Emergency Services exercise — pg. 8

MARCH 15, 2024

SMOKE SIGNALS
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AN INDEPENDENT PUBLICATION OF THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF GRAND RONDE • SMOKE SIGNALS

General Council
briefed on capital
improvement projects

By Danielle Harrison
Smoke Signals editor

Tribal Engineering and Planning Manager Ryan Webb briefed the membership on various capital improvement projects on and off the Reservation during a Sunday, March 3, General Council meeting held via Zoom and in Tribal Council chambers.

“IT really is a pleasure to provide an update to the membership on everything that we’ve been working on during this last year,” Webb said.

“I think everyone can agree that it has definitely been amazing to see the Tribal campus and community growing, seeing some of these buildings and projects come to fruition where there’s been lots of great conversations and input into them.”

He provided the Tribal audience with an update of Creekside Elder housing, the Tribal homeownership development, Wind River Apartments, Warriors of Hope expansion, language education building, health care and vaccination clinic, Grand Ronde Fire Station upgrade, child development center, resident and recreation center, electric vehicle charging stations, community paths grant and the Tumwata Village project in Oregon City.

“You see these projects coming out of the ground, and seeing them and realizing that it was really rewarding to be a part of that,” Webb said. “I appreciate the support from the executive team and

See PROJECTS continued on page 7

Dancing around

Tribal members Fabian Quenelle, left, and Jordan Mercier singing and drum during the 19th annual Agency Creek Round Dance held in the Tribal gym on Friday, March 8.

Ulali Quenelle, 8, kicks her leg up as she dances during the 19th annual Agency Creek Round Dance held in the Tribal gym on Friday, March 8.

A day of egg-cellence

Community run/walk will follow hunt

By Danielle Harrison
Smoke Signals editor

The popular Tribal Housing Department Easter Egg Hunt will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 30, rain or shine, at the covered area in Tribal housing on Raven Loop.

The hunt is traditionally held the Saturday before Easter. This year, Easter is on Sunday, March 31.

As usual, organizers want to remind participants to arrive early or risk going home emp-ty-handed as the young participants are very egg-er about scrambling about for the treats quickly.

In past years, the time for all the candy to be spoken for is about one minute after the hunt begins. Attendees are also asked to bring their own basket or bag to carry their treasures home.

This is one Tribal event that requires promptness on the part of parents and prospective Easter egg hunters, lest they miss out on the

See EGG HUNT continued on page 5

Smoke Signals file photo
Health & Wellness Center offering vaccines

The new COVID-19 vaccine, Spikevax, is available at the Health & Wellness Center for adults 18 and older. It is recommended for those with chronic health conditions such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, kidney failure and heart failure, regardless if they have received older vaccines. Spikevax is not a booster.

Another vaccine that is recommended is for RSV, which is available to babies eight months and younger, for expectant mothers who are 32 to 36 weeks pregnant and in limited amounts for those 60 and older.

For more information, call the Health & Wellness Center at 503-879-2002.

Letters welcome

Letters should be exclusive to smokesignz. Letters should be 400 words or less and must include the writer’s name, address, phone number and Tribal roll number. Letters 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. Discursose 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 smokesignz, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347.

NOW ACCEPTING NEW AND EXPIRING TERM APPLICATIONS!!

TRIBAL COMMITTEE/BOARD AND COMMISSION

*DO YOU WANT TO BE MORE INVOLVED WITH THE TRIBE?
*ARE YOU INTERESTED IN MAKING POSITIVE CHANGES FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS?

APPLY TODAY OR PICK UP A HARD COPY NEAR GOVERNANCE SECURITY.
Tribes invited to apply for climate change mitigation funding

The Paul G. Allen Family Foundation is requesting proposals to invest up to $5 million in climate change mitigation projects in the Pacific Northwest. The Natural Climate Solutions in the PNW initiative will fund three to five projects.

“This initiative will invest solely in NCS projects, adding to the foundation’s legacy of backing science and technology-rooted conservation across the region and around the world, defined as deliberate, nature-based human actions that protect, restore, and improve management of forests, wetlands, grasslands, oceans, and agricultural lands to mitigate climate change,” a press release stated. “Recognizing the longstanding regional leadership, ecological stewardship, and knowledge of Indigenous peoples and local communities in local conservation efforts, projects that are led by, or work in direct partnership with, IPLCs are of particular interest to the foundation.”

The request for proposal is open to eligible nonprofit organizations focused on conservation efforts within Alaska, British Columbia, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. The deadline to submit a proposal is Friday, April 12. Selected organizations will be invited to submit a formal proposal by Wednesday, May 15. Proposals will be reviewed by an independent panel of science advisors with grantees announced in summer 2024.

For more information, visit www.pgafamilyfoundation.org.

Seeking two Elders for a once-in-a-lifetime experience at New York’s American Museum of Natural History

Elder Lottery drawing will be conducted by Tribal Council staff and/or Executive Office staff via Google Wheel of Names.

New York facts:

- Prepare for ample amounts of walking: The average New Yorker walks 6,000 to 10,000 steps per day — or 2.5 to 4.5 miles per day.
- There are five boroughs: Manhattan, The Bronx, Queens, Staten Island and Brooklyn.
- Top three specialties to try: Pizza, pretzels and pastrami.
- Free activities include: Walk across the Brooklyn Bridge, visit Grand Central Station and ride the Staten Island Ferry.
- New Yorkers speak more than 800 languages.
- The original people of New York were the Lenape.

Screening criteria for signing up:

- Minimum age is 55 years old.
- No health conditions that may prevent walking. (Should a companion be needed to assist with medical/mobility reasons, they must pay for their airfare and per diem. Elder and companion are responsible for making arrangements).
- Must have an operational cell phone.
- Must provide drop-off and pick-up contact information, if different from emergency contact information.
- Must be willing to tip any and all service staff — dining/bellhop/taxi/Uber.

Must sign an agreement outlining representative duties and expectations.

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OFFICIAL TRIBAL FACEBOOK PAGES

Smoke Signals: facebook.com/SmokeSignalsCTGR
The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde: facebook.com/CTGRgov
Grand Ronde Health & Wellness: facebook.com/GRHC
Grand Ronde Children & Family Services: facebook.com/CTGRCF5
Grand Ronde Royalty: facebook.com/CTGRRoyalty
Grand Ronde Education Programs: facebook.com/CTGREducation
Grand Ronde Youth Council: facebook.com/CTGRYouthCouncil
Grand Ronde Station: facebook.com/GrandRondeStation
Grand Ronde Social Services Department: facebook.com/CTGRSocialServices
Grand Ronde Food Bank: facebook.com/GrandRondeFoodBank
Spirit Mountain Community Fund: facebook.com/SpiritMountainCommunityFund
Grand Ronde Cultural Education: facebook.com/Grand-Ronde-Cultural-Education
Grand Ronde Community Garden: facebook.com/GrandRondeCommunityGarden
Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department: facebook.com/GrandRonde-Tribal-Police-Department
Grand Ronde Employment Services: Facebook.com/GrandRondeEmpServices

Tentative schedule:

- January through April 12: Enter name for lottery drawing.
- Late April: Tribal Council staff and/or Executive Office staff to select participants via Google Wheel of Names.

Criteria meeting participants report to Chelsea Baranski in Tribal Council to complete important travel information — current license/ID, valid vehicle insurance, emergency contact(s), primary care physician, list of medications and any dietary restrictions.
- May: Dinner with interns and delegation.
- June: Pick up travel packets.

Delegation travels to New York for CTGR Tomanowos Meteorite Ceremony.

- July: Submit receipts — lodging/baggage; parking/Uber if any.

Elders can sign up for the lottery at the Elder Activity Center or chelsea.clark@grandronde.org.
Food Bank news

The Grand Ronde Food Bank – iskam mak’mak haws – is operated by Marion-Polk Food Share, which has been leading the fight to end hunger since 1987 because no one should be hungry. The Food Bank is an equal opportunity provider. Contact Francene Ambrose at 503-879-2037 or reservations@grandronde.org for more information.

Grand Ronde Road. No one will be turned away in need of a food box. The Food Bank will hold March 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 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.

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.

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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 email 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 Francene Ambrose at 503-879-3663 or fambrose@marionpolkfoodshare.org 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 as needed at the Grand Ronde Food Bank/iskam mak’mak haws, 9675 Grand Ronde Road. Chair: Francene Ambrose.
- **Editorial Board** meets monthly. The next meeting will be held at 10:30 a.m. Friday, March 15 via Zoom. Contact Chair Mia Prickett at Editorial.Board@grandronde.org for the meeting link.
- **Education Committee** meets at 5:30 p.m. on the last Tuesday of the month in the Elder Activity Center. Chair: Carmen Robertson.
- **Enrollment Committee** meets quarterly in Room 204 of the Governor Center. Chair: Jon Myrick-Meyer.
- **Fish & Wildlife Committee** meets at 5:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at the Natural Resources building off Hebo Road. Chair: Reyli 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 3 p.m. the third Thursday of the month in the Housing Department conference room. Chair: Shayla Myrick-Meyer.
- **Powwow Special Event Board** meets as needed at the Community Center. Dates vary. Contact Dana Anam at 503-879-2037. Chair: Dana Anam.
- **TERO Commission** meets at 10 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month in the Employment Services building. Chair: Russell Wilkinson.
- **Timber Committee** meets at 5 p.m. the second Thursday of the month at the Natural Resources building off Hebo Road. Chair: Jon R. George.
- **Veterans Special Event Board** meets at 5:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month in the Quenelle House. Chair: Raymond Petitte.

To update information on this list, contact Smoke Signals Editor Danielle Harrison at 503-879-4663 or danielle.harrison@grandronde.org.

### NWIHA offers youth scholarships

The Northwest Indian Housing Association is offering youth scholarship opportunities.

Applications can be obtained by visiting www.nwiha.org and clicking on the Youth Scholarship Program tab.

All applications and supporting documents must be submitted by email to info@nwiha.org by 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 30.

All applicants, selected or not, will be notified of the NWIHA executive committee decisions. Successful applicants will be recognized at a banquet held on Tuesday, May 7.

Complete instructions are contained in the application form. For more information, contact info@nwiha.org or 360-220-9212.
More than 2,000 plastic eggs stuffed with candy for event

EGG HUNT continued from front page

various treats. “We are very excited to be able to have the Easter egg hunt,” Housing Services Coordinator Tracy Leno said. “We look forward to seeing everybody and watching the kids have fun finding eggs.”

There are four hunt categories for children ages 1 to 2, 3 to 4, 5 to 8, and 9 to 12. Typically, there are approximately 200 participants.

The Easter Bunny will be posing for pictures with children before and after the hunt, but parents will be responsible for taking their own photos.

Members of the Tribe’s Housing Department, Community Health employees and other volunteers staff about 2,000 plastic eggs with candy during the week before the event. Tribal Council sponsors the hunt and pays for the candy.

For those who are looking for a healthy, egg-cellent opportunity after the hunt, there will be a community run/walk sponsored by the Tribe’s Children & Family Services Program in honor of Child Abuse Prevention Month. It will feature grab-and-go lunches, T-shirts and a goody bag to add to the Easter candy haul.

Participants are asked to meet at the West Valley Veterans Memorial on the Tribal campus following the egg hunt.

Tribal Council approves grant application for voc rehab program

By Danielle Harrison
Smoke Signals editor

Tribal Council approved a $3.77 million American Indian Vocational Rehabilitation Services grant application at its Wednesday, March 6, meeting.

The grant, provided through the U.S. Department of Education Office of Special Education and Rehaabilitative Services, will provide 5 years of program operating costs to help Tribal members with disabilities achieve gainful employment.

“This specifically services the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde by providing funding for five positions,” Grants Program Manager Wendy Sparks said during a Tuesday, March 5, Legislative Action Committee meeting. “This is a long-standing, ongoing grant and is absolutely critical to the vocational rehab project so it’s an appropriate use of grant funds to support full-time employees.”

The funding will cover a multi-year contract for a client tracking system and consultant fees for client training, as well as assessment services to assist clients with achieving gainful employment and work experience.

In other action, Tribal Council:
• Approved a $375,000 grant between the Tribe and the Oregon Department of Education Office of Indian Education to fund projects that address learning loss as well as academic, social, emotional and mental health challenges students have faced in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic;
• Approved an amendment to a grant between the Tribes and the Oregon Department of Early Learning and Care for language preservation and revitalization through the Chinuk Wawa Education Program. The amendment adds an additional $140,955 to the previous grant award of $133,000;
• Approved a $3 million grant application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Indian Housing Block Grant for the design and construction of eight low-income housing units;
• Approved an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency Assistance to Firefighters Grants Program for $342,444;
• And enrolled one infant into the Tribe because they meet the requirements outlined in the Tribal Constitution and Enrollment Ordinance.

Tribal Council also approved an authorization to proceed with a home-ownership preference process for its new development located at McPherson Road. First-tier preference will be given to Tribal members with a preapproval letter, lease application submitted to the Tribal Housing Department and who are the only Tribal members interested in a specific lot. They will have 60 days to close on the lot.

Second-tier preference will be given to Tribal members with a preapproval letter and lease application submitted to housing but prefer a lot with multiple people interested. All interested parties will be placed in a lottery-style drawing. The Housing Department will contact the person who is drawn as the first candidate on the preferred lot. If the Tribal member doesn't close on the lot within 60 days, then it will be offered to the next member on the list.

The remaining lots and homes will be advertised and sold on a first-come, first-served basis to those Tribal members who can obtain a preapproval letter, lease application and close within the 60-day time period.

Additionally, Tribal Council approved an authorization to proceed with design and construction of 25 one-bedroom units and 20 two-bedroom units for phase 3 of the Wind River Apartments, located adjacent to the Housing Department offices at 28450 Tyee Road.

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

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.
Native Youth Wellness Day

Elias Sabin, 14, loses the balls from his stick as he plays double ball during the Native Youth Wellness Day in the Tribal gym on Friday, March 8. Approximately 120 Tribal youth participated in the daylong event that is hosted by the Tribe’s Youth Empowerment & Prevention Program and facilitated by the Native Wellness Institute based in Gresham. There was a Healing Village in the afternoon where youth could partake in one or all of the offered activities. Some of the activities, in addition to double ball, included necklace making, journaling, videography and making elderberry syrup.

Photos by Michelle Alaimo
Meeting can be viewed by at the Tribal website

PROJETS continued from front page

council to make all of this happen.”

Projects

Creekside Elder Housing: The 24-unit project located at Creekside Drive and Grand Ronde Rd. includes 12 two-bedroom, one-bath duplexes. Each unit is 1,120 square feet, with 16 market rate units and eight subsidized units. Each has solar panels plus backup battery storage, and is rated by the Energy Trust of Oregon as a net-zero home, meaning that over the course of the year, tenants should pay next to nothing in utility bills. The $7.19 million project is fund-
ed with 80 percent Tribal dollars and 20 percent federal grants. The project was completed in De-
cember 2023 and a grand opening was held in late January.

Homeownership development phase one: The project is located at McPherson Road east of Grand Ronde Rd. and will contain 18 two-bedroom solar ready units. Construction is expected to start by the end of March. Home sizes range from two- to four-bedroom, 1,200- to 2,000-square-feet on 10,000-square-foot lots. Each unit is solar-ready. The project is funded by federal sources and Spirit Moun-
tain Casino revenues.

Wind River Apartments, phase 3: There will be up to 45 units within 10 apartment buildings located adjacent to the Tribe’s Housing Department offices at 28450 Tyee Road. The apartments will contain a mix of one- and two-bedroom solar ready units. There are plans to explore adding solar panels with Energy Trust of Oregon. The design phase of the $12.5 million project is due to be complete within a few months and construction is expected to start this summer.

Warriors of Hope program expansion: This $1.7 million, 1,200-square-foot addition to the current Community Center was complete in May 2023. The funding breakdown is 50 percent Tribal and 50 percent federal.

“That was a really exciting proj-

ey. … This was one of the smaller projects we got built last year but it has one of the biggest impacts on our community due to the program it houses and the services that they provide,” Webb said.

Warriors of Hope is the Tribe’s program for survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

Language education building: The $4.35 million, 6,600-square-foot building was completed in September 2022. It has six class-

rooms, office space and an outdoor playground. It is located next to the existing Education Department complex on the Tribal campus and houses the Tribe’s Chinuk Wawa education program.

It was paid for through a combi-
nation of Tribal, federal and other funding.

Health care and vaccination center: The addition to the cur-
rent Health & Wellness Clinic, the new 10,000-square-foot building broke ground in 2023 and was recently completed. The $7 million project is primarily grant funded.

The 8,400-square-foot interior includes a reception area with vaulted ceiling and children’s play area, spacious medical and dental exam rooms, high-tech labs, a break room and three examination offices. Outside space includes an 800-square-foot concrete patio and a covered, 700-square-foot fish pit area. Adjacent but indoor next to the fish pit is a community kitch-
en that is set up to accommodate streaming nutrition classes with offsite Tribal members.

Staff will soon be able to begin moving into the building and a grand opening event is set for Wednesday, May 17.

Grand Ronde Fire Station expansion: This $8 million project is funded through American Rec-

cue Plan Act funds and includes a 20,000-square-foot expansion with office space, classroom, living quar-
ters and four bays for fire equip-
ment and engines. Construction began in May 2023 and is expected to be complete this summer.

Child development center: The 26,000-square-foot building will include 12 classrooms, a new kitchen, outdoor play areas and support areas, and is located behind the old powwow grounds near the existing Tribal gym. The project is funded with federal, Tribal and grant funds and is approximately $16 million. Construction began in December and is expected to be complete by the end of 2024.

Resident and recreation cen-
ter: The new 20,000-square-foot building will be located at the Smith property across from Trib-
al Housing Department offices with a design cost of $660,000 and construction costs undetermined. Community input will determine most of the programs offered at the center. Webb is hoping to secure federal grant money for construc-
tion of the project, which is tenta-
tively slated for 2025.

Electric vehicle charging sta-
tions: All buildings on campus will have electric vehicle chargers added in the future, with all new build-
ings constructed as EV charging ready. One solar charging station was installed at the Tribal Gover-
nance Center in 2023. Two more will be purchased with six chargers located on campus and two electric vehicles added to the Tribal fleet for employee use. The chargers and stations are being funded through an Oregon Department of Trans-
portation Carbon Reduction Grant.

Multi-use path from Grand Ronde to Spirit Mountain Casi-
nos: The Tribe received a $200,000 grant from the Oregon Depart-
ment of Transportation's Transportation Capital and Secur-
ity Paths Program for a feasibility study for a pedestrian/bike connec-
tion between Grand Ronde Road and Spirit Mountain Casino. The study should be complete by year’s end.

Tumwata Village: Located at the former Blue Heron Paper Mill site in Oregon City, much of the work this year has been focused on environmental cleanup efforts. The project was awarded an $800,000 Brownfield grant and $2 million in congressional funding. Thus far, 24 structures have been removed and more demolition work will continue this year. The Tribe will soon submit a land-use application to Oregon City for development of the site.

Webb also gave a brief update about the projects Public Works Coordinator John Mercier has been working on during the past year. Currently, Mercier is in the process of updating the Long Range Trans-
portation Plan from 2019 and will submit it to the Bureau of Indian Affairs for approval. Approximately $25 to $30 million is projected to be spent on transportation planning in the next 20 years.

In the area of transportation maintenance, Grand Ronde Road work, from highways 18 to 22, be-

gan in June and was complete by September.

“It caused some delays and im-
pact to the community but the fact that they were able to get in and get that work done so quickly, it means that we have now a safe and more reliable road,” Webb said.

The project was a collaboration between the Tribe and Folk County. After his presentation was com-
plete, Webb fielded questions and comments from the audience.

“I appreciate all of the questions and the thoughtful report that you’ve given today,” Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy said. “It’s truly a tribute to you and your tenacity to make sure that all of these projects get done.”

In other action, door prize win-
ers were Lee Huffman, Ashley Tu-
omi, Lisa Alexander, Judy Ballini and Richard McKnight, $50 each; and Lisa Watson, Tauni McCam-
sen and Deborah Good, $100 each.

The next General Council meet-
ing will be held at 11 a.m. Sunday, April 7, at the Lane Community College Longhouse in Eugene.

The entire meeting can be viewed by visiting the Tribal government’s website at www.grandronde.org and clicking on the Government tab and then Videos.
Emergency Services exercise

On Tuesday, March 5, the Tribe’s Emergency Services Department and Spirit Mountain Casino held a full-scale hazardous materials and mass casualty exercise at the casino. Emergency Services has an obligation and requirement through several federal and state grants to plan and conduct an exercise to test its capabilities preparing for, mitigating against, responding to and recovering from a hazard that involves mass casualty and hazmat/chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive threats. Additional participating organizations included Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department, Oregon Health Authority, Oregon Department of Human Services, Oregon Department of Emergency Management, Salem Health, Salem Hazmat Team and Deployed Logix. A methamphetamine lab explosion that released chemicals into the rooms of Spirit Mountain Hotel was the training scenario.

Emergency Services exercise

Tribal Elder Veronica Gaston gets fake blood applied by Donna Shamblin in preparation for the hazardous materials and mass casualty exercise. Shamblin is a medical assistant at Salem Health and volunteered to apply moulage and be a victim in the exercise.

Emergency Services Firefighter Darien Leno, left, and Emergency Services Lt. Jake Gillins, right, carry victim Callista Rhamy to safety during the hazardous materials and mass casualty exercise.

Oregon Department of Emergency Management Tribal Liaison Sophi Beym screams in pain as she plays the part of a victim during the hazardous materials and mass casualty exercise. Emergency Services Lt. Jake Gillins reads her patient information sheet to determine her injuries.
Community Fund tops $97 million mark in giving

By Danielle Harrison
Smoke Signz editor

Spirit Mountain Community Fund awarded more than $500,000 in grants on Tuesday, March 12, during a check presentation held in the Governance Center Atrium. The Community Fund receives 6 percent of proceeds from Spirit Mountain Casino and awards that money to nonprofits in 11 northwest Oregon counties to fund efforts in the areas of arts and culture, environmental preservation, education, health, historic preservation and public safety, and to the nine federally recognized Tribes in Oregon under the fund’s Tribal Grants program.

As of the first quarter of 2024, the Grand Ronde Tribe’s philanthropic giving now exceeds $97 million with 3,309 grants awarded since 1997. The Community Fund was created as part of the Tribe’s gaming compact with the state of Oregon. It is supervised by an eight-member Board of Trustees that includes Tribal Council members Denise Harvey, Brenda Tuomi and Michael Cherry, who is also a former Community Fund director.

Tribal Council members who attended the check presentation included Tuomi, Jon A. George and Harvey. Following the presentation, Chair Brenda Tuomi welcomed the approximately 30 attendees to the event. “It’s an honor to welcome you to our homeless,” she said. “We celebrate your generosity, compassion and the impact it has in our local communities. It serves as a testament to the shared belief that by working together we can make a difference.”

Community Fund Executive Director Angie Sears thanked those in attendance for making the drive to Grand Ronde. “This check presentation is a way to recognize and celebrate the bond between the horse and the rider and into lives of sufficiency. The center provides tutoring, mentoring, study groups, art and cooking classes, summer camps, holiday programs, games and movie nights, field trips, free meals and more.

“We realized one of the greatest detriments in poverty is the lack of hope,” Oviatt said.

When the nonprofit was launched in 2004 in West Salem’s Edge-water District, only 61 percent of students in the area graduated from high school. None of them went to college.

Oviatt and his team set out to change those statistics and focused on building relationships within the community.

“It’s only through relationships that you can mend broken hearts and lives,” he said. “We were able to support kids during the pandemic when many struggled with isolation and 100% of the teens in our program graduated high school.”

After the two presentations, Knight and Schlappie announced the grant recipients.

Large grant recipients were:

• Forward Stride of Beaverton, $7,500, for its Oregon Indigenous Fire Advocacy Project;
• Firefighters United for Safety, Ethics and Ecology of Eugene, $7,500 for its Oregon Indigenous Fire Advocacy Program;
• Forward Stride of Beaverton, $5,000, for supporting health and wellbeing for youth in under-served communities;
• McMiniville Community Habitat for Humanity, $7,500, for its 2023 Women Build townhouse;
• Oregon Health and Education Collaborative, $7,500, for its Upstream Initia-

tive program;
• Union Gospel Mission of Salem, $6,000, for restorative services for domestic violence survivors.

Small grant recipients were:

• Boys and Girls Club of Corvallis, $20,000, for its Building Pathways out of Poverty program;
• Human Access Project of Portland, $49,847, for a Ross Island Lagoon harmful algae bloom mitigation cost analysis;
• LatinoBuilt of Portland, $50,000, for construction education and technical assistance;
• Liberty House of Salem, $50,000, for access to front line pediatric care and interviewing services;
• Long Tom Watershed Council of Eugene, $50,000, for traditional ecological and education for Native youth and families;
• Native Fish Society of Oregon $15,000, for its Wild Fish Community program;
• Northwest Housing Alternatives of Milwaukie, $50,000, for education on behalf of the nonprofit during the Community Fund’s quarterly check presentation in the Governance Center Atrium on Tuesday, March 12.

Sanchez is a Grand Ronde Tribal member.

Director Craig Oviatt said that his organization exists to help young people realize their value, to break the cycle of generational poverty and into lives of sufficiency. The center provides tutoring, mentoring, study groups, art and cooking classes, summer camps, holiday programs, games and movie nights, field trips, free meals and more.

“This check presentation is a way to recognize and celebrate the bond between the horse and the rider and can be worked on away from the barn.”

Salem Dream Center Executive Director Craig Oviatt said that his organization exists to help young people realize their value, to break the cycle of generational poverty and into lives of sufficiency. The center provides tutoring, mentoring, study groups, art and cooking classes, summer camps, holiday programs, games and movie nights, field trips, free meals and more.

Community Fund seeking Hatfield Fellow applicants

Applications for the 2024-25 Hatfield Fellowship program funded by Spirit Mountain Community Fund are being accepted through Tuesday, April 30.

Spirit Mountain Community Fund annually sponsors a Native American Rehabilitation Association of the Western United States Tribal Council members Denise Harvey, Brenda Tuomi and Michael Cherry. Following the presentation, Chair Brenda Tuomi closed the event by thank-

As a member of this board, it is an honor and privilege to extend our thanks to all of the nonprofits for their work.

“There as an honor and privilege to extend our thanks to all of the nonprofits for their work.”

“Membership will be given to members of Oregon Tribes. Applicants must have a bachelor’s degree or be graduating in June 2024, and be 21 or older. For more information, visit the communityfund.com/grants-programs/hatfield-fellowship or go to youtu.be/T0Na0FQyULs to watch an informational video about the Hatfield Fellowship.

The fellowship was created in 1998 to honor the late Sen. Mark Hatfield’s public service to Oregon and the Pacific Northwest.

For more information, visit the communityfund.com/grants-programs/hatfield-fellowship or go to youtu.be/T0Na0FQyULs to watch an informational video about the Hatfield Fellowship.

The fellowship was created in 1998 to honor the late Sen. Mark Hatfield’s public service to Oregon and the Pacific Northwest.

For more information, visit the communityfund.com/grants-programs/hatfield-fellowship or go to youtu.be/T0Na0FQyULs to watch an informational video about the Hatfield Fellowship.

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The fellowship was created in 1998 to honor the late Sen. Mark Hatfield’s public service to Oregon and the Pacific Northwest.
Part two of ‘stik’ exhibit opens

In Chinuk Wawa, stik means stick, bush, tree or woods. “stik” is also the name of the yearlong, four-part exhibit that features stories from the forest, currently at Chachalu Tribal Museum & Cultural Center.

Told through the perspectives of timber industry workers, conservationists, hunters, weavers and others, the exhibit reflects on how Tribal interaction with the land has changed from time immemorial to the present day.

Part one of the exhibit, from October 2023 to February, featured time immemorial. Part two, currently on display, highlights 1857-1954. Part three, from June to September, will cover 1954-1983 and part four, September to December, will highlight 1983 through today.

A large portion of part two focuses on logging, sawmills and the Willamina & Grand Ronde Railway. There are photographs of Tribal members with lumber equipment, in a blacksmith shop and of the Grand Ronde Timber Carnival in 1922.

One photograph, also from 1922, is a view of Grand Ronde. On the reverse side of the image there is an excerpt from an article that ran in the Sunday Oregonian on July 16, 1922, titled “Grand Ronde is now Oregon’s most modern little city.” It calls Grand Ronde a model town, with every detail in plan and construction thoroughly detailed and put into effect. The photo shows what is Grand Ronde Road and South Street today.

Part two of “stik” runs through June, when it will be replaced with part three. Chachalu is located at 8720 Grand Ronde Road and is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Tuesday through Friday.
Watchlist: ‘Double Ball’

(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

Native Youth Wellness Day was held Friday, March 8, in the Tribal gym. Outside the gym and throughout the day, there were Native youth running around the field with long sticks pointed in the air. The game they were playing is called double ball.

A short video on YouTube published by Thomas J. Elpel shares the rules to the sport, calling double ball “incredibly addictive” and showing video of double ball players having what looks like a lot of fun.

According to Elpel’s website, he is the founder of Green University LLC, an immersive camp teaching traditional skills, survival and sustainable construction inspired by Native culture.

“Double ball originated as a Native American sport similar to lacrosse,” Elpel said. Both sports have sticks to pick up a ball, goals on each end of the field and involve a lot of running.

Elpel explains the namesake, double ball, was traditionally two sacks of buckskin filled with hair and sand connected by a strap. However, today these are usually tennis balls and paracord but function just the same.

The players must move the double ball around without touching it with their hands. “Players are not allowed to physically touch the balls but use sticks to pick them up, run with the balls, fling them or catch them,” Elpel said. “Rules vary, but the way we play it there are no boundaries.”

The video shows the sticks can also be used to smack the double ball off the opposing team’s stick.

Elpel goes on to explain that one point is scored when the ball goes through the front of the goal, or three points for landing and wrapping around the goal post. The game is over when one team reaches 10 points.

You can watch more of the game continued in the video at www.youtube.com/watch?v=AOVbWBgt1N0.

Tribal Employment Rights Office Director Harris Reibach, right, shows members of the Oregon Workforce and Talent Development Board around achaf-hammi (Tribal plankhouse) on Friday, March 8. Every quarter a board member hosts the board meeting at their location. Reibach hosted the first meeting of the year and began it with a tour of the Grand Ronde community. The board is made up of leaders representing business, labor, local workforce development boards, community-based organizations, the Oregon legislature, local government and state agencies and is the overall advisory board to the Governor on workforce matters including developing a strategic plan for Oregon’s workforce development system. Reibach was appointed to the board by former Oregon Gov. Kate Brown in 2022.

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.
Grand Ronde Royalty

Participating in the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Royalty is an excellent opportunity for Tribal youth to learn our traditions, powwow protocol and public speaking. Participants represent the Tribe by attending powwows, events, parades, fundraisers and various community events.

Serving on the royalty court requires a considerable commitment from the participant and their parents/guardians and/or sponsor. Royalty participants (including parent/guardian/sponsor) must attend all required events and activities.

Participants must be within the following age categories by Tuesday, Aug. 1, 2024:

- Tiny Tot (Honorary): 4-6 years of age
- Little Miss Grand Ronde: 7-10 years of age
- Junior Miss Grand Ronde: 11-13 years of age
- Senior Miss Grand Ronde: 14-18 years of age

General Requirements:

1. Enrolled Grand Ronde Tribal member
2. Must be drug-, alcohol- and tobacco-free
3. Attend school regularly and be in good standing
4. Must be single with no dependents
5. Sign and comply with royalty guidelines and agreement

For questions or an application, contact Shannon A. Simi, CTGR & Veterans Royalty Coordinator at 503-879-1358 or Shannon.simig@grandronde.org.

DEADLINE: 5 p.m. Friday, March 29
Late applications will not be accepted.

Veterans Royalty

GRAND RONDE VETERANS ROYALTY

Participating in Veterans Royalty is an excellent opportunity for Tribal youth to learn our traditions, powwow protocol, public speaking and work with veterans. Participants represent the veterans and the Tribe by attending powwows, events, parades, fundraisers and various community events.

Serving on Veterans Royalty requires a considerable commitment from the participant and their parents and/or sponsor. Royalty participants (including parent or sponsor) must attend all required events and activities.

Participants must be within the following age categories by Saturday, July 1, 2024:

- Tiny Tot Warriors: 4-6 years of age
- Warriors: 7-12 years of age
- Tiny Tot Princess: 4-6 years of age
- Little Miss Queen: 7-10 years of age
- Junior Miss Queen: 11-13 years of age
- Senior Miss Queen: 14-18 years of age

General Requirements:

1. Enrolled Grand Ronde Tribal member
2. Must be alcohol and drug free
3. Never married, no children
4. Attend school regularly and be in good standing
5. Sign and comply with Veterans Royalty guidelines & agreement

For questions or an application, contact Shannon A. Simi, CTGR & Veterans Royalty Coordinator at 503-879-1358 or Shannon.simig@grandronde.org.

DEADLINE: 5 p.m. Friday, March 29
Late applications will not be accepted.

Tribal Library merges with Regional Library Service

The Tribal Library has merged with the Chemeketa Cooperative Regional Library Service, said Tribal Librarian Kathy Cole.

Tribal members can now get books from libraries in Polk, Yamhill and Marion counties, as well as access to many free programs. Tribal Library patrons should visit the Tribal Library and update their information to obtain a new Regional Library Service card. For more information, contact Cole at 503-879-1488.

Interior Department announces new regulations for Indian gaming compact approval processes

WASHINGTON — The Department of the Interior announced a final rule to update federal regulations regarding Class III gaming compact negotiations between Tribes and states.

The updated regulations provide guidance for Tribes and states to negotiate gaming compacts required by the Indian Gaming and Regulatory Act, and a more transparent and orderly processes for Tribes who are seeking approval of their compacts with states, according to a press release.

“These regulations are part of the Biden-Harris administration’s commitment to ensuring that Tribes have the resources they need to exercise their Tribal sovereignty and support their communities,” Interior Secretary Deb Haaland said. “Not only does Indian gaming support Tribal economies, the funding it generates helps to support the vital services that Tribal nations provide to their citizens — from language preservation to healthcare. By updating these regulations, we will provide certainty and clarity to Tribes for an industry that remains one of the most significant sources of economic development in Indian Country.”

The changes to 25 C.F.R. Part 293, which governs the review and approval of Tribal-state gaming compacts, provide clarity on the criteria the department would consider when deciding whether to approve these compacts by clarifying boundaries as to allowable topics of negotiation, better defining key terms and clearly outlining when the department must review a gaming compact.

The final rule reflects input and recommendations provided by Tribes during two listening sessions and seven formal consultation sessions as well as written comments from Tribes and the public. The new regulations will be effective 30 days after being published in the Federal Register, which is expected in the coming days.

Construction zone

Now through Dec. 31, 2024, construction is occurring for the new child development center. During this time, there will be construction traffic using the loop road around the old powwow grounds across the street from the Governance Center.

The road surrounding the old powwow grounds will have restricted access to allow the contractor adequate space to access the site, as well as store materials and equipment. The western half of the loop around the grounds will be closed through Monday, April 1, due to construction.

For more information, contact 503-879-2404 or Ryan.Webb@grandronde.org.
USDA Forest Service offers Tribal land management grants

The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Forest Service division is offering $20 million in competitive grants to support federally recognized Tribes and Alaska Native corporations and villages as part of President Joe Biden’s Investing in America agenda, according to a press release from USDA.

The funding, provided through Inflation Reduction Act monies and distributed through competitive grants administered by the USDA Forest Service, will help recipients access emerging private markets for forest resilience, climate mitigation, water quality, carbon sequestration and more.

“Tribal practices support resilient forests and land management for the benefit of future generations,” Agriculture Deputy Secretary Xochitl Torres Small said. “Thanks to funding from President Biden’s Inflation Reduction Act, Tribes and Alaska Native corporations and villages will have broader access to markets that will help address the climate crisis, support Indigenous knowledge and strengthen local economies. This is just one of the many ways USDA is partnering with Tribes to reduce barriers and better serve Tribal people and communities.”

Deputy Secretary Torres Small made the announcement during a meeting of the National Congress of American Indians in Washington, D.C., the week of Feb. 12-15.

The grants fund work on Tribal lands and help advance co-stewardship of national forests and grasslands. In fiscal year 2023, the USDA Forest Service and Tribes had more than 110 co-stewardship agreements, representing a total investment of $68 million, more than triple the investments from fiscal year 2022.

The Forest Service also made policy adjustments, recognizing the importance of Indigenous knowledge and providing Tribes with improved access to USDA programs.

Grant proposals may be submitted through Aug. 21, 2024, at grants.gov.
RABBI TRUST FUND AND MINORS’ CUSTODIAL TRUST FUND

This announcement is to inform you of the upcoming election opportunity to recommend an investment option that best suits your tolerance for investment risk. The election deadline is Friday, March 22, 2024, and the investment period will be effective from Monday, April 1, 2024, until modified.

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

Email: deanne.norton@grandronde.org or call 503-879-2215 to receive your investment risk assessment recommendation form. This is optional and open only to those who participate in the Rabbi Trust Fund and Minors’ Custodial Trust Fund.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CAREER RESOURCES

Grand Ronde Head Start seeks individuals interested in pursuing Early Childhood Education careers. All positions are advertised on the Tribal website at https://grandronde.aquaplex.com/home. Substituting is often a pathway to ECE professionals. If you are interested in substituting, please check for an available Teacher Aide/Bus Monitor On-Call position. We encourage our former students and parents of students enrolled in our program to apply.

CENTRAL BACKGROUND REGISTRY

If you are interested in becoming a head start provider, please enrole as soon as possible in the Central Background Registry at https://www.oregon.gov/delc/providers/pages/cbr.aspx

Facility Name: Grand Ronde Head Start
Address: 1257 Grand Ronde Rd, Grand Ronde, OR 97347
License Number: Exempt
Facility Phone Number: (503)879-1430

FOOD HANDLER CERTIFICATION

Food Handler’s training is free with IHS. You can complete the course online at http://www.ihshandsoap.com

Food Handler Certification Facility Name: Grand Ronde Head Start
Address: 1257 Grand Ronde Rd, Grand Ronde, OR 97347
License Number: Exempt
Facility Phone Number: (503)879-1430

CPR/First Aid Certification

ECE employees must be certified in CPR and First Aid. Childcare Resource & Referral of Marion, Polk & Yamhill provides the training. You can make an account at https://my.oregonregistryonline.org and click the Log In My Account > Create Account link. You will provide some basic information about yourself and DRCO staff will email you a link to log in once your account has been created or found. Please upload any training certificates you have that apply to the ORO Core Knowledge Categories. You should also upload your college transcript.

OREGON REGISTRY ONLINE (ORO)

Early Childhood Education professionals use Oregon Registry Online to track professional development. Please visit https://my.oregonregistryonline.org and click the Log In My Account > Create Account link. You will provide some basic information about yourself and DRCO staff will email you a link to log in once your account has been created or found. Please upload any training certificates you have that apply to the ORO Core Knowledge Categories. You should also upload your college transcript.

QPR (. is a suicide awareness training with a simple framework! Discover how youth & the adults in their lives experience stress, identify “bite size” self-care activities that can help before stress becomes too much, and learn the QPR best practice skills about how to recognize warning signs of suicide and connect someone to help!

Question. Persuade. Refer. for Youth & Families

QPR is supported throughout Oregon & this training has been customized for youth (ages 12 and older) and families to come together, learn together, and stay safe together!

What You’ll Get:

- Skills to recognize stress in your life
- Bite sized self-care & tools to use before stress feels too much
- Skills to recognize & support individuals with thoughts of suicide
- Conversation starter activity & forms for your home
- Yummy snacks, fun fidgets, tons of resources & QPR booklet
- Connection with those that matter in your life – PRICELESS!

FREE Training

Sponsored by: Grand Ronde

March 16th
4:30 pm – 7:30 pm
Dinner Included

Gather at the Community Center

REGISTER TODAY

=

INDIAN TACO FUNDRAISER: SUPPORT TRIBAL ROYALTY!

Delicious Food for a Good Cause

Join us Friday, March 15th from 11:30-1:30 pm in the Community Center

$10 – Indian Taco
$5 – Frybread
$1.00 – Water/Soda

50/50 Raffle

$2,500 for Grand Ronde

All proceeds will be used to help the group travel to the Gathering of Nations Powwow

FREE Training

Sponsored by: Grand Ronde

March 16th
4:30 pm – 7:30 pm
Dinner Included

Gather at the Community Center

REGISTER TODAY

=

IN THE NEWS

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.

Gas discount in Grand Ronde

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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.
**Elders Activity Center happenings in April**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Healthy Lifestyle Group Noon</td>
<td>Easter Luncheon Egg Hunt 10-30 a.m.</td>
<td>Grocery Shopping leave at 9 a.m. Committee Meeting 10 a.m.</td>
<td>Craft Day noon to 2 p.m. to help with Honor Day Massage 10-2:45 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthy Lifestyle Group Noon</td>
<td>Craft Day 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.</td>
<td>Horse Barn Trip</td>
<td>Craft day noon to 2 p.m. to help with Honor Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Healthy lifestyle Group Noon</td>
<td>Art Therapy 1 p.m.</td>
<td>Grocery Shopping leave at 9 a.m. Committee Meeting 10 a.m.</td>
<td>Bingo 1 p.m. Massage 10-2:45 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthy lifestyle Group Noon EARTH DAY!</td>
<td>Craft day 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Bucket Gardens 1 p.m.</td>
<td>Horse Barn Trip</td>
<td>Craft day noon to 2 p.m. to help with Honor Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Healthy lifestyle Group Noon</td>
<td>Elder trip leave at 9 a.m.</td>
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- Need to sign up for events or concerts. Call 503-879-2233 to put your name on lists.
- Massages at EAC. Call 503-879-2233 to sign up for a time slot. Massages are covered by insurance.

**Save the Date**
**Warriors of Hope**
**MMIP Awareness Event May 3rd 2024**
**CTGR Community Center**
10:00-2:00pm
Education • Activities • Support • Food

**Kick the Habit.**
Call these numbers for free from anywhere in Oregon:
1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669)
Espanol: 1-877-NO-FUME (1-877-266-3863)
TTY: 1-877-777-6534
Or register online at: www.quitnow.net/oregon/

**Hukuma**
**COMMUNITY STICK GAME NIGHT**
**Wednesday March 20th 5:00pm**
**Chachalu Cultural Center**
Grande Ronde tribal member Fabian Quenelle hosts an evening of stick game playing and knowledge sharing

Dinner will be served
No experience needed
Beginners encouraged
For more info contact
Cristina Lara
Cristina.Lara@grandronde.org
503-879-1460
NRD hosting Hunters Education Field Day

The Natural Resources Department Parks and Recreation program is coordinating a Hunters Education Field Day on Saturday, April 13 at the Natural Resources office, 47010 S.W. Hebo Road. Registration for the class is at myodfw.com/articles/hunter-education-classes-field-days.

There is a $10 per student fee for the class. It will be open to both Tribal and community members ages 12 to 17. The class is only the field day and all students must have attended either a conventional course or an online course prior to the field day. There will be limited spots for the field day.

In Oregon, all youth hunters age 17 years and younger must pass a certified hunter education class prior to hunting, unless they are participating in the Mentor Youth Hunter Program.

The minimum age to hunt big game is 12 at the time of the hunt and hunters age 13 and younger must be accompanied by an adult 21 years of age or older when hunting unless on land owned by a parent or legal guardian.

Hunter education can be completed with a conventional classroom course or online course with a hands-on field day. Students must attend all sessions of the course they sign up for.

For a full list of youth hunter regulations, visit myodfw.com/articles/hunting-opportunities-youth. ■

Conferences of Grand Ronde Family Fishing Day

The Hebo Ranger District invites You for the Family Fishing Day in the Forest

When: June 17, 2024, from 09:00 am to 02:00 pm.

Where: Hebo Lake in Hebo, OR.

Fishing Contest and Prizes for Children (4-15 years old)

We will have fishing poles and reels, bait, and free fishing lessons available. Parking is free, and kids under 12 years old won’t need a Fishing License. For people 12 years and up, a Fishing License is required for this event.
INVITATION TO BID

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde (CTGR/owner) hereby extends an invitation to general contractors to bid on the Route 312 Culvert Replacement Project in Grand Ronde, Oregon.

Project Description

The Route 312 Culvert Replacement Project includes construction on Route 312 and Yoncalla Creek, and replacement of an existing culvert in Yoncalla Creek, located in Grand Ronde, Oregon. Route 312 and Yoncalla Creek Road are located in the timberlands of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. Route 312 takes off from Yoncalla Creek Road and crosses Yoncalla Creek.

The Yoncalla Creek crossing consists of a corrugated metal pipe culvert that stands in a crushed arch-pipe configuration. This pipe is inadequately sized and positioned to accommodate fish passage in Yoncalla Creek and is in danger of eroding away the roadway if not addressed.

The Route 312 Culvert Replacement Project will involve widening Yoncalla Creek at the crossing and replacing the existing culvert with a larger, bottomless arch configuration. In addition, a gravel overlay of the existing road will be included in the project.

Construction proposed by the owner will include:
1. Mobilization and staging.
2. Construct, maintain and remove temporary work zone traffic control measures.
3. Construct, maintain and remove erosion control measures.
4. Perform all removal of structures and obstruction, clearing and grubbing, and earthwork operations.
5. Installation of new creek crossing structures including, but not limited to, footings and culvert pipe materials. Culvert pipe materials will be provided by owner and installed by contractor.
6. Construct driveway improvements including, but not limited to, aggregate subbase and base, gravel wearing surfaces and gravel shoulders.
7. Roadside development including armored slopes, seeding and planting.
8. Follow all permit and funding requirements.

All associated information required to complete the construction are described in the construction drawings and these contract documents.

Bidding documents

Bid documents, including contract terms, conditions and specifications will be available beginning Tuesday, March 19, 2024. The plan holders list will be managed by HBH Engineers, 501 East First St., Newberg, Oregon, 97132. Phone: 503-554-9553, Email: mail@hbh-consulting.com. All bidders wishing to be notified of addenda must register their name, mailing address and email address with HBH Engineers.

Walking On...

Barbara Ann Cantwell
April 20, 1934 – Feb. 29, 2024

Tribal Elder Barbara Ann Cantwell passed away on Feb. 29, 2024, at the age of 89.

Wilson’s Chapel of the Roses in Roseburg is assisting the family. Funeral service details were not available at press time.

Join the Tribal Library in welcoming

Steph Littlebird

Monday, April 22nd · 5:30 pm · Tribal Gym

Artist, author, illustrator, and an enrolled member of The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. She currently lives and works in Las Vegas, NV.

Join us as Steph discusses her soon to be released book Coyote & Meadowlark Make Willamette Falls. Questions, and discussion to follow.

A take home meal while supplies last!

Never move or transfer your money to “protect it.”

It’s a scam.

Learn more at
ftc.gov/imposters

Paid ad
Chinuk Wawa community classes

Tuesdays 4:30-5:30 starting April 2nd in the new Chinuk Wawa Skul

email zoey.holsclaw@grandronde.org to sign up!

HOW TO ACCESS SMOKE SIGNALS:

Social Media • Youtube • Podcasts • Email • Online

Ad by Samuel Briggs III
**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.

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**NOW HIRING WILDLAND FIREFIGHTERS**

Competitive Wages + National Dispatch + Overtime + Hazard Pay + Training

Application period:  February 9 – April 12

CTGR Natural Resources
Forestry Technicians:
Entry Level / Intermediate / Engine Boss / Crew Boss / EMT

Visit www.grandronde.org/employment/ or scan the QR code to apply.

Contact Andrew Puerini at 503-879-1696 or Jim Pinder at 503-879-2332

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**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.

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**SURF, STREAM, & SAVE!**

Get Wireless Internet in Grand Ronde for as low as $43.95 per month! *FREE INSTALLATION • FREE ROUTER NO HIDDEN FEES • NO OVERAGE FEES NO DATA CAPS • NO CONTRACTS* **— GRAND RONDE —**

www.nativene Network.com/grandronde | 833.880.9965

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**Boys with Braids**

Registration will close 03/21/24

APRIL 12 • 5:30 PM – 8 PM
APRIL 13 • 8:30 AM – 7:30 PM

9615 GRAND RONDE RD GRAND RONDE, OR 97347

Contact YEP for more info at 503-879-2034 or YEP@grandronde.org

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**YOUTH GRAND RONDE GONA 2024**

MARCH 29TH & 30TH AT 08:30AM

REGISTRATION

Scan the QR code to register for the event

CONTACT US

503-879-3254

yep@grandronde.org

9615 Grand Ronde Rd. Grand Ronde, OR 97347

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**Ad by Samuel Briggs III**
TERO Worker of the Month
February 2024

Name: Sammy Bruised Head
Employer: Kiewit Infrastructure West
Position: Journeyman carpenter

Sammy first applied with the TERO program in 2018. She was immediately dispatched to one of our heavy highway construction projects for the Oregon Department of Transportation. Sammy had some experience and great potential but wanted to further her skills in the construction world.

She then signed up to participate in many of the trainings that TERO offers. Sammy was involved in our crew leadership class, OSHA 10, Baker Technical Institute equipment training and has also obtained her Class A Commercial Driver’s License through the TERO program.

These trainings readied Sammy for the biggest project that TERO has been involved in since we were established in 2013. The I-205 Abernethy Bridge is a 4-year project, located just outside of Oregon City. Sammy was referred out as a journeyman carpenter and is quickly making her way up through the ranks as a key employee.

Sammy said she is very grateful for the TERO program and training. These have helped her to enhance her skills and to recognize her drive and ability to work on prevailing wage projects.

TERO is proud to have Sammy on our team. Great work!

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

Massage at Health & Wellness

Hi, my name is Shawna Ray. I have been a licensed massage therapist in the Yamhill and Polk county area for eight years. I will be at the Health & Wellness Center on Mondays providing massage therapy as an on-site contractor and I am contracted with Shasta.

Contact 971.241.4928 by text or voice message to schedule appointments. Co-pay still may apply. I’m looking forward to working with those in the community to deliver a holistic approach to pain management, relaxation and overall wellness.

SMOKE SIGNALS
MARCH 15, 2024

Paid Internships in
Habitat Restoration

Elderberry Wisdom Farm is recruiting interns for its Habitat Restoration Internships for Spring and Summer 2024. This paid opportunity integrates Traditional Ecological Knowledge with local conservation practices and is supported by multiple collaborative partners.

- $3000 stipend
- 9 week training, 3 days a week
- Both classroom education and experiential service learning activities
- Choose:
  - Spring: April 1 to May 31, 2024
  - Summer: July 8 to August 30, 2024

Apply now:
elderberrywisdom.org/joinourteam

Incclement weather alert!

Please be sure to call the Health & Wellness Center before traveling in to appointments at the clinic during inclement weather. Health & Wellness Center staff will make every attempt to call patients during closures. Also, sign up for emergency notifications about Tribal campus closures on the Tribal website at www.grandronde.org or follow the Tribe’s primary page on Facebook.

Attention All Artisans

Now accepting bids for our Junior Miss crown.

Submit full design that includes:
- The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde logo including feathers.
- Court Year 2024–25.
- Title: Junior Miss Grand Ronde.
- Crowns must be completed and delivered by July 19, 2024.

Must submit photos of progress when requested.

Bid deadline is Friday, March 29, 2024. (deadline is firm and no bids will be accepted after 5 p.m.)

Mail bids and designs to:
CTGR Royalty c/o Shannon Simi
9115 Grand Ronde Road
Grand Ronde, OR 97347

Questions: Call Shannon at 971.879.1358 or email shannon.sim@grandronde.org

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

Ad by Samuel Briggs III
Call or Text:
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Chat online at:
strongheartshelpline.org

24/7 safe, confidential and anonymous domestic and sexual violence helpline for Native Americans and Alaska Natives, offering culturally-appropriate support and advocacy.

@strongheartsdv
Are you frustrated with your diabetes control?  
Do you have questions about diabetes?  
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If so...  
Call the Medical Clinic today at 503-879-2002  
To schedule an individual diabetes education appointment
March is colorectal cancer awareness month

The colon and rectum are part of the digestive system. Colorectal cancer occurs when small growths called polyps form on the inner walls and grow into cancer. Men and women need to get tested for colorectal cancer starting at age 45 even if they feel healthy. Most people with polyps — and most people with colorectal cancer — have no symptoms. If polyps are found early then they can be removed before they become cancer.

Screening can find signs of potential colorectal cancer before symptoms appear and the cancer develops into a life-threatening situation. Testing is recommended according to the American Cancer Society American Indians and Alaska Natives have some of the highest disease and death rates in the United States. If it has been longer than 10 years since your last colonoscopy or one year from your last rapid fecal test (FIT) it is time to do another screening test. Nine out of 10 people survive colorectal cancer if they are treated.

Early detection and treatment for colorectal cancer is highly effective! Ask your doctor about getting a screening test.

Understanding strokes and how they happen

A stroke happens when blood flow to a part of your brain is cut off. Strokes are classified as “ischemic” where a blood vessel that takes blood to your brain gets blocked and “hemorrhagic.” Blood vessels can get blocked when fatty deposits in your arteries break off and travel to the brain. Sometimes poor blood flow, due to an irregular heartbeat, can form a blood clot which travels to the brain. Hemorrhagic strokes occur when a blood vessel in your brain bursts or leaks. High blood pressure and certain blood-thinning medicines can lead to this kind of stroke.

What can you do to lower your chance of getting a stroke?

High blood pressure is the biggest cause of strokes. If you have been prescribed medicine for this, be sure to take it regularly. Even though you may feel fine, uncontrolled blood pressure is not your friend. Smoking or chewing tobacco raises your odds of a stroke. Nicotine makes your blood pressure increase and cigarette smoke contains fatty buildup in your neck artery. Heart disease, including defective heart valves or an irregular heartbeat (atrial fibrillation), can lead to strokes. High blood pressure, chronic high blood sugar, and being overweight are common in people with diabetes and raises the chance of a stroke. High cholesterol also creates higher risk.

Identify stroke symptoms and act FAST:

Face: Ask the person to repeat a simple phrase. Is their speech slurred?
Arms: Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward?
Speech: Ask the person to repeat a simple phrase. Is their speech slurred or strange?
Time: If you notice any of those signs, call 9-1-1 immediately.

Other common stroke symptoms include confusion, sudden vision or walking problems or severe headaches.

Staying safe on the road

Texting while driving is a dangerous activity that can lead to serious accidents. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, distracted driving claimed 3,522 lives in 2021. According to the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia Research Institute, cell phone usage can reduce a driver’s attention by as much as 37%.

To ensure traffic safety, it is important to avoid texting while driving. Any non-driving activity you engage in is a potential distraction and increases your risk of crashing. If you need to send a text message or make a call, pull over to a safe location and park your car before doing so. You cannot drive safely unless the task of driving has your full attention.

Sources: “Understanding the Problem” and “Distracted Driving” by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration; Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia Research Institute. “Cell phone usage reduces a driver’s attention by as much as 37%.”

Social media changing brain function

Studies are showing that social media is changing our brain function in key areas:

Memory — Social media can affect what is remembered, how it is remembered and how much is remembered. New research shows that as we document our experiences and thoughts on social media, we may actually reduce our memory of those events and experiences.

Some scientists believe social media may change how our brain compartmentalizes and stores information. Since we think we know where we can find the digital information our brains don’t seem to keep as many details about the event stored in our own memory.

Attention capacity — With heavy use of social media our brains are constantly being stimulated. Our brains multi-task. This can create changes in the neurological architecture of our brain. Social media offers the constant promise of new information. This new content is regularly competing for our attention. The current belief is that with this stimuli we are less able to ignore distraction. Therefore, we have poor mental performance. Heavy social media use has even been shown to shrink parts of the brain that help us concentrate.

Social and emotional response — Social media is made to be addictive. Our brains get a hit of dopamine with each like or positive comment. The little feel good rewards rewires our brain to do whatever it takes to get another dopamine release so we post more. This can lead to social media addiction.

Mental health — The absence of likes and comments on our posts can leave us feeling empty, sad, anxious or depressed because our brain isn’t getting that hit of dopamine.

Social media users tend to compare their lives to those they see online, leading to questions of their self-worth. They repeatedly question their importance to their “friends”. Do they measure up? Are they valuable in their friends’ eyes? Due to the nature of social media, comparisons can happen much faster than they would occur in real-life social interactions.

COLORECTAL CANCER CAN BE PREVENTED

1 in 24 people in the United States will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer in next 12 months.

Take control of your health. Get tested today!

What is colorectal cancer?
The colon and rectum are part of the digestive system. Colorectal cancer occurs when small growths called polyps form on the inner walls and grow into cancer.

When should I get tested?

Men and women need to get tested for colorectal cancer starting at age 45 even if they feel healthy.

How do I get tested?

You have options!

You can complete an at-home test — colonoscopy or FIT — that checks for problems in your colon. Your provider may recommend a flexible, lighted tube (colonoscopy) that checks for problems in your colon. Your provider may recommend a flexible, lighted tube (colonoscopy) that checks for problems in your colon.

A PP A punchin for hidden blood (red or maroon) in your stool, or if blood is found, your doctor may recommend a follow-up colonoscopy.

Early stage colorectal cancer can be treated.

Most people with polyps — and most people with colorectal cancer — are diagnosed in the early stages. If polyps are found early, they can be removed, before they become cancer.

Social media icons

Understanding strokes and how they happen

A stroke happens when blood flow to a part of your brain is cut off. Strokes are classified as “ischemic” where a blood vessel that takes blood to your brain gets blocked and “hemorrhagic.” Blood vessels can get blocked when fatty deposits in your arteries break off and travel to the brain. Sometimes poor blood flow, due to an irregular heartbeat, can form a blood clot which travels to the brain. Hemorrhagic strokes occur when a blood vessel in your brain bursts or leaks. High blood pressure and certain blood-thinning medicines can lead to this kind of stroke.

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**BEANIES • PATCHES • STICKERS • FREE SHIPPING!**

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Please mail to: Smoke Signals Publications Dept., 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347

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