



Pride Week at the
Tribe — pg. 13

JUNE 15, 2025



SMOKE SIGNALS

UMPQUA · MOLALLA · ROGUE RIVER · KALAPUYA · CHASTA

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



Photo by Kamiah Koch

Tribal member and ceremonial fisher Jade Unger wades into the North Santiam River to dip net at the Tribe's Chankawan Conservation Area in Stayton Thursday, June 5. The 425-acre property was purchased in 2016 and restoration work has continued for nearly a decade, including clearing access paths to the river so the Tribal fishers can once again harvest from the homelands of the Santiam band of the Kalapuya Tribe. Accessing this river for ceremonial fishing purposes comes at an important time as the Tribe awaits a federal court decision on the Portland General Electric condemnation of Willamette Falls, where the Tribe erected a removable fishing platform in 2018 and has harvested salmon and lamprey from since time immemorial.

Fishing perseverance

By Nicole Montesano
Smoke Signals staff writer

Although no salmon landed in the Tribe's fishing nets during its Celebration of Perseverance at its Chankawan Conservation Area Thursday, June 5, participants said they welcomed the chance to spend a perfect late spring day enjoying the sunshine on the bank of the North Santiam River in Stayton.

Silvery-leaved willow shrubs lined both banks of the rocky



shoreline. Bald eagles and red-tailed hawks occasionally soared overhead, as a crowd of Tribal members and employees gathered to hear about how the Tribe has been working to restore the 425-acre property over the past nine years.

Ceremonial fishers, wearing helmets and safety gear, were

undeterred by the fast current and cold water, although several chose to dip their nets from the top of a massive ice-age boulder rather than standing in mid-stream.

"I needed this," Tribal Council member Kathleen George said, lifting her face to the warm sun.

In addition to Kathleen George, Tribal Council Secretary Jon A. George and council

See FISHING
continued on page 9

Casino earns top grade on audit for second consecutive year

By Danielle Harrison
Smoke Signals editor

Spirit Mountain Casino was awarded an "A+" grade for a recent external audit conducted by Las Vegas-based REDW LLC.

It's the second year in a row that the casino has received a no-finding audit, which is considered a rarity in the industry, according to REDW Principal for Audit and Assurance Adam Smith.



Camille Mercier

"Typically, every casino we're auditing, we usually have about 15 findings where the casino's not complying with best practices and that could be for a range of different reasons," he said. "Out of all the casinos we audit annually, there are probably three that don't have any findings at all."

Spirit Mountain Casino CEO Camille Mercier said she was "incredibly proud" to have two consecutive years of zero findings.

"This outstanding result is a direct reflection of the professionalism, attention to detail and pride our employees bring to their work every day," she said. "Not only are we meeting casino industry standards — we are exceeding them. Moments like this remind me how fortunate I am to be part of such a dedicated and high-performing organization and Tribe."

See AUDIT
continued on page 10

Cooking burgers, raising awareness for MMIP

By Nicole Montesano
Smoke Signals staff writer

The sunshine, singing, drumming and a burger and hot dog barbecue prepared by members of the Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department, combined to draw employees from across the campus to the Cheryle A. Kennedy Public Health

Building Friday, May 30.

There was a serious purpose behind the festivity, however.

The Tribe's Warriors of Hope Domestic & Sexual Violence Program spent the

See MMIP
continued on page 11

From left, Issac Salazar and Tribal members Joe Ulestad, Fabian Quenelle, Tyrone Rock and Ferrell DeGarmo sing and drum during the Missing and Murdered Indigenous People event hosted by the Tribe's Warriors of Hope Domestic & Sexual Violence Program and the Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department at the Cheryle A. Kennedy Public Health Building Friday, May 30.



Photo by Nicole Montesano

Tribal Council nominations

11 a.m. Sunday, June 29

Tribal Council Chambers

All nominations are required to be done in-person.

Tribal members can attend remotely via Zoom and in-person.

Call 800-422-0232 for more information.

NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday meetings

DATE	TIME
Wednesday, June 25.....	4 p.m.
Wednesday, July 9.....	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,

As a former Tribal Council member, I write with deep concern over what I see as a disturbing abuse of power. Five council members have chosen to appeal my husband’s recent victory in Tribal Court via an Authorization to Proceed (ATP) that wasn’t presented during a Legislative Action Committee meeting for public comment. The work session minutes from the April 29 meeting where council discussed this matter only yielded a meager three sentences. So much for transparency.

The case that is being appealed is a \$50 citation issued to my husband, a dedicated 28-year casino employee. Despite his spotless record and taking on more responsibilities when his boss and others retired, he was fired for “breaking Tribal law,” (the \$50 citation). Mind you, that was before he even had his hearing where he was found not guilty. Red flags.

Even more troubling: If the council member who initiated the police report that led to the investigation that led to the citation, also signed this ATP, in my opinion, is a direct conflict of interest that needs to be investigated. Red flags.

The original complaint included information that I told my husband to print banners at work. When interviewed by Tribal police, I verified this wasn’t true by providing receipts for every single one of my banners. Where’s the accountability for those false accusations?

In the Tribal Council Ordinance, a staff directive is required for any Tribal Council member to direct staff work. The legal team who advised police to investigate and issue the citation reports to Tribal Council. Red flags.

How much is all this costing? Has an audit been conducted on how much money the Tribe spends on attorney fees, investigations, court hearings and appeals? Tribal members have a right to this information.

The legal department, gaming commissioners and the Tribal Court judge report to council. Where’s the checks and balance?

We went to court and won. Plain and simple. We’ll spend thousands defending ourselves while council, in my opinion, mindlessly spends Tribal member dollars without batting an eye. Red flags.

The Tribe also missed the 60-day appeal deadline but doesn’t seem to care about breaking the rules when it benefits them. Red flags.

With federal budget cuts, the current and costly PGE trial and ongoing external casino threats, priorities seem amiss at best.

The theme? Red flags. Our community deserves better.

Michael Cherry
Roll #1091

TRIBAL OFFICE CLOSURES

Tribal offices will be closed Thursday, June 19, in observance of the Juneteenth commemoration.

Letters welcome

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 and current events happening within the Tribe. However, all letters received must be signed by the author, an address must be given and a phone number or email 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 any individual, as well as individual Tribal staff members, individual Tribal administration members or individual Tribal Council members. 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**.

smok signalz

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DEADLINE DATE	ISSUE DATE	MEMBERS OF:
Friday, June 20	July 1	Indigenous Journalists Association
Wednesday, July 2	July 15	Oregon Newspaper Publishers Assoc.
Wednesday, July 23	August 1	2022 IJA General Excellence
Wednesday, Aug. 6	August 15	2023 IJA General Excellence

EDITORIAL POLICY

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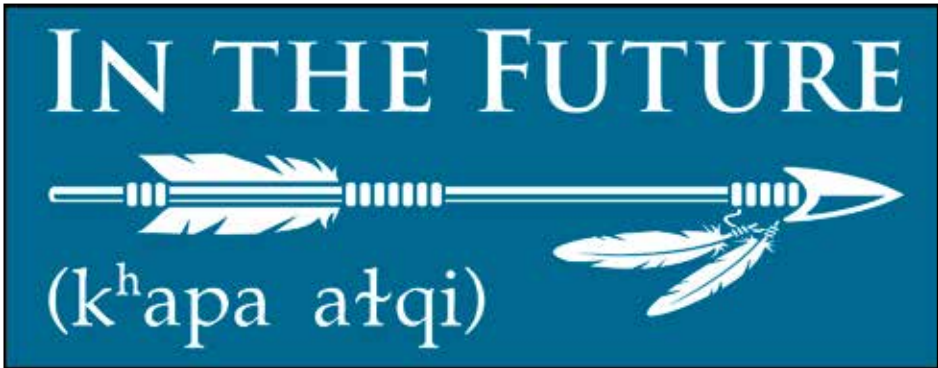
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taxam-mun (June)

