the Columbia River Basin, as we’re poised to make historic investments to combat the climate crisis through the Inflation Reduction Act, which will deliver relief to families dealing with the devastating impacts of our greatest climate challenges.”

Regan announced a five-year, \$79 million investment from the infrastructure law to protect the Columbia River Basin, including \$6.9 million in Clean Water Act grants to be awarded for projects to reduce toxins in fish and water, and address climate impacts in communities.

The Columbia River Basin spans 16 federally recognized Tribal nations and seven states from Oregon and Washington to Wyoming.

Over decades, it has been contaminated by toxic waste from agriculture, forestry, recreation and hydroelectric power generation, which has harmed the health of wildlife and left some fish species threatened, endangered or unsafe for consumption.

The Grand Ronde Toxics Reduction Planning and Action Project will launch a new effort to reduce toxic pollution in the Willamette River Basin and allow for development of a formalized toxics reduction plan for the first time. The project hopes to improve the health and well-being of Tribal members and improve water quality for fish and wildlife.

“We are pleased to partner with the EPA to reduce toxic pollution,” Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy said in a press release. “As longtime stewards of the land and water in the Willamette Valley, the Grand Ronde are committed to protecting and restoring clean water, salmon and healthy communities.” ■

MARRIAGES IN TRIBAL COURT

Tribal Court is issuing marriage licenses and able to perform marriage ceremonies for a filing fee of \$40.

Contact the Tribal Court at 503-879-2303. ■

Gas discount in Grand Ronde

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. ■



BULLYPROOF
YOUR CHILD

Learn how to recognize the roles in bullying: the bully, the victim, the bystander, the upstander, and the relational aggressor.

MONDAY
12/4/23
12-1 ON ZOOM
All are welcome.



Please use the link or QR code to join us.

<https://bit.ly/CTGRPT2324>

EMPOWER YOURSELF. EMPOWER YOUR CHILD.
WWW.EMPOWEREDPARENTING.COM



ELDER COMMUNITY OUTREACH FAIR

December, 13th from 11am to 1pm

At the Elder Activity Center
9615 Grand Ronde Road.

Grand Ronde, Oregon

Come join us and have a conversation with Northwest Senior and Disability Services from Tillamook and Polk County. Raffle prizes for those that sign-in and stop by our table!

Sponsored by Community Programs, Tribal Navigator

Please Contact Chris Martin at 503-560-1786 if you have any questions.

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, 2023, the 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 21GC4105300) funds under Title I of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, to undertake a project known as Child Care Center Project for the purpose of constructing a new 26,000 square foot, one-story educational building on an open and largely flat vacant lot. The new building will be comprised of twelve classrooms, outdoor play areas, community room, large commercial kitchen, sixteen 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 40-parking 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 \$16,300,000
Grant Amount \$ 750,000

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The 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. 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, 2023, to meet the Request for Release of Funds date of Dec. 22, 2023, reporting date.

Additionally, the EA will be available via a file sharing link by emailing Ryan Webb at Ryan.Webb@grandronde.org. Place "Request to Review EA" in the email subject line. An email 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 email 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, 2023, 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

The 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 the 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 addressed and submitted to the HUD designated email 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

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA) AND
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)
FOR THE PROPOSED 2024-2033 NATURAL
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN (NRMP),
CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF GRAND RONDE
RESERVATION AND
TRIBAL TRUST FOREST LANDS

SUMMARY: This notice is to advise Tribal members that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) as lead federal agency, with the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon, has prepared a final Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the proposed 2024-2033 NRMP. This notice also announces the EA and FONSI are now available for review digitally or in hard copy at the addresses below. Enrolled Grand Ronde Tribal members may submit comments on the EA and FONSI for a period of 30 days following the publishing of this notice (Comment Period).

ADDRESSES: You may request an emailed digital copy of the EA and FONSI online by visiting <https://weblink.grandronde.org/Forms/NatResEA2023> anytime during the Comment Period and submitting the online form. You may request a hard copy of the EA and FONSI by writing the BIA Northwest Region Office, Division of Environmental & Cultural Resource Management (DECRM), 911 N.E. 11th Ave., Portland, OR 97232-4169, or by mailing a request postage prepaid to the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Natural Resources Department (NRD), ATTN: Michael Karnosh, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347 during the Comment Period. Your request must include your full name, Roll Number, address where you want the hard copy mailed, and a phone number where you can be reached. Please note that Tribal offices will close at noon Friday, Dec. 29, 2023, and may be closed at additional times for inclement weather or other reasons, with or without notice.

COMMENTS: You may submit digital written comments to the EA and FONSI online by visiting <https://weblink.grandronde.org/Forms/NatResEA2023-comment> during the Comment Period. You may submit comments on paper by mailing them, postage prepaid, to the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Natural Resources Department (NRD), ATTN: Michael Karnosh, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347. Comments received from enrolled Grand Ronde Tribal members at the NRD Office by the end of the Comment Period will be considered. Your comments must include your full name, Roll Number, address, and phone number.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Tobiah Mogavero, BIA Regional NEPA Coordinator, at 971-940-5875, or Michael Karnosh, Timber Resource Program manager, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, at 503-879-2383. Business hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays and administrative leave.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: The Grand Ronde Reservation is comprised of 10,212 legal acres of primarily forest lands. It lies approximately 18 miles west of McMinnville and six miles north of the community of Grand Ronde. The legal description includes sections within Township 4 South Range 7 West, Township 4 South Range 8 West, Township 5 South Range 7 West, Township 5 South Range 8 West, and Township 5 South Range 9 West, Willamette Meridian, Yamhill County, Oregon.

AUTHORITY: This notice is published pursuant to 43 CFR 46.305 of the Department of the Interior Regulations (43 CFR 46 et seq.), the procedural requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4371 et seq.), and in accordance with the exercise of authority delegated to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs by 209 DM 8. ■



Prepared by JBS International, Inc., under Grant No. 3179711023000-0151 for the U.S. DHHS - SAMHSA, CSAT

It's never too
late to heal
from addiction.

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

'I knew what it was like n



Kwestaani Chuski Stuart, 2, participates in grand entry at the Tribe's 40th Restoration Powwow at Spirit Mountain Casino's Event Center on Sunday, Nov. 19.



Willow Squetimkin, 7, dances in the Squetimkin Girls Fancy Dance special during the 40th Restoration

RESTORATION continued from front page

nity healing.

It was the first Restoration Day without key Restoration figure and longtime Tribal Council member Kathryn Harrison, who walked on in May at the age of 99.

The rain held off and sunshine peeked through the silver clouds, leading to a late morning double rainbow arcing over Spirit Mountain.

After the morning ceremony, the day's events shifted to the Spirit Mountain Casino Event Center, where the banquet room was set for 777 people. As guests filled every table, the Canoe Family opened with singing and drumming, and Grand Ronde Royalty and Veterans Royalty performed "The



TO SEE MORE PHOTOS AND VIDEO



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@SmokeSignalsCTGR

Lord's Prayer" on stage. George, the program emcee, introduced Kennedy, who delivered the day's main speech.

"Restoration is not complete," Kennedy said. "Our culture remains to be restored."

Addressing those born in the last 40 years, she added, "You have a Tribe who helps you and supports you. You have a home, a homeland that lies right here under our feet. Listen to the stories of your people. Know who you are."

Kennedy asked the Tribal mem-

bers who lived during the period of Termination to stand, and a handful in the large banquet hall stood. The eldest Elder present was Lorene Smith, 98.

"We owe a debt of gratitude for those who suffered through Termination," Kennedy said. "These few who are standing, thank you. Through the spirit of our grandfathers, we are able to be here today."

All nine Tribal Council members attended Restoration. In addition to Kennedy and Jon A. George, they are Vice Chair Chris Mercier, Lisa Leno, Kathleen George, Matthew Haller, Denise Harvey, Secretary Michael Cherry and Brenda Tuomi.

Kennedy also acknowledged former Tribal Council members in attendance, which included Candy Robertson and Henry Petite, who served on the first post-Restoration Tribal Council; and former long-

time Tribal Council Chair Reyn Leno and past Tribal Council member Tonya Gleason-Shepek.

"I knew what it was like not to have a homeland," Kennedy said. "When we were terminated everything was taken."

Describing how tenacious founders gathered late into the night to work on the long process of Restoration, she said, "We are a resilient, strong people who work on things together. We don't give up."

Kennedy thanked behind-the-scenes staff who helped with the event including Tribal Council Chief of Staff Stacia Hernandez, Tribal Council Coordinator Chelsea Baranski, Tribal Council Administrative Assistant Shannon Ham-Texeira, Tribal Council Executive Assistant Lauri Smith, Communications Director Sara Thompson and many others.

After the video "Honoring our Homelands" featuring Mercier, an invocation was led by Jon A. George.

The banquet began with the Elders first and Royalty members serving plates of food throughout the room.

"I really love working with my



Satara Blanchard, 14, dances in the Squetimkin and Hernandez family Junior Girls Fancy Dance special.



Spirit Mountain Casino Executive Chef Sean Huey, left, serves Tribal Elder Floriene Hoff a slice of prime rib during lunch.

Photos by Michelle Alaimo

not to have a homeland'



and Hernandez family Junior
ration Powwow.

Tribe," Veterans Royalty Little Miss Queen Ulali Quenelle, 8, said as she helped serve the meal.

Preparations for the 40th anniversary meal began months in advance. The feast included baked salmon, prime rib and elk stew. "I love cooking elk," Executive Chef Sean Huey said. "We had to order it three months ahead of time because with game you never know. The simple elk stew took a lot of planning. I'm happy."

Buffet Sous Chef Brett Hutton and Pastry Chef Jose Moran were justifiably proud of the banquet, which included local vegetables, fruits and desserts. These included marionberry, huckleberry, blueberry, pecan, apple and pumpkin pies.

Many artisans filled the corridors of the Event Center, displaying their work for sale. One vendor was Tribal member Melanie Monson. "I just learned in the last year how to weave beargrass. I am going to start harvesting up on Marys Peak or Mount Hood," she said.

The pine nuts in her jewelry come from a harvest in California and the dentalium are mollusk shells. Those come from another Tribal member's business, Rogue River Trading.

Tribal member and Tribal artist Nick LaBonte stood behind a table filled with handmade wood carvings near the entrance. "Half the people here are family," he said, greeting Jesse and Ken Robertson.

The two Robertson brothers came with another brother, Lynn Robertson, and their mother Ida Patterson. All are Grand Ronde Tribal Elders.

Near the center of the room, Alyssa Thompson, 17, was attending her first Restoration event with her mother, Tribal member Jamie White, and grandmother, Tribal Elder Robin Martin. "It's a new experience for me," she said. "I am



Tribal Elder Lorene Smith watches dancers during the 40th Restoration Powwow at Spirit Mountain Casino's Event Center on Sunday, Nov. 19. At age 98, Smith is the oldest living Tribal member and traveled from California to attend the event.

enjoying it, listening to drums and listening to prayers."

Tribal Elder Joyce Dowd Ham, 92, drove herself to Restoration from Portland. "It is great to come and see friends from long ago," she said. "I tell people I drive better than I walk."

Her grandchildren, Tribal members Joseph Ham and Shannon Ham-Teixeira, stood next to her, along with 8-year-old great-granddaughter Gabby Teixeira.

"My mom, dad, sister, me, brother-in-law, niece, uncle and grandma came today from Grand Ronde, Portland and Salem," Joseph Ham said.

With the banquet concluded and all raffle prizes given away, the

event hall transformed for the evening powwow. The tables were removed and the chairs were pushed to the perimeter of the room in rows for spectators, while powwow dancers prepared their regalia.

Tribal member Levi Liebelt, father of Nacoma Liebelt, 14, sat near where the grand entry would soon begin. His son was busy putting together porcupine quills, sharing that he has danced in powwows "since I can walk," he said.

Grand entry began at 5:30 p.m. with Emcee Bob Tom (Grand Ronde), Head Drum Bad Soul, Head Woman Nakoosa Moreland Jack (Grand Ronde) and Head Man Nate Norwest (Grand Ronde), Arena Director

Preston Smith (Warm Springs), Youth Emcee/Mic Runners Tidus and Ekias Sabin (Grand Ronde), and the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Veterans Honor Guard.

Jack's infant son Daryl Jack was also dressed for the occasion with a tiny headband.

"I am the head woman dancer and he is assistant," she said, adding she would be throwing a "Mommy-and-Me" dance special.

Tribal members Nakoosa Mercier and his father Bobby Mercier often travel to perform at events throughout the country. They welcomed drummers and singers from many different Tribes.

The powwow was standing room only with people watching over each other's shoulders at every door. During grand entry, the veterans were followed by Tribal Council members, followed by men, women and youth dancers in regalia.

Specials included the Myrick-Meyer Family Tiny Tot, Junior Girls Fancy Dance by the Squetinkin and Hernandez Family with a top prize of \$75, Past Grand Ronde Queen and Royalty by current Grand Ronde Royalty and Veterans Royalty courts, Mommy-and-Me by Nakoosa Moreland Jack with a top prize of \$100 and an all-ages Chicken Dance by Nate Norwest with a prize of \$300.

An honoring also was held during powwow to commemorate the signing of the memorandum of agreement between the Tribe and the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife in August, which expands Tribal ceremonial and cultural hunting and fishing areas on off-Reservation lands, and allows the Tribe to manage this for its members in coordination with the state. ■



Bob Haller, 11, uses the box of a jumbo lounge as a chair during the Tribe's 40th Restoration Celebration at Spirit Mountain Casino's Event Center on Sunday, Nov. 19. His cousin, Tribal member Tonya Gleason-Shepek, won the lounge in the raffle drawing.

TERO holds annual appreciation lunch

By Danielle Harrison
Smoke Signals editor

The annual Tribal Employment Rights Office Appreciation Lunch was held Saturday, Nov. 4, at Spirit Mountain Casino to honor and highlight employees and projects in 2023.

TERO Director Harris Reibach served as master of ceremonies, introducing speakers, presenting awards and announcing raffle winners.

“Just having all of the TERO workers, the Indian-owned businesses and individual funding opportunity recipients in one area with their families, Tribal Council members and the TERO Commission was really special,” he said.

Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy gave the invocation. Tribal Council member

Lisa Leno was also in attendance and spoke on behalf of council to welcome attendees to the event.

“It was a wonderful event,” Kennedy said during a Tuesday, Nov. 7, Legislative Action Committee meeting. “There was lots of appreciation for the program. ... I was glad I could make it.”

A lunch was served to the more than 70 attendees, followed by raffles, an explanation of the various services TERO provides and project statistics, among other presentations.

Reibach introduced the TERO staff to those in attendance. They are Senior Administrative Assistant Caden Leno, Administrative Assistant Kristy Summers, TERO Compliance Officer Duke Kimsey, and Training and Development Coordinator Jacob Boekoff.

TERO Commission members Perry McDaniel and Tracie Meyer spoke on behalf of the commission. They said that Grand Ronde TERO has the best program that they have seen in Indian Country. Reibach spoke about the partnership between TERO and the Oregon Department of Transportation.

Toward the end of the event, the TERO Worker of the Year award was presented. Grand Ronde Tribal member Dakota Rock received the honor for 2023. He was also the April Worker of the Month this year. He is currently dispatched to the I-205 Abernathy Bridge Project in Oregon City and has been a key employee on the many ODOT projects to which he has been referred.

The event concluded with a raffle, dessert table and photos. ■



Photo contributed by Amanda Freeman

The annual Tribal Employment Rights Office Appreciation Lunch was held on Saturday, Nov. 4, at the Spirit Mountain Casino Event Center. More than 70 attended the event. At left, Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy and TERO Commissioner Tracie Meyer share a moment.



FREE INTERNET*

WITH FREE INSTALLATION & MODEM

* = DEPENDING IF YOU QUALIFY FOR THE AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM (ACP). IF YOU DON'T QUALIFY, OTHER SERVICE OPTIONS AVAILABLE. SERVICE AVAILABILITY DEPENDENT ON SEVERAL FACTORS.




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AMERICAN INDIAN TEACHER PROGRAM

Senior Miss Grand Ronde 2023-2024 Anavey Smith is organizing a



Christmas Food Drive

Spread holiday cheer
and make a difference
in our community!

STARTS 11/28/23-12/20/23

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- DROP OFF NON-PERISHABLE FOOD AT A COLLECTION BIN
- MONETARY DONATIONS DIRECTLY TO ISKAM MĒK^hMĒK-HAWS - 503-879-3663

Spread the Joy!

Drop off Collection Bins located at the Grand Ronde Governance building, Community Center and Elder's Activity Center



NOVEMBER 30, 2023 - MARCH 30, 2024

IKANUM



STORIES FROM THE
PACIFIC NORTHWEST





ISKAM
Mak-Mak-Haws





Confederated Tribes
of Grand Ronde

JOIN YCAP FOR DINNER & CONVERSATION
ABOUT THE GREATEST NEEDS
IN OUR COMMUNITY

WHAT: ENGAGE IN A FACILITATED DISCUSSION WITH YCAP STAFF TO SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT WHAT THE MOST CRITICAL NEEDS ARE IN YAMHILL COUNTY. FOOD AND DOOR PRIZES WILL BE PROVIDED. MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN.

WHEN: THURSDAY DECEMBER 7, 2023 AT 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 PM. DISCUSSION WILL BEGIN AT 6 PM & END ABOUT 7 PM.

WHERE: GRAND RONDE COMMUNITY CENTER, BUILDING B
9615 GRAND RONDE RD, GRAND RONDE, OR 97347



CAN'T ATTEND, NO PROBLEM!
TAKE OUR ANONYMOUS SURVEY INSTEAD TO SHARE
YOUR OPINION AND FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A \$100 GIFT CARD...
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OR SCAN THE QR CODE ABOVE WITH YOUR CAMERA'S PHONE.



Free press freedom



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal Council Vice Chair Chris Mercier speaks as Tribal member and Editorial Board Chair Mia Prickett looks on as the two participate in a panel discussion after a screening of the “Bad Press” documentary at the Tomorrow Theater in Portland on Sunday, Nov. 26. The documentary follows the Muscogee (Creek) Nation’s journey to a free and independent Tribal press. The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and *Smoke Signals* received a shout-out in the film as one of only five Tribes in the country with a free press.

TO SEE THE VIDEO
Find us on




@SmokeSignalsCTGR

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Ad by Samuel Briggs III

Walking On...

Donald Gene Jeffers

April 7, 1934 – Oct. 20, 2023

Tribal Elder Donald Gene Jeffers of Florence, Ore., passed on Oct. 20, 2023, at the age of 89.

He was born in Eugene, Ore., to father Ira Jeffers and mother Bertha Luce Jeffers. Don was a loving father and grandfather, affectionately known as “Gampa Don” or “BaDon,” names he answered to with great pride and love.

Don had a genuine interest in meeting and visiting people, often engaging with them at powwows, learning about their Tribes and heritage. He was very proud of his Native heritage and being a Grand Ronde Tribal member.

Don served in the U.S. Army as a private first class from 1954 to 1956. Following his military career, Don spent most of his life working in the woods as a logger, specializing in timber falling. He helped build logging roads and drove a dump trunk.

Don also worked in helicopter logging operations for a period of time, where he would ride with his dog, Travis, tucked in his shirt while hanging under the helicopter by a rope to get dropped off in the canyon for the day to cut up cedar logs. At the end of his work day, that’s how Don flew out of the canyons. He enjoyed cutting the cedar logs and bucking them up into bundles to be flown out of the canyons, and being dropped off on the landing. It was dangerous, but exciting work.

In his free time, Don enjoyed camping, hunting and fishing with his daughter Tonya Starmer and her husband, Craig, and grandchildren Travis and Brandy. They spent many memorable years together creating loving memories.

Don had a fondness for observing wildlife and developed a special connection with squirrels. He loved feeding them peanuts and found joy in watching them climb up his legs to retrieve the treats.

Powwows became a significant part of his life, where he felt a sense of belonging and acceptance. Don traveled to numerous Oregon powwows in Grand Ronde, Siletz and Willapa, and events out of state such as Albuquerque, N.M., and many more. He participated in some, carrying the Veterans Affairs flags onto the dance floor.

Don also took pleasure in walking on the beaches of Oregon, particularly in Florence, Winchester Bay and Newport, where he would watch the boats coming in and out of the bays and over the bar.

Sports also held a special place in Don’s heart. He was an avid fan of the Portland Trail Blazers basketball team and enjoyed watching football. Music also played a significant role in his life, as he loved to sing and play the guitar. Don continued to pursue this passion until his hands no longer allowed him to play.

Throughout the years, he cherished the pictures sent to him of his grandchildren, and visiting grandson Chad Parker and watching him grow. He found great joy in being a part of his life along with Travis and Brandy Starmer’s lives, watching them thrive and grow from birth to adulthood.

Traveling and watching wildlife shows and funny sitcoms were among Don’s other favorite pastimes.

Don will be remembered for his love for his family, his passion for the outdoors and his deep connection with people from all walks of life. His memory will forever live on in the hearts of those who truly knew and



loved him, including longtime caregiver/friend Luann Brown, who took care of Don in his last few years.

Per Don’s wishes, his ashes will be spread at a place he chose that was very special and memorable to him. This ceremony will be carried out by his daughter, Tonya Starmer, and her immediate family.

Burn’s Riverside Chapel in Florence, Ore., assisted with the cremation arrangements.

Other passings

Arlene Jean Kautz

Sept. 7, 1941 – Nov. 13, 2023

Tribal Elder Arlene Jean Kautz of Olympia, Wash., passed on Monday, Nov. 13, 2023, at the age of 82.

Mills & Mills Funeral Home in Tumwater, Wash., is assisting the family. Funeral service details were not available at presstime.

Rhonda Gay Meacham

April 28, 1952 – Nov. 7, 2023

Tribal Elder Rhonda Gay Meacham passed on Tuesday, Nov. 7, 2023, at the age of 71.

Thomas & Jones Funeral Home in Las Vegas, Nev., is assisting the family.

Funeral services were not available at presstime.

Apply for youth council

Gain leadership skills

Make a positive impact in your community

Build your college resume

Open until filled

CTGR YOUTH COUNCIL

GRAND RONDE YOUTH

Applications available on YEP & YC, FB & IG & community center

MUST BE IN GRADES 6-12

???’s call Angey @ 503.879.4533

apply here

HTTPS://WWW.GRANDRONDE.ORG/GOVERNMENT/TRIBAL-COUNCIL/YOUTH-COUNCIL/



West Valley Veterans Memorial Application

Deadline is March 15, 2024

Name:

DOB:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone:

Gender: Male/Female (Circle)

Rank:

Branch:

Honorable: Yes/No (Circle)

DOE:

Place of entry:

DOS:

Place of seperation:

Deceased: Yes/No (Circle)

Place of burial:

CTGR Tribal: Yes/No (Circle)

If Tribal, Roll#

*All applicants must submit a copy of their DD214. If applicant is deceased, a family member or spouse can submit a copy of their DD214. If you are a CTGR Tribal member please attach a copy of your Tribal ID. If you are non-Tribal please attach a copy of a bill/record with your name and address showing you had lived or now reside in Grand Ronde, Willamina or Sheridan. Please send application and all documents to Grand Ronde Veterans SEB, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR, 97347. If you have any questions, please contact Chelsea Clark at 503-879-1418 or e-mail: publicaffairs@grandronde.org

Any applications received after March 15, 2024, will be kept on file for inclusion to the Memorial in 2025.

Christmas Parade set for Dec. 6

This year’s Christmas Parade will occur on Wednesday, Dec. 6, with the gathering area near the Governance Center, said organizer Tribal member Veronica Gaston. Participants should begin gathering at 5:30 p.m. The parade route will include Elders housing, the Tribal apartments off Tye Road, Tilixam Circle and then on to Raven Loop. There also will be a meet-and-greet beforehand from 4 to 5 p.m. with Santa Claus, Mrs. Claus, the Grinch and Smokey Bear. “I want to see as many people as possible involved,” she said. For more information, contact Gaston at mawich69@gmail.com. ■



• Grand Ronde Community •

Clothes Closet

• Open to All •

Open on
Fridays
9 a.m.
-Noon

SERVICES OFFERED:

Children’s Clothing
Women’s Clothing
Men’s Clothing
Blankets
Free Dog & Cat Food

Diapers and Toilet Paper
Emergency Hygiene Kits
Camping Supplies (Tents, Tarps, Wood)
Small Appliances and Household Items
Toys

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.

The Grand Ronde Clothes closet is located on the Tribal Campus near the Elders Activity Center at the end of Blacktail Drive. The Clothes Closet accepts donations in clean and good condition. Please put donations in plastic bags for sanitation purposes and drop them off during open hours. Please use the Community Board to post large items. For more information or emergency clothes, contact Lori Walker-Hernandez at 559-847-7565.

Watchlist: ‘How to honor Indigenous People on Thanksgiving’

(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 Thanksgiving holiday has just passed, but its controversial history still remains. NowThis, a social media-focused news outlet, posted a video to its YouTube channel in 2022. It featured an interview with Pawnee Tribal member and Illuminative Executive Director Crystal Echo Hawk about the history of the holiday. According the Echo Hawk, Thanksgiving was an invention of President Abraham Lincoln and his peers after the Civil War. “They were sort of looking at propaganda and different strategies to think about how they were bringing the American public back together,” Echo Hawk said. “[Thanksgiving] is really American propaganda over time that people have internalized and that’s really the first story. But it really just wipes away the brutality, the genocide, the violence that the pilgrims and colonization brought along with it.” Echo Hawk encourages the rebranding of Thanksgiving. She said it can still be a day to come together, but that we should also use it as a day to change how America thinks about Native Americans, specifically to focus on Native people and culture existing today, instead of on characters of the past. “An easy, fun activity for parents, for kids, for families to do is just find out whose Indigenous land you are on,” Echo Hawk said. She promoted the website native-lands.ca for a map of Native territories. She also encourages families to find out how many Tribes are in their state and what is going on in the local Tribal communities. “There is so much people can watch and really see Native peoples in a contemporary context,” Echo Hawk said. If you would like to watch the entire interview with Echo Hawk for yourself, you can find it at www.youtube.com/watch?v=OPZzHtKAu-FU. ■

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TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS



Mallory Harman, LAc



Alison Healy, LAc



Acupuncture can help with...

- pain
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- 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



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Cherry to attend third Biden-era Tribal Nations Summit

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The third annual White House Tribal Nations Summit of President Joseph Biden’s first term will be held Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 6-7.

The summit will be chaired by Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland, the first Native American Cabinet member in the history of the country. She’ll be joined by White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs Director Tom Perez and White House Domestic Policy Council Director Neera Tanden.

The summit will welcome leaders from each of the 574 federally recognized Tribes in the United States.

“The Tribal Nations Summit is at the core of President Biden’s commitment to honoring the nation-to-nation relationships the United States has with Tribal Nations and fulfills a campaign commitment to reinstate the popular event that was held annually for eight years during the Obama-Biden Administration,” a White House press release said.

The Trump Administration suspended holding the event during its four years in office.

During the two-day summit, senior administration officials will hear from Tribal leaders and have conversations about the most important issues facing Tribal communities.

In previous years, the Grand Ronde Tribe has been represented by Tribal Council Vice Chair Chris Mercier at the White House event. This year, Tribal Council member Michael Cherry will attend. ■

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

ANGEL OCASIO
CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE

5:30 PM

Thursday, December 7th

Tribal Gym

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

A TAKE-HOME MEAL
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!







Elder Center
HOLIDAY NEWSLETTER

2023

- Craft Days at the center: Dec. 5, 7, 14, 19 and 21.
- Elder Bazaar at the center: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8.
- Tribal Council Holiday Party: 10 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 9, at Spirit Mountain Casino.
- Art therapy will be back at the center at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 12.
- Chair massage on Dec. 6 and 20. Call center to reserve a spot.
- Resource Fair, 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 13.
- Shopping trips to town: Dec. 6 and 20.
- Woodburn Outlet trip: 9 a.m. Monday, Dec. 11. Bus will leave at 9 a.m. Lunch provided.
- Keizer Christmas lights: Monday, Dec. 18. Bus will leave at 4 p.m. Dinner provided. Bus is limited to 14 seats.
- Elder Grinchmas Party! 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 16. Events is for Grand Ronde Elders and spouse/significant other only.
- Tribal Offices will close at noon on Dec. 22 and 29.
- Tribal Offices will be closed on Monday, Dec. 25.
- December Elder holiday food box, sign up by 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8. Call 503-879-2233 to sign up.
- December holiday box pickup, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 21 at the Elder center.

Committee News

- Second Annual Elder Committee Bazaar at Chachalu Dec. 1-2.
- Elder Committee nominations Sunday, Dec. 3 at the General Council meeting.
- Elder Committee raffle: Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. Prizes are: Quilt, SMC night stay, SMC \$50 food certificate and two necklaces.
- Saturday bingo at the center, Dec. 9 and 23. Doors open at 10 a.m., potluck 11 a.m., games start at noon.
- The Elder Committee would like to wish all our Elder families a very happy holiday season. We hope there are many memories made and joy spread!



“Baby Elder” David Sears famous Christmas truck.


Volunteer
Opportunity:
Help Foster a Child’s
Love for Reading!


We’re looking for
volunteer readers for the
SMART Reading program
at Grand Ronde
Head Start Preschool.

- This is a great volunteer opportunity with a commitment of one hour per week and a brief training prior to the start date. For more information, visit <https://smartreading.org/volunteer/> or call 877-598-4633.
- Weekly reading sessions are scheduled in advance and will be held in the library. Each volunteer will be assigned specific children that they will work with throughout the year.

VISIT [HTTPS://SMARTREADING.ORG/VOLUNTEER/](https://smartreading.org/volunteer/)

More Information : +877- 598 - 4633







TRIBAL HEALTH
SCHOLARS

Tribal Health Scholars (THS) is a paid externship program for American Indian / Alaska Native (AIAN) high school sophomores, juniors and seniors. Students are supported and inspired to envision themselves as healthcare professionals and to pursue education required for a career in healthcare.

Applications close January 20th, 2024

Apply online at <https://www.nnacoe.org/tribal-health-scholars>

For more information or any questions please contact:
Katie at murpkati@ohsu.edu

THS has two components:

- 14 week virtual experience where scholars learn about healthcare fields and hear from guest speakers
- 4 weeks of a clinical shadowing externship where scholars gain exposure to health careers at their local tribal health clinics



Paid ad

REMINDER

TRIBAL MEMBERS ON THE TRIBAL SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME/DISABILITY & MEDICARE PART B PROGRAMS

IT'S TIME TO SEND US A COPY OF YOUR 2024 SOCIAL SECURITY AWARD LETTER

- If you haven't received your 2024 Social Security award letter yet, contact the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213 or online at www.ssa.gov.
- Your current SSA award letter must reach our office by **5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 19**, to avoid any future delays in your benefits.

Send a copy of your 2024 SSA letter to:

CTGR Member Services

Attn. Shayla Myrick-Meyer

9615 Grand Ronde Road

Grand Ronde, OR 97347

Fax: 503-879-2480 - Email shayla.myrick-meyer@grandronde.org - 503-879-1364 or 1-800-422-0232, ext. 1364

- NOTE:** it is the responsibility of the Tribal member to notify the Tribe of any changes in your benefits from the Social Security Administration SSI/SSD program. Failure to submit your yearly SSA award letter and/or notify the Tribe of any changes may result in an obligation to repay ineligible benefits received and/or interrupt or delay your Tribal Supplemental Security Income & Disability payments and Medicare Part B reimbursements.

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Upgraded basement rental,
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EnergyTrust
of Oregon



Job#	Position Title	Grade	Min. Start Wage	Max Start Wage	Closing Date
1793	Tribal Court Volunteer – Court Appointed Special Advocate				Until Filled
1808	Milieu Safety Technician - Great Circle Recovery - Portland	6	\$20.05/hr.	\$25.53/hr.	Until Filled
1925	Enrichment Coordinator	8	\$23.76/hr.	\$30.76/hr.	Until Filled
1946	Child & Adolescent Mental Health Therapist – Behavioral Health	12	\$72,368.15/yr.	\$93,059.45/yr.	Until Filled
1959	Lodge Caregiver – On-Call	7	\$21.60/hr.	\$28.02/hr.	Until Filled
1964	Project Manager	16	\$104,004.14/yr.	\$135,684.70/yr.	Until Filled
1977	Enrichment Coordinator Aide - Part Time	5	\$18.23/hr.	\$23.26/hr.	Until Filled
1991	Mental Health Counselor - Great Circle Recovery - Salem	12	\$72,368.12/yr.	\$93,059.45/yr.	Until Filled
1993	Aftercare Educator	6	\$20.05/hr.	\$25.53/hr.	Until Filled
1994	IT Auditor	14	\$87,565.47/yr.	\$112,323.88/yr.	Until Filled
1996	Peer Support Specialist – Male	9	\$26.14/hr.	\$33.77/hr.	Until Filled
1999	Tribal Planner	15	\$94,549.22/yr.	\$123,474.97/yr.	Until Filled
2000	Licensed Practical Nurse – Great Circle Recovery - Portland	12	\$34.79/hr.	\$44.74/hr.	Until Filled
2002	Clinical Supervisor – Great Circle Recovery - Salem	11	\$65,789.23/yr.	\$84,727.04/yr.	Until Filled
2003	Lab Assistant	6	\$20.05/hr.	\$25.53/hr.	Until Filled
2006	Staff Accountant	11	\$31.63/hr.	\$40.73/hr.	Until Filled
2008	Tribal Court Programs Coordinator – Part Time	9	\$26.14/hr.	\$33.77/hr.	Until Filled
2010	Substance Use Disorder Therapist – Great Circle Recovery - Portland	10	\$59,808.39/yr.	\$77,148.67/yr.	Until Filled
2012	Medication Assisted Treatment Coordinator	12	\$34.79/hr.	\$44.74/hr.	Until Filled
2013	Substance Use Disorder Therapist – Great Circle Recovery - Salem	10	\$59,808.39/yr.	\$77,148.67/yr.	Until Filled
2014	Mental Health Therapist – Behavioral Health	12	\$72,368.12/yr.	\$93,059.45/yr.	Until Filled
2015	Shipping & Receiving Clerk	5	\$18.23/hr.	\$23.26/hr.	Until Filled
2016	Licensed Practical Nurse – Great Circle Recovery - Salem	12	\$34.79/hr.	\$44.74/hr.	11/27/23
2018	Bariata Trainee – Limited Duration	1	\$16.00/hr.	\$16.00/hr.	11/27/23
1831	Temporary Pool	2	\$16.00/hr.	\$16.00/hr.	Open

\$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. POSTINGS ARE OPEN UNTIL FILLED & WILL BE REMOVED WITHOUT NOTICE

INTERVIEWS WILL BE GIVEN IN THE FOLLOWING RANKING ORDER:
1. 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)
2. Tribal member spouses, parents and/or legal guardians of Grand Ronde Tribal member children and current regular employees.
3. External candidates.

Apply online at: www.grandronde.org



POSTING TITLE	CLOSE DATE	WAGE/SALARY
Banquet Server (*Part-Time)	11/30/2023	\$14.58/hr. DOE + Tips
Bartender	11/30/2023	\$16.50/hr. DOE + Tips
Dish Machine Operator (*Part-Time)	11/30/2023	\$18.02/hr. DOE
Cage Cashier (Full-Time & *Part-Time)	Until Filled	\$18.29/hr. DOE
Casino Beverage Waitstaff (Full-Time & *Part-Time)	Until Filled	\$14.58/hr. DOE + Tips
Cook	Until Filled	\$18.29/hr. DOE
IT Business Intelligence Analyst	Until Filled	\$76,484.51/yr. DOE
IT Database Administrator	Until Filled	\$76,484.51/yr. DOE
IT Systems Administrator	Until Filled	\$63,586.43/yr. DOE
Mountain View Waitstaff (*Part-Time)	Until Filled	\$14.58/hr. DOE + Tips
Stewarding Assistant Manager	Until Filled	\$44,140.10/yr. DOE
Table Games Dealer (Full-Time & *Part-Time)	Until Filled	\$14.58/hr. + Tips

\$1,000 Hire-On Bonus All Positions

\$500 Referral Bonus SMC & CTGR Employees

*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

✓ 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.

✓ All positions are eligible for an incremental Hire-on Bonus

employmentteam@spiritmtn.com

<https://www.spiritmountain.com/careers>

Call (503) 879-3737 for application assistance.

GRAND RONDE HOUSING DEPARTMENT

28450 Tyee Road – Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347 – 503-879-2401 – Fax 503-879-5973

ATTENTION ALL HOUSING TENANTS AND GUEST

PLEASE SLOW DOWN IN ELDER HOUSING

Also, please make sure and maintain low levels of music in the Elder community.

IPKA Fellowship applicants sought

The Grand Ronde Tribe’s Cultural Resources Department is seeking applications for the 2024 Indigenous Place Keeping Artist Fellowship. In 2024, one fellow will be selected to receive \$20,000 to advance their artistic work. Applications are due by 5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 19, 2024. The application is two pages and includes answering three questions, providing a detailed resume and artist portfolio with at least five examples of work. Applicants are asked to do the following:

- Read the application packet;
- Fill out a two-page application;
- Answer three preliminary questions in a Word or PDF file, with no more than 150 words per response to each question.

Contact Cultural Resources Manager David Harrelson at cultural.resources@grandronde.org or 503-879-1630 for an application. ■

smok signalz offering fast e-mail subscription

Want to be one of the first Tribal members to receive *smok signalz*? Want to receive the Tribal publication on your computer instead of waiting for it to arrive in the mail? Want to get up-to-date and in-the-know about the Grand Ronde Tribe before anyone else? In an effort to be more efficient and reduce printing and postage costs, *smok signalz* electronic subscribers receive a PDF (portable document format) version sent to them instead of a newsprint version sent via the mail. All you need on your computer is Adobe Acrobat or another program that can read a PDF and you’re set. Why would you want to do that? The PDF version is available before the newspaper is sent to our printing contractor in Salem. You can read the paper on your computer or print out a copy of individual pages yourself. And you will receive Tribal news much faster than the current standard mailing utilized by the Tribe. If you would like to receive an e-mailed PDF version of *smok signalz* and stop receiving a mailed newsprint version, send your e-mail to esubscription@grandronde.org. Stopping mailed delivery of the newspaper will not affect other Tribal mail. ■

What Does A Safe Sleep Environment Look Like?

The image below shows a safe infant sleep environment.

Baby's sleep area is in the same room, next to where parents sleep.

Use a firm and flat sleep surface, such as a mattress in a safety-approved crib*, covered by a fitted sheet.

Baby should not sleep in an adult bed, on a couch, or on a chair alone, with you, or with anyone else.

Do not smoke or let anyone else smoke around your baby.

Do not put pillows, blankets, sheepskins, or crib bumpers anywhere in your baby's sleep area.

Dress your baby in sleep clothing, such as a wearable blanket. Do not use a loose blanket, and do not overbundle.

Always place your baby on his or her back to sleep, for naps and at night.

Keep soft objects, toys, and loose bedding out of your baby's sleep area. Make sure nothing covers the baby's head.



HEALTH & WELLNESS NEWS

Enjoy a safe holiday season

Safe Traveling:

Traveling by car during the holidays has the highest fatality rate of any major form of transportation. Hundreds of people die every year in crashes on New Year's Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. Alcohol is involved in about a third of these fatalities.



Safety travel tips for the holidays and every day:

- Drive sober or choose a designated driver.
- Avoid drowsy driving. Driving while drowsy is similar to driving under the influence of alcohol as drivers' reaction times, awareness of hazards and ability to sustain attention all worsen the drowsier the driver.
- Buckle up every person in the vehicle no matter how long or short the distance.
- Put the cell phone away: Many distractions occur while driving but cell phones are the main culprit. In 2018, 2,841 people died and an estimated 276,000 people were injured in distraction-affected crashes.

** National Safety Council, Injury Facts*

Decorating for the holidays safely:



- Keep potentially poisonous plants – mistletoe, holly berries, Jerusalem cherry and amaryllis – away from children.
- If using a live tree, cut off about 2 inches of the trunk to expose fresh wood for better water absorption, water it regularly and remove it from your home when it is dry.
- Place your decorations and tree at 3 three feet

away from fireplaces, radiators and other heat sources, making certain not to block doorways.

- Avoid placing breakable ornaments or ones with small, detachable parts on lower tree branches where small children can reach them.
- Replace light sets that have broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, or loose connections.
- Follow the package directions on the maximum number of light sets that can be plugged into one socket.
- Never nail, tack or stress wiring when hanging lights.
- Keep plugs off the ground away from puddles and snow.
- Turn off all lights and decorations when you go to bed or leave the house.

A word about candles. The National Fire Protection Association reports that one-third of home decoration fires are started by candles. Therefore, place candles where they cannot be knocked down or blown over and out of reach of children. Never leave lit candles unattended or when you are asleep. ■

Holiday gift safety

- When you gift sports equipment always give any protective gear needed. (i.e. give a helmet with the skateboard).
- Avoid giving toys with small parts (including magnets and “button” batteries that can cause serious injury or death if ingested) to young children as they tend to put things in their mouths, increasing the risk of choking. If the piece can fit inside a toilet paper roll, it is not appropriate for children under 3 years of age.
- Do not give toys with ropes and cords or heating elements.
- Check that crayons and markers are labeled “nontoxic.”
- Check toys for age, skill level and developmental appropriateness.
- Look for labels that assure you the toys have passed a safety inspection – “ATSM” means the toy has met the American Society for Testing and Materials standards.
- To find out about recalls, check the U.S. Consumer Safety Commission website. ■



Tips for controlling blood sugar during the holidays

During the holiday season it may be harder to control your blood sugar. Consider these tips:

Keep a regular eating schedule:

Eating as close to your normal meal times as possible keeps your blood sugar levels stable. If a family meal is being served later than you are used to, grab a snack at your regular meal time and eat a bit less during the group meal.

Watch your carbohydrates:

If you know you will want a slice of pumpkin pie or other sweet after the main course, consider cutting back on other carbs (like potatoes or bread) during your meal. Fill half of your plate with vegetables that provide vitamins, minerals and fiber that help manage your blood sugar.

Avoid excessive limitations:

You should enjoy the holidays and the seasonal foods they bring. Instead of overly limiting what you eat, be aware of your portion sizes and balance things out with larger servings of vegetables.

Eat slower:

By eating slower, you allow your brain to catch up to knowing you are full. Start with your protein and vegetables so that by the time you reach your starch, you are already starting to feel full.

Limit your alcohol consumption:

As is true for everyone, it is also best for individuals with diabetes to limit their alcohol consumption or avoid it altogether. It has the potential to greatly affect your blood sugar and potentially interact with the medications you take.

Check your blood sugar more frequently:

If you eat more and consume foods that are higher in carbohydrates during the holidays, it is important to check your blood sugar more often than usual. This will allow you to stay on top of concerning changes and make modifications as needed.

Stay active:

Big meals can leave you feeling sluggish, but physical activity is very important for helping you stabilize your blood sugar and offsetting the effects of larger meals.

Forgive yourself for slip-ups:

Everyone makes a mistake now and then. It's important not to judge yourself too harshly. Focus instead on getting back on track. ■






5 Ways to Protect Against Flu:



- 1 Get the annual flu vaccine.
- 2 Wash your hands often.
- 3 Do the elbow cough to prevent the spread of germs through touch.
- 4 Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.
- 5 Clean and disinfect surfaces or objects. (6)

Fast Fact:
The flu vaccine reduces children's flu-related pediatric intensive care unit admission by **74%**. (5)

Visit our website, follow us on social media, and attend a free community workshop where pediatricians give evidence-based information without fear or judgment.

boostoregon.org



(4) Families Fighting Flu, Flu Vaccine FAQs. <https://www.familiesfightingflu.org/flu-vaccination/>
(5) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/vaccine-benefits.htm>
(6) Families Fighting Flu, Flu Prevention and Treatment. <https://www.familiesfightingflu.org/flu-prevention-and-treatment/>



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