- Thursday, June 19 – Tribal offices closed in observance of the Juneteenth commemoration.
- Wednesday, June 25 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 503-879-2304.
- Sunday, June 29 – Tribal Council nominations, 11 a.m., Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom.

sinəmakwst-mun (July)

- Thursday-Friday, July 3-4 – Tribal offices close at noon July 3 and remain closed July 4 in observance of the Independence Day holiday.
- Monday, July 7 – Elder Honor Day, 10 a.m. Spirit Mountain Casino. Doors open at 9 a.m. Lunch is served at 12:30 p.m. and bingo will begin at 1:30 p.m. Prizes will be raffled throughout the day. RSVP by Friday, June 13, to melanie.monson@grandronde.org.
- Wednesday, July 9 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 503-879-2304.
- Friday-Sunday, July 11-13 – Marcellus Norwest Memorial Veterans Powwow, uyxat Powwow Grounds, 9600 SW Hebo Road. Grand entries traditionally start at 7 p.m. Friday, 1 and 7 p.m. Saturday and 1 p.m. Sunday.
- Wednesday, July 23 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 503-879-2304.

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

Tribal Election office hours

The Tribal Election Board will be holding office hours at the Tribal Community Center for the upcoming constitutional amendment election to remove the Bureau of Indian Affairs from the Tribal election process. Hours will be 11-1 p.m. Monday and Wednesday through Monday, June 30. The election is Wednesday, July 9. The board may be reached at 503-879-2271 or by emailing election.board@grandronde.org. ■

RE: 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, July 18, and the investment period will be effective from Friday, Aug. 1, until modified. Recognizing that each Tribal member's tolerance for investment risk may be different, parents of minor members aged 17 or younger having balances in the Rabbi Trust Fund and Minors' Custodial Trust Fund, or members aged 18 or 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 form can also be found at www.grandronde.org/services/finance/minors-trust-funds/ and click on the Rabbi Minor Investment Change Form link. This form is optional and open only to those who participate in the Rabbi and Minors' Custodial Trust Funds. ■



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Grand Ronde Employment Services

Facebook.com/EmploymentServices



Ad by Samuel Briggs III



TRIBAL COMMITTEE / BOARD & COMMISSION

Now accepting new applications

- Do you want to be more involved with the Tribe?
- Do you have a desire to be a part of a group to plan and be involved in Tribal activities and events?
- Are you intersted in making positive changes for future generations?

Current vacancies:

- Ceremonial Hunting Board – Must be a ceremonial hunter (2)
- Election Board (1) • Election Board alternates (2)
- Fish & Wildlife Committee (1) • Culture Committee (1)
- Powwow Special Event Board (2) • Health Committee (1)
- Timber Committee (2)

For questions email:

shannon.ham-texeira@grandronde.org

Applications available online at:

www.grandronde.org/government/tribal-council/committees/

Applications also available in the Tribal Governance building:

Located at the Tribal Council office near the security desk.

Ad by Samuel Briggs III

Food Bank news

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Call to ensure someone is available to assist. People also can sign up for a monthly 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 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 Veterans House. Chair: Molly Leno.
- **Editorial Board** meets monthly. The next meeting will be held at 10:30 a.m. Friday, June 20, via Zoom. Contact Editorial.Board@grandronde.org for the meeting link and date.
- **Education Committee** meets at 5:30 p.m. on the last Tuesday of the month in the Adult Education building. Interim Chair: Valeria Atanacio.
- **Elder Board** meets the first and third Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m. in the Elders Activity Center. Chair: Darlene Aaron.
- **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 Monday of the month in the Cheryle A. Kennedy Public Health Building. Chair: Darlene Aaron.
- **Housing Grievance Board** meets at 3 p.m. the third Thursday of the month in the Housing Department conference room. Chair: Harris Reibach.
- **Powwow Special Event Board** meets as needed at the Community Center. Dates vary. Contact Dana Ainam at 503-879-2037. Chair: Dana Ainam.
- **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: Molly Leno.

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



2020 — Tribal Council approved a temporary amendment to the Election Ordinance, to make the 2020 election for Tribal Council an absentee ballot process due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The change was intended to protect the health of Elders serving on the Election Board, as well as the health of people voting in person.

2015 — The Willamina School Board was scheduled to consider a revised policy on flag displays, to accommodate a parent’s request to place the Grand Ronde Tribal flag in the high school gym.

2010 — Tribal Council amended the Enrollment Ordinance, bringing it into compliance with the 2008 constitutional amendment requiring potential members to have relinquished membership in another Tribe for five years; increasing the number of times the Enrollment Committee may meet about applications and making other changes agreed to in more than a year of work.

2005 — Spirit Mountain Casino nearly burst at the seams on Memorial Day, giving out more than half a million dollars in slot payouts, along with a \$92,000 recreational vehicle, and served up to 11,000 guests. Many employees worked overtime, while others had to leave so that arriving shift employees could find a parking space.

2000 — Tribal members living in Willamina and Sheridan were warned that the Environmental Protection Agency had declared Taylor Lumber and Treating Plant a superfund site. According to the EPA, chemicals used in treating lumber were found in high concentrations in the soil, groundwater and drainage ditches around the facility, and chemicals of concern were found in water samples from the Yamhill River. Both posed a threat to human health and the environment from prolonged exposure, the EPA said.



2000 File photo

1995 — Spirit Mountain Casino officials announced they would hire 850 employees for the casino, which was expected to open in October. Positions were available in casino operations, finance, facility services, food and beverage, guest services, human resources and management information systems.

1990 — Tribal Council met with the Yamhill County Sheriff’s Department to discuss law enforcement on the Tribal Reservation. After learning about the Yamhill County Timberland Owners Association, the Tribe authorized a \$2,000 payment to join the association, which helped pay the cost of a full-time deputy to patrol timberlands on the lookout for fire.

1985 — Tribal Chairman Henry Petite reported that Tribal Council had been meeting with commissioners from Polk, Tillamook and Yamhill counties, along with area mayors, state legislators, congressional representatives and others, including the Bureau of Indian Affairs, about developing a reservation plan. The effort had garnered widespread support.

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

Season’s first wildfire ignites in timber along Hebo Highway

Burn piles reignited during windy conditions Monday, June 2, sending embers into nearby rotten stumps, according to the Grand Ronde Emergency Services Department. The fire traveled into timber along the 51000 block of Hebo Highway west of Grand Ronde, requiring response from the Tribe and the Oregon Department of Forestry.

According to Emergency Services Department Administrative Services Lt. Mariah Walters, crews were able to contain the fire to just under a quarter of an acre and worked to clear debris around the fire line to prevent further spread. The fire was extinguished by evening and the scene turned over to the Oregon Department of Forestry.

Walters said in a press release that, “Chief Steve Warden would like to remind everyone to keep a close eye on any burn piles, even if you believe they have been extinguished.”

The piles can reignite, even weeks after they are believed to be extinguished, Walters said, especially on windy days.

“Ensure your fire is out by alternating between stirring the pile and putting water on the pile a few times, then keep an eye on the pile for reignition,” she said.

She noted that humidity can drop quickly, contributing to rapid spread of fire through easily dried light fuels like grasses. It’s important to maintain an appropriately sized area, cleared to dirt, around burn piles.

In addition, Walters said, “consider having a defensible space assessment completed by our staff to mitigate risk ■



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.

Tribal Council approves PGE easement in Sheridan

By Danielle Harrison

Smoke Signals editor

Tribal Council approved an easement for Portland General Electric on its Hanson property at its Wednesday, May 28, meeting.

The 9.27-acre Hanson property, located in Sheridan, is the site of the Tribe's Community Transitions Program's residential treatment center and transitional housing. The Tribe purchased the property in 2023.

"It's an awesome property and the perfect property for that program," Tribal Lands Department Manager Jan Reibach said during a Tuesday, May 20, Legislative Action Committee meeting. "I'm here today to present a simple easement that's going to improve the safety of the property by putting overhead power lines underground."

Reibach noted that PGE is working to make upgrades to their systems in several counties by relocating power lines underground, which will reduce outages due to weather events or accidents.

The easement will cover the upgrades and grant PGE access to relocate and manage their systems on the property.

In other action, Tribal Council:

- Approved final adoption of amendments to the Enrollment

Ordinance that updates sections of the ordinance including: Membership criteria, genetic testing, application process, other changes to be consistent with the Tribal Constitution, duties of staff, the committee, Tribal Roll, application, proof of descendancy and publication; and adds sections including a waitlist, 2025 open enrollment, enrolled-in-error, removes the blood degree correction and other unnecessary references to blood quantum. For more information about enrollment, see related story about the lineal descent application process.

- Approved appointing a new building official as per the Tribe's building code ordinance. The Tribe contracts with a building code consultant to provide building department services, including providing a building official;
- And approved the enrollment of two infants and an emergency enrollment of two non-infant minors into the Tribe because they meet the requirements under 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. ■

Open enrollment starts

The Tribe began accepting non-infant and non-emergency enrollment applications under the new lineal descent requirements Tuesday, June 3. The deadline for applying is 5 p.m. Friday, July 18.

Applications submitted during that period will be included in an enrollment drawing Tuesday, July 29. The drawing will be live-streamed at a time to be announced. Applications received after the deadline will be placed on a waiting list.

Requirements for enrollment changed in January after the Bureau of Indian Affairs certified the results of the Tribe's constitutional amendment election that was held in December 2024, changing enrollment requirements to lineal descent.

Applicants must now possess Grand Ronde Indian blood and descend from a biological parent or grandparent who was at any time an enrolled member of the Tribe, provided the ancestor was not enrolled in error. DNA testing is required.

The Tribe prohibits dual enrollment. Applicants who are enrolled in another Tribe must relinquish those Tribal rights for five years and must include with the application a Tribal Council resolution from that Tribe, approving the unconditional relinquishment.

Enrollment for members older than 6 months and not subject to juvenile dependency hearings is limited to 150 new members annually, although Tribal Council may increase it up to 200 by resolution.

For more information and to access enrollment forms, visit www.grandronde.org/services/member-services/enrollment/.

The fillable form is available online at www.grandronde.org/services/member-services/

Forms are also be available at the Tribal Governance Center, Health & Wellness Center, Elders Activity Center, Social Services, Adult Education and Tribal Housing. ■

Hotel room rates increase

As of January 2025, the Spirit Mountain Hotel at Spirit Mountain Casino has implemented a revised pricing structure for the Elders discount, which has remained unchanged since the hotel's opening in 1997. The new discounted rates are \$99 for mid-week stays, \$109 for weekends and \$129 for holidays.

This adjustment is necessary to better align room rates with the actual cost of room upkeep, while still offering competitive pricing, according to Spirit Mountain Casino Chief Executive Officer Camille Mercier.

The Tribal member discount will reflect a 10% discount on standard room rates. The RV park will offer Elders and Tribal members a \$10 discount off the standard rate at the RV lot.

"The changes ensure that we continue to provide valuable services while maintaining financial sustainability," Mercier said. ■

Kick the Habit.

Call these numbers for free from anywhere in Oregon:
1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669)
Español: 1-877-2NO-FUME (1-877-266-3863)
TTY: 1-877-777-6534
Or register online at: www.quitnow.net/oregon/



Contest Powwow vendors wanted!



The Grand Ronde Contest Powwow Committee is seeking vendors for the 2025 Contest Powwow, which will be held Friday, Aug. 15 to Sunday, Aug. 17.

Interested vendors are asked to apply online at www.grandronde.org.

For more information or assistance call:

503-879-5211 • 503-879-2037
503-879-4533



Ad by Samuel Briggs III



TRIBAL EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS OFFICE

Position yourself for a job in archaeology by training as an archaeology assistant.

Monday, Sept. 8 – Friday, Sept. 12

Portland classroom training and onsite locations at Agency Block 1.

What you will learn.

- How to work safely as an archaeologist in the field.
- Hands-on training in field survey and excavation.
- Hands-on training to identify artifacts.

What you will need to bring or wear.

- Wear long pants and a shirt with sleeves.
- Have good work boots (leather preferred), and work gloves.
- Expect to be outside each day, in the weather, rain or shine.

What is Required?

- Open to all Tribal members of any federally recognized tribe.
- Must have the ability to stand for extended periods of time and be able to get dirty.
- Must be 18 years or older with a valid driver's license and transportation.

Certificate awarded upon completion.

Lunch will be provided.

To register contact:
Jacob.boekhoff@grandronde.org
503-879-2146



Ad by Samuel Briggs III

Clothes Closet open

The Clothes Closet is open from 9 to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 to 2 p.m. every 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. ■

ELECTION BOARD VACANCIES

One permanent full time board member position open.

Two alternate board member positions open.

Qualifications:
Basic computer skills / file search / email / phone inquiries / flexible hours.

Election Board Chair:
Kalene Contreras

For information contact:
Shannon Ham-Teixeira • 503-879-2301
shannon.ham-teixeira@grandronde.org



Ad by Samuel Briggs III

WANT TO PLACE AN AD?

DO YOU WANT TO ADVERTISE IN SMOKE SIGNALS?

Tribal member?
Did you know Smoke Signals offers special discounted advertising rates for Tribal members.

Not a Tribal member?
We accept ads from non-Tribal members as well. Please contact us for a current list of advertising rates.

For more information contact:
Katherine Warren Steffensmier at 503-879-1466 or Katherine.Warren-Steffensmier@grandronde.org

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Ad by Samuel Briggs III

PATHWAYS MEETING

WITH CASINO LEADERSHIP

— DATE CHANGE —

Tribal members are invited to an informal, in-person meeting with the Spirit Mountain Casino Executive C-suite team on **WEDNESDAY, JULY 2**

Reception held at **5PM** in the **SMC Courtyard**
(located outside between the Hotel and Event Center)

Pathway Meeting held at **6PM** in the **SMC Event Center**

*We sincerely apologize for the change from a Sunday to a Wednesday. Due to scheduling conflicts, we are convening the meeting on **Wednesday, July 2nd**. With the 4th of July holiday the following weekend, we did not want to delay any further than necessary. We appreciate your flexibility and understanding.*

We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday, July 2.

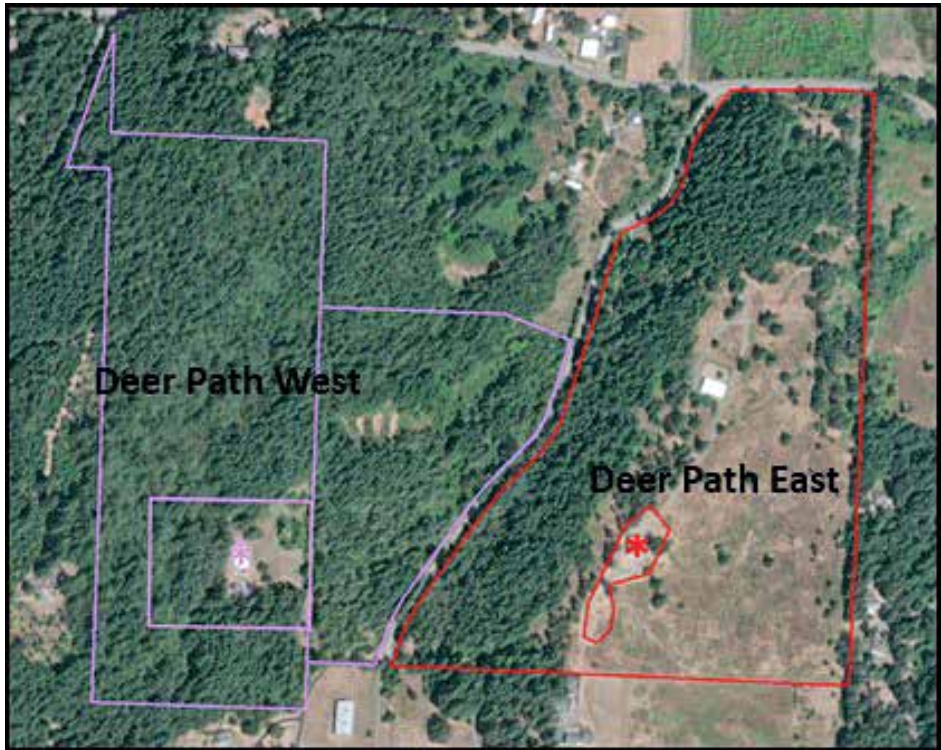
All Tribal members are welcome — we look forward to seeing you there!

Light refreshments will be provided. Open to Tribal Members only.
*Meeting is in-person only. Zoom and recordings will not be available.



SPIRIT MOUNTAIN CASINO

Tribe increases conservation properties to 2,578.98 acres



By Danielle Harrison
Smoke Signals editor

The Tribe has acquired 2,578.98 acres for its conservation properties during the past 13 years in Marion, Polk, Yamhill, Lane and Linn Counties through the Willamette Wildlife Mitigation Program.

According to its website, the Willamette Wildlife Mitigation Program is a partnership between the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Bonneville Power Administration to protect wildlife habitat in the Willamette River Basin. The main goal of the program is to offset the effects of federal flood control and hydroelectric facilities on wildlife, particularly those affected by the Willamette River Basin flood control projects.

The Tribe’s latest acquisition under this program is Deer Path West, a 55.46-acre property located near Dallas with a mix of forest land.

“The process for the program is highly technical with strict criteria, layers of requirements and competitive funding,” Tribal Self-Governance/Lands Manager Jan Reibach said in an email notifying Tribal officials of the acquisition. “The Tribal Lands Department and the Natural Resources Department have worked closely with the Bonneville Power Administration through many obstacles and challenges to close on the properties. The Tribe has enjoyed a great success with 12 properties closed thus far and \$14,297,517 in total external funding.”

In its final phase, there are five property acquisition in process, he added.

The Tribe also owns Deer Path East, located next to Deer Path West and acquired it in 2023.

“The habitat of the site is a di-

verse mix of upland habitat types,” Reibach said. “The eastern portion of the property has rare oak savanna and oak woodland habitats. The central portion of the property has a forest stand comprised of genetically pure Willamette ponderosa pine. The western portion of the Deer Path project is mixed forest, which provides increased diversity for a suite of native wildlife species.”

He noted that several wildlife species have been seen on the property, including at-risk species such as the western bluebird, white-breasted nuthatch, western wood-peewee, pileated woodpecker, bald eagle, and band-tailed pigeon.

“Congratulations to the Tribe and gratitude to all involved in making the recovery of this beautiful conservation land into Tribal ownership possible,” Reibach said.

Conservation properties owned by the Tribe include the following:

- Rattlesnake Butte – 96.98 acres, acquired Sept. 2012
- Chahalpam – 348.11 acres, acquired May 2013
- Chahalpam 2 – 91.44 acres, acquired Jan 2015
- Rattlesnake Butte 3 – 172.47 acres, acquired May 2015
- Chankawan – 425.71 acres, acquired May 2016
- Chahalpam 3 – 30.86 acres, acquired March 2018
- Noble Oaks – 667.5 acres, acquired June 2019
- Ahsney – 61.85 acres, acquired Dec. 2019
- Takilth – 108.12 acres, acquired May 2021
- Enchanted Oaks – 462.8 acres, acquired Feb. 2022
- Deer Path East – 57.68 acres, reimbursed Sept. 2024
- Deer Path West – 55.46 acres, acquired May 2025 ■

Gas discount

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

Tribal members and employees must go inside and show either their enrollment card or employee identification card to receive the discount. ■

Sworn review

Photo by Nicole Montesano

Tribal Elder Pamala Warren-Chase, left, is sworn in by Tribal Court Chief Judge Patrick S. Melendy as the newest member of the Tribal Member Review Board at Tribal Court Wednesday, June 4. The board reviews assigned cases involving children who are wards of the Tribal Court, and makes recommendations to the Chief Judge and the Children & Family Services Program, to bring Native cultural values into the process for families and children.

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.

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. ■

Oregon Department of Human Services

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Walk-ins welcome.

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Grand Ronde, OR 97128

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EBT card distribution

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503-879-2034

www.grandronde.org

Some Tribal members uncertain with constitutional amendment rollout, others say its long past due

By Kamiah Koch
Social media/digital journalist

Some Tribal members have taken to social media and spent several hours during a Thursday, May 22, constitutional amendment educational meeting to express their confusion regarding the upcoming election Wednesday, July 9, to remove the Bureau of Indian Affairs from the Grand Ronde Tribe’s constitutional amendment process. Others on social media and at the May 22 meeting expressed that removing a layer of federal bureaucracy from the Tribe’s election process is one of the best ways to exercise sovereignty.

During the meeting, Tribal Senior Staff Attorney Holly Partridge gave a short presentation to the roughly 50 Tribal members attending the hybrid format held in the Tribal Council Chambers and Zoom.

“In summary, the language being changed is any reference of the BIA conducting the constitutional election,” Partridge said. “This is being replaced with our Tribal language so the Tribe can conduct these elections.”

Tribal Council attributed wanting to remove the BIA from constitutional elections because of concerns with Tribal members’ accessibility to vote.

A constitutional amendment FAQ on the Tribe’s website states that the Tribal voters will be asked to consider removing the BIA due to timelines being set by federal regulations, resulting in the Tribe being unable to provide enough time for all Tribal members to participate and having a varied process from election to election.

Additionally, it cites a lack of BIA resources and staffing cuts, as well as agency employees who are unfamiliar with constitutional amendment elections adding “additional challenges in recent years.”

“Having a Tribal-led process will result in more efficient and timely communication with Tribal members regarding these important elections, and the dates associated with the election,” the FAQ states.

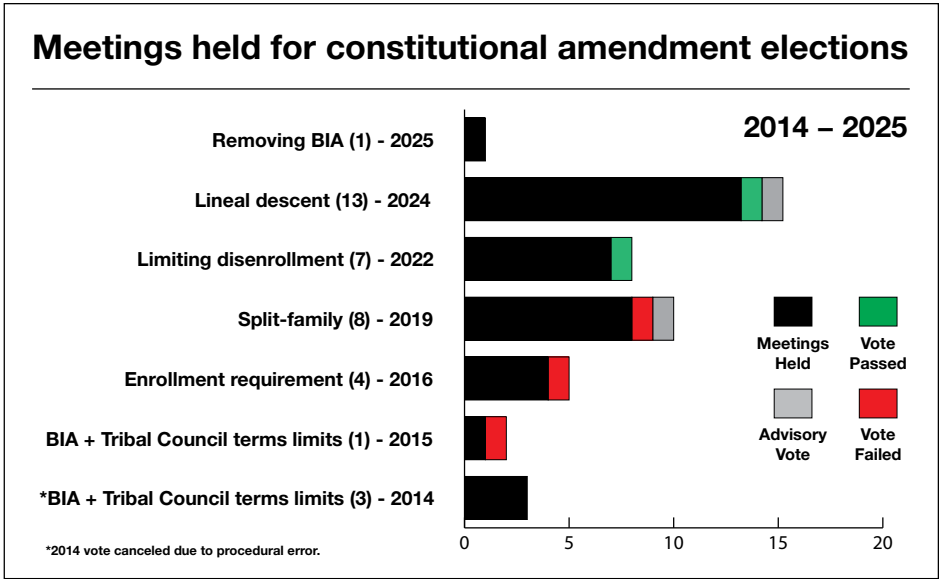
Tribal Council Secretary Jon A. George announced that due to the voter registration process already underway, the May 22 meeting was likely the only educational meeting the Tribe would be holding for the constitutional amendment vote.

Tribal Council approved moving forward with the constitutional election process of removing the BIA from its elections during the Wednesday, April 2, Tribal Council meeting. The vote was 5-2, with Vice Chair Chris Mercier and council member Denise Harvey dissenting.

It has been stated that the Tribe is moving forward with the amendment process now in order to avoid having it conflict with Tribal Council elections in September.

Lack of communication cited as issue

A theme among some of the Tribal membership’s grievances is a perceived lack of communication



Graph by Samuel Briggs III

from Tribal Council and staff before BIA voter registration packets were sent out.

Voter registration packets started appearing in Tribal members’ mailboxes in early May. Since this election is still run by the BIA, Tribal members were required to register to vote by Monday, June 2, even if they were already registered to vote in Tribal elections or have registered to vote in a prior BIA election.

More details on this election can be found in the Smoke Signals story, “BIA election set for July 9,” which appeared in the June 1 edition.

During the May 22 meeting, some members said the first time they heard of the proposed constitutional amendment was when they received their voter registration in the mail.

Others have said that the registration process isn’t as complicated as some say it is, and that removing the BIA will help to eliminate discrepancies in future elections because the Tribe will be able to run all of its elections.

The last time the Tribal membership voted on this matter was in March 2015.

In April 2014, three educational meetings were held in Portland, Eugene and Grand Ronde to allow Tribal members to discuss removing the BIA from constitutional elections before the June 6, 2014 vote.

However, that election was canceled due to procedural errors on behalf of the BIA’s Siletz Agency Office. Another election was set for March 14, 2015, with an additional educational session held after the March 1, 2015, General Council meeting in Grand Ronde.

However, the constitution remained unchanged as 381 voted against removing the BIA oversight (62% of the total votes) compared to the 230 votes in favor.

Timing questioned

Some have questioned the timing of the latest constitutional amendment election rollout coming on the heels of the constitutional amendment changing enrollment requirements to lineal descent, which was certified by the Bureau of Indian Affairs in January.

The Tribe began accepting applications for non-infant/non-emergency enrollments under the new

requirements Tuesday, June 3, and will continue that process through Friday, July 18.

“This is a good time to (hold this election) while it’s still a conversation in the community,” Tribal Council member Tonya Gleason-Shepek said. “There is no conflict with the lineal descent election. This election will not impact that election (result) in any way. We as a council can’t do that, only our members can do that.”

With the lineal descent constitutional amendment still in the proverbial rearview mirror, various Tribal members have said they recall several educational meetings and workshops being held leading up to the Tribe voting in prior constitutional elections.

According to Smoke Signals coverage and its online calendar, the Tribe held a handful of meetings since 2021 on potential solutions to enrollment issues, conducted an advisory vote in 2023 and offered online surveys. In preparation for the 2024 lineal descent vote that occurred in December, there were two lineal descent workshops on Feb. 21 and April 17, three language input meetings on Aug. 21, Nov. 7 and Nov. 21, a Facebook Live meeting on Sept. 25 and a BIA election process meeting Oct. 16. Additionally, the Tribe’s Election Board and executive staff opened their doors to office hours throughout November and December.

Comparatively, the November 2022 constitutional amendment election to limit disenrollment began with a Facebook Live educational meeting on Sept. 21, two election process meetings Sept. 27 and Sept. 29; and educational meetings Oct. 13 in Portland, Oct. 18 and Oct. 26 in Tribal Council Chambers/Zoom, and Oct. 20 in Salem.

The Election Board is holding office hours for the upcoming constitutional amendment election from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday and Wednesday through the end of June at the Tribal Community Center.

The board may be reached at 503-879-2271 or by emailing election.board@grandronde.org.

During a Wednesday, May 14, Tribal Council meeting, Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy addressed the misgivings some Tribal members have with the timing of the upcoming election.

“I’ve heard some rumors and generally we don’t act upon those, but there’s word out there that the reason we’re putting this forward is because council has an ulterior motive and that is to address enrollment,” she said. “That is far from the truth...I just wanted to reassure our members that is not motivation on our part. The other thing I heard is that generally there’s a lot of discussion and meetings about what is happening (before a constitutional amendment election occurs). The reason that we were pretty much in agreement to move forward with this (now) was all the outcry from past elections, and repeatedly, our members were saying they couldn’t get ahold of the BIA or get a ballot. ... Our members were very unhappy with that process. ... With the outcry of our members who said, ‘Change it,’ ... That’s the reasoning and I thought I’d take time to mention it to our general members.”

Despite the assurances that the timing won’t affect the new lineal descent enrollment rollout, several Tribal members in attendance at the May 22 meeting spent more than two hours questioning why an advisory vote and educational meetings were not held before the Tribe initiated the BIA vote.

Tribal member Valeria Atanacio said during the educational meeting that she felt the Tribe could have used better communication when rolling out the proposed constitutional amendment.

“I do think it is concerning that from April 2 to May 14, this matter was not discussed publicly by council,” Atanacio said. “Why now?”

Atanacio asked each Tribal Council member to explain why they support moving forward with the amendment.

“Every time we have an election there have been some things that are really concerning,” Tribal Council member Lisa Leno said in her response to Atanacio. “There have been limitations to Tribal members’ ability to participate. People might feel like this election is rushed but we have been talking about this for so long it feels like we have been talking about it forever.”

Some Tribal members stepped up to the microphone to announce their support for removing the BIA from Tribal elections.

“Removing the federal government from our elections is one of the biggest flags that is related to sovereignty that we can plant in our ground,” Tribal member Toby McClary said in the meeting.

Tribal Council member Kathleen George said she has wanted to remove the BIA from the constitutional amendment process for a long time but understands some of the membership’s concerns with the upcoming election.

“I at first thought I was going to support this but at this time I have concerns,” George said. “... I am not sure we have done all the work with the community yet to make them confident in this election.” ■

Day was a chance to ‘recharge our batteries’

FISHING continued from front page

members Denise Harvey and Brenda Tuomi attended the celebration. Jon A. George delivered the invocation and drummed with Tribal singers performing a song.

Part of the fun, Kathleen George said, was trying to figure out which nets and techniques are better suited to the Santiam’s open, less turbulent waters, which differ greatly from the pounding deluge at Willamette Falls, where the Tribe fishes from a platform set over the falls.

On the shore, set back from the rocky beach, members of the Cultural Resources Department tended a small fire in the event it was needed for a First Fish ceremony, adding the fragrance of woodsmoke to the scents of river and forest. The Tribe set out chairs and tables of food, although as the day warmed, many people retreated to the shade. Others stood on the edge of the water, watching the fishing.

The celebration served multiple purposes. It provided another chance to catch the first salmon of the year, after disappointing water conditions at Willamette Falls this year, and honored the Tribe’s perseverance in practicing its traditional fishing rights. It also gave the Natural Resources Department a chance to share its work on the property with the Tribe.

Tribal Fish & Wildlife Program Manager Kelly Dirksen told the crowd he first thought about holding a celebration at Chankawan in April, while attending the trial over Portland General Electric’s effort to condemn and seize ownership of Willamette Falls. The four-day trial took place at the Mark O. Hatfield



Photo by Kamiah Koch

Tribal Council member Denise Harvey points at a before-and-after photo of the Tribe’s Chankawan Conservation Area in Stayton during the Celebration of Preservation held Thursday, June 5. Tribal members and employees gathered to explore the property and watch the fishers return to the waters of Santiam band of the Kalapuya Tribe. The 425-acre property was added to the Tribe’s portfolio in 2016 and habitat restoration work on the blooming meadows, floodplain forests and river access has continued for nearly a decade.

U.S. Courthouse in Portland. A judgement has not yet been issued in the case.

“I thought of coming out here at some point on the 15th floor of the courthouse, when I was thinking of anyplace else I’d rather be,” Dirksen said. “So, I wanted to come out here and I wanted to drag all of you with me.”

The day was a chance, Dirksen said, to “recharge our batteries,” to relax and celebrate after the grueling trial and uncertainty regarding the future of the Tribe’s fishing platform.

“I believe we will fish at Willamette Falls again,” Dirksen said. “But in the meantime, we’ll fish here.”

The advantage of Chankawan, he said, is that, “We can bring every-

body here.”

Dirksen spoke briefly about the trial, praising Assistant Tribal Attorney Kim D’Aquila’s knowledgeable defense of the case.

Kathleen George did not directly address the trial but said it has been “a really hard season, ... a hard few seasons,” as the Tribe has fought for its land, its fishing rights, its fishing platform and the future of salmon.

“We came from people who have come from the hardest of seasons ... and their strength, their preservation and their courage have paid off,” George said.

The North Santiam River’s floodplain and surrounding area was originally home to the Santiam Band of the Calapooia, Tribal Restoration Ecologist/Fish & Wildlife

Policy Analyst Lindsay McClary told the audience.

“It was an important place for salmon,” McClary said.

The construction of Detroit Dam has changed how the river flows, decreasing water volume and eliminating the seasonal flooding that once created habitat.

“This land was used and abused,” she said.

The Tribe named the property Chankawan, the Calapooian word for salmon, she said, and set about restoring it, including removing massive amounts of invasive Scotch broom and Himalayan blackberry that blocked access to the river. They also removed trash and dilapidated housing, she said. The Tribe acquired more than \$1 million in state and federal grants, as well as private non-profit funds, for its work on the property.

“I feel like a lot of my role is undoing what people did 50 or 100 years ago,” McClary said.

The restoration work is not finished, she said, noting that after decades of abuse, it will take decades to restore. Eventually, the Tribe hopes to allow camping and hunting on the property, but for now, those activities are prohibited. Day use permits, however, are allowed.

Eventually, McClary hopes to see the floodplain forest restored, filled with Oregon ash, big leaf maple, black cottonwood, red alder, hazel, snowberry and thimbleberry, as well as camas in the wetter areas.

“We’re never going to restore it to its pre-European settlement state, but we will restore it to the extent possible in today’s political, social and economic climate,” she said. ■



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- ELDERS AND ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES IN POLK OR YAMHILL COUNTIES
- ANYONE INTERESTED IN STARTING SERVICES THROUGH OPI-M. INTAKES WILL BE COMPLETED AT THE EVENT.



When: Friday, June 20, 2025 from 11:00 am to 1:00 PM

Where: Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Elder Activity Center, 48940 Blacktail Dr, Grand Ronde.

Questions: Visit the NWSDS table at the event or call the Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) at 503-304-3420.

Hosted by NorthWest Senior and Disability Services (NWSDS) in partnership with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde (CTGR)

Produce Market

2025 Schedule:

- ~~June 5th~~
- June 26th
- July 10th
- July 24th
- August 7th
- August 21st
- September 4th
- September 18th
- October 2nd
- October 16th
- November 6th
- November 20th
- December 4th

Elder Activity Center
Noon to 2pm
schedule subject to change

Casino had both internal and financial audits conducted

AUDIT continued from front page

Spirit Mountain Gaming Inc. Board Chair Andy Jenness gave credit to the casino’s executive team and staff for their efforts.

“Spirit Mountain Casino’s clean external audit for 2024, marking two consecutive years with zero findings, underscores our unwavering commitment to integrity and sound business management, ensuring trust and excellence in serving our Tribal members, community and guests,” he said. “I again applaud our staff, executive team and CEO, Camille Mercier.”

He added, “When I inquired about our performance from REDW, our external auditors, they enthusiastically awarded Spirit Mountain Casino an ‘A+’ for the 2024 audit, affirming our exceptional standards of integrity and operational excellence.”

Tribal Council member Kathleen George, who also serves as SMGI Board Vice Chair, discussed the audit briefly during a Tuesday, May 20, Legislative Action Committee meeting.

She said that the auditors noted that while the gaming industry nationally is down 5 to 10% in rev-

“Not only was our staff cooperative and easy to work with, but year over year they continue to have no findings. They said we’ve developed a clean way of doing business and it was a pleasure to work with our staff.”

~ SMGI Board Vice Chair/Tribal Council member Kathleen George

enue, the audit showed that Spirit Mountain Casino’s profit margin is 4% higher than the 30% industry average, which demonstrates, “our ability to hold our own is really doing very well.”

“Not only was our staff cooperative and easy to work with, but year over year they continue to have no findings,” George said. “They said we’ve developed a clean way of doing business and it was a pleasure to work with our staff.”

REDW LLC performs internal control audits for approximately 100 casinos nationwide, both Tribal and commercial, as well as financial audits for 80.

Spirit Mountain Casino had both internal and financial audits conducted.

Smith said that in general terms, a casino audit includes examining

and reviewing various documents and processes and is governed by multiple regulatory and professional authorities.

“There’s two parts to what an audit involves,” he said. “One part is to audit internal controls, essentially the policies and procedures of how it operates. We do live observations and make sure the casino is counting cash correctly, and all kinds of things of that nature. The second part is a financial audit. That entails getting financial statements from the casino and testing those to make sure they’re accurate...Tribal leadership wants to confirm these financial numbers from the casino are accurate and can be trusted.”

That work began in fall 2024 with live observations and interviews onsite. Then, planning began for the financial audit which begins after the fiscal year closes at the

end of December. A final report is completed in April.

The firm performed the casino’s 2022 and 2023 audit as well, and also conducts the audits for other Tribal casinos in Oregon and throughout the United States, Smith added.

To receive an A+ rating, a casino must be compliant with policies and procedures, show a commitment to best practices and make a concerted effort to comply with various regulations.

According to Mercier, the audit also noted that the casino did a “great job maintaining revenue while the industry was down 5%-10%. SMC was 4% better than (the) industry average.”

Additionally, it notes that, “expenses rising without revenue rising is the biggest issue moving forward. SMC has a strong management team and gaming commission, (a) major strategic advantage both in operations and in compliance.”

Smith credits the casino’s continued emphasis on best practices and strong internal controls as some of the reasons for the consecutive no-finding audit.

“The management there genuinely cares and wants to do the best they can and the Tribe should be proud of that,” he said. ■

YCAP retirement



Contributed photo by Sean Murphy

Yamhill Community Action Partnership Vice President and Tribal Council Secretary Jon A. George presents Carrie Zimbrick with a logo blanket honoring her nine years of service as a board member and board chair for YCAP at a meeting held Tuesday, May 20. Zimbrick’s last meeting is this month, at which point she will be retiring from the board. Zimbrick is also the past Willamina School District superintendent, retiring in 2024 after working in various administrative, coaching and teaching positions throughout the district.



TRIBAL VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

Scheduled Appointments Only	Walk-In Day
Monday	Thursday
Tuesday	

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CTGRTribalVSO@GrandRonde.Org

STORY IDEAS?

Do you have Tribal story ideas you would like to see in Smoke Signals?

Please share your suggestions at news@grandronde.org or by calling Editor Danielle Harrison at 503-879-4663.



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Approximately 130 or more people attended the event

MMIP continued
from front page

time raising awareness about missing and murdered Indigenous people, as well as providing information about domestic violence programs and how to access resources.

A display of red shawls, dresses and T-shirts were located onsite, each garment commemorating a person lost to murder or who is still missing, including Heather Leann Haller Cameron, a Grand Ronde Tribal member who disappeared in Shasta County in August 2012.

Signs listed facts and statistics about the ongoing issue of violence against Indigenous people, especially women and girls.

Approximately 130 or more people attended the event; so many that by two hours in, organizers had run out of burgers and hot dogs.

Warriors of Hope Program Manager Cassie Dandy said the event seemed to be popular.

“We saw so many smiles and heard lots of laughter during this event,” she said. “We wanted to bring our community together to engage and connect. We were successful! We’ve had lots of asks to do it again.”

Tribal members Ferrell DeGarmo and Fabian Quenelle sang honor songs and played drums while a shell of smudging sage was handed around. DeGarmo also gave the invocation.

Dandy explained that the event “is to bring awareness to the community and also to honor our lost and still-missing loved ones and relatives.”

To help those still trapped in unsafe



Photo by Nicole Montesano

Shawls, a dress and T-shirts commemorating missing and murdered Indigenous people are displayed at the Missing and Murdered Indigenous People event.

situations, Warriors of Hope invited representatives from the Salem-based Center for Hope & Safety and the Oregon Department of Human Services to staff informational tables.

The Center for Hope & Safety, whose motto is “because everyone deserves a life free of violence,” offers a 24-hour crisis line in English, Spanish and more than 100 other languages, at 503-399-7722. It serves survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and human trafficking.

It also offers an emergency shelter, with a Safe Paws program that enables survivors to bring their pets to safety when they flee, as abusers often threaten, harm or kill

pets left behind.

The center, formerly the Mid-Valley Women’s Crisis Service is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at 605 Center Street in Salem. It offers information, referral services, advocacy, safety planning, 911 cell phones, computers survivors can use for work and housing searches, court and immigration advocacy, and community outreach services.

For more information, call 503-378-1572, visit the website at www.hopeandsafety.org or email info@hopeandsafety.org.

The DHS table offered information on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and the Double

Up Food Bucks program that enables SNAP recipients to receive up to \$20 in extra benefits for shopping at participating farmers markets, grocery stores and farm shares. There was also information on places to obtain food and applications for services.


More information about Oregon food programs is available online at www.oregon.gov/odhs/food.

Tribal Native Plant Nursery Assistant and Tribal member Joseph Ham staffed a table offering camas starts to passersby.

“We were gifted these camas bulbs from the Northwest Oregon Restoration Partnership,” Ham said. “They collected them from coastal areas and gave 1,000 to the Siletz Tribe and almost that many to us. We wanted to gift them to the community. It’s nice, because these are ... pretty local.”

Quenelle said he performs at similar events across northwest Oregon.

“For me it’s about being able to create a safe space anywhere that I’m at,” he said. “I was taught when we grew up that we’re the warriors of the Tribe. But the ideology of the warrior has shifted. People think they need to be the fighters, bring on that violence. But the real meaning is to create a safe space for anyone in the Tribe. Men, women, children, Elders. So anytime there’s an event and a chance to stand up and be that safe space, I’m in.” ■



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- Do we have friends or family that will support us in this decision?
- Do we have space in our home for a child?
- Is there an age group or gender that would work best with our family?
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For information contact:

Audra Sherwood
Foster Care Coordinator
Children & Family Services
503-879-2039



Ad by Samuel Briggs III

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Katherine at 503-879-1466 or
Katherine.Warren-Steffensmier@grandronde.org



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Ad by Samuel Briggs III

June jammin’



Photos by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal youth Satara Blanchard, 15, dances during the June Jam at the Tribal Housing basketball court Friday, June 6. In addition to drumming, singing and dancing, several Tribal programs set up information tables, a cake walk was held and dinner was provided.



From left, siblings Orion Moore Jr., 7, K'Sea Chulik-Ruff, 9, and Sean Moore, 5, pick giveaway items from the registration table at the June Jam at the Tribal Housing basketball court Friday, June 6.



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JULY 25 - AUGUST 6
*Dates are subject to change

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Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
Emergency Services

9615 Grand Ronde Rd. Grand Ronde, OR 97347 503-879-3473



Pride week



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal Cultural Collections Technician Silas Hoffer adds dye as he tie-dyes a T-shirt during the kickoff event to Grand Ronde Pride Week at the Cheryle A. Kennedy Public Health Building Monday, June 9. June is Pride Month and Public Health celebrated by holding activities the week of June 9-13. In addition to tie-dyeing, there was a beading workshop, documentary screening and discussion about Pride and the 2SLGBTQIA+ civil rights movement and Hoffer lead a discussion about Two Spirit ancestors and gender in Native communities.

SEE MORE OF THIS STORY

Visit **YouTube**

@SmokeSignalsCTGR



POWWOW VENDORS WANTED

The Grand Ronde Contest Powwow Committee is seeking vendors for the 2025 Contest Powwow, which will be held Friday, Aug. 15 to Sunday, Aug. 17.

Interested vendors are asked to apply online at www.grandronde.org.

For more information or assistance call 503-879-5211, 503-879-2037 or 503-879-4533. ■

Elder Abuse Awareness Resource Fair and Walk

June 16th, 2025

11am to 1pm Resource Fair
Walk Noon

Elder Activity Center
48940 Blacktail Drive
Grand Ronde, OR

Let's End 1 In 10

LONELINESS

IN ADULT FOSTER CARE

WHEN ELDERS MOVE INTO ADULT FOSTER CARE, WE ASSUME THAT THEY WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE THE SOCIAL LIFE THEY HAD WHEN THEY WERE LIVING INDEPENDENTLY. THAT THEY WILL CONTINUE TO SEE THEIR FAMILY & FRIENDS, PARTICIPATE IN EVENTS, VISIT....

NEARLY 40% OF ELDERS LIVING IN ADULT FOSTER CARE SUFFER FROM DEPRESSION AND LONELINESS.

GRAND RONDE TRIBAL LIBRARY 2025 SUMMER READING PERFORMANCES



HILLIA THE HULA HOOP EXTRAORDINAIRE
June 16th 10am Gym

HABIBA ADDO AFRICAN ARTS & CULTURE
June 24th 1:30pm Government Building Atrium

ANGEL OCASIO COMEDY
June 25th 10am Gym

THE AMAZING BUBBLE MAN
July 8th 1:30pm Gym

MUSICIAN MO PHILLIPS
July 15th 1:30pm Gym

OREGON COAST AQUARIUM
August 12th 10am Gym

THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF GRAND RONDE

ELDER HONOR DAY

CHRISTMAS IN JULY

FOOD | MUSIC | BINGO

JULY 7, 2025

RSVP by June 13 with melanie.monson@grandronde.org

AGENDA

9am	10am
Doors Open	Welcome Ceremony
Registration	12:30pm Lunch
Light Breakfast	1:30pm Bingo
raffle prizes throughout the day	



Spirit Mountain Casino | Lodge 800-760-7877
Individual rooms use code 5259
5+ rooms, contact jenny.moore@spiritmtn.com
\$99 per night

ATTENTION!!!

DUE TO ILLEGAL DUMPING OF TRASH IN THE RECYCLE BINS AND CONTAMINATION, THIS RECYCLING DEPOT IS ON THE VERGE OF CLOSING AND GOING AWAY.

CTGR FACILITIES DEPARTMENT



TEACH

our children
our stories

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

ELDER FAIR

Monday June 16th, 2025
11am to 2pm
48940 BLACKTAIL DRIVE

FREE ENTRY

JOIN US FOR LOTS OF RESOURCES

Elder Abuse Awareness Walk @ 1pm

Everyone who participates in the walk will be entered to win a:
Pit Boss BBQ
3pc Rocking Patio Set



For more information call 503-879-2233



2025 Acorn Camp

September 19th - 21st
TouVelle State Park
near Table Rock on the Upper Rogue River



- Gathering & Processing Acorns
- Drumming & Singing
- Sunrise Hike
- Cultural Activities

Space limited - please sign up ASAP.
Registration open until mid-July or until full.

Contact
Zena Green, Siletz
ZenaG@ctsi.nsn.us
Joseph Ham, Grand Ronde
Joseph.Ham@grandronde.org

Meals Provided!
Camping will be available

Grand Ronde Contest Powwow




Save the date | August 15-17

COMMUNITY HEALTH ELDER JUSTICE

Do you feel respected as an elder?

Studies show that a significant amount of Native American Elders (one in three) are actively experiencing physical, emotional, spiritual, sexual, and/or financial maltreatment/abuse/disrespect



nsayka munk-kintaks nsayka ulman tilixam
"we respect/honor our elders"

If you or someone you know is experiencing disrespect and would like support, make a confidential report by calling
503-879-SAFE

Follow up and support will be completed by the Community Health Elder Justice Coordinator



Tribal Court Programs Coordinator
9615 Grand Ronde Road
Grand Ronde, OR 97347

503-879-4623
CourtPrograms@grandronde.org

Volunteers Needed!

We are seeking volunteers for two of our programs:

Court Appointed Special Advocate ☐ **Tribal Member Review Board** ☐
(open to all community members) (must be an enrolled CTGR Tribal member)

If you would like to volunteer:

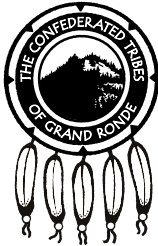
- 1. Indicate which program you are interested in (mark one of the boxes above).
- 2. Fill out the form below with your contact information.
- 3. Mail, drop-off or email the completed form to Tribal Court Programs Coordinator.

Full Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____



Address: _____

Visit our website for more information and the qualifications for each program:
grandronde.org/government/tribal-court/court-programs/



Ad by Samuel Briggs III

2025 VETERANS SUMMIT



The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

FREE EVENT! ALL VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES ARE INVITED

FRIDAY, JULY 11, 2025

AGING VETERANS & RESOURCES

Registration at 9 a.m. ~ Opening Ceremony at 10 a.m.

Presentations By:

- Veterans Affairs (Various Departments)
- Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs
- Community Veteran Resources & the
- Debut of the Human Library Video Project

VA claims assistance personnel available!

At the CTGR uyxat Powwow Grounds ~ 9600 S.W. Hebo Rd. Grand Ronde, OR 97347

The CTGR Veterans Powwow is Friday, July 11, Saturday, July 12, and Sunday, July 13th.

All are welcome to attend!



2025-26 CTGR tagged hunting and fishing opportunities

Hunting and fishing licenses/Harvest license
The Natural Resources Department began issuing and rebranding the Grand Ronde hunting and fishing license in August 2023. The new harvest license is required for all hunting tags for 2025. If your license does not have a hologram, come see us. Additionally, see the Member Services Department if you need to update the address on your harvest license before requesting a new license from NRD. **To pick up any tag(s) in 2025, regardless of Reservation only, Trask only or MOA, you must have the new harvest license. This includes requested transferees.** Grand Ronde Tribal enrollment cards and hunter safety certificates (if applicable) are required at time of licensing.

Applications
All applications are electronic in 2025. If you wish to complete a paper application, contact 503-879-2424, stop by our office or request an application by email at huntingandfishing@grandronde.org

New for 2025

- **MOA fall bear** – Tag available first come, first serve over the counter.
- **MOA general cougar** – Tag available first come, first serve over the counter.
- **MOA wild turkey** – Harvest card available first come, first serve over the counter.

All **MOA** tags are valid in the Wilson, Trask, Willamette, Stott Mountain and Santiam (as modified) wildlife management units and follow state seasons and regulations.

First come, first serve over the counter tags will be available to pick up Monday, July 28. Refer to the hunt table for all available hunts and dates.

Fishing
Double bag limits allowed on select species with your Grand Ronde issued harvest license and **not combinable with a state issued license.** Contact the Natural Resources Department or visit the MOA webpage for more information.

2025-26 Trask management tag and Reservation only random lottery

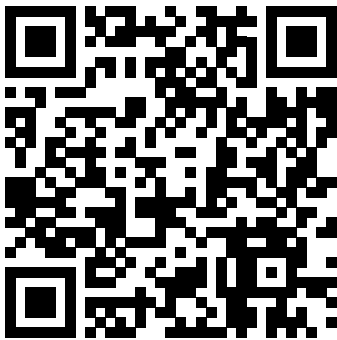
The Tribe uses a random selection for all draw tags. Failure to follow the rules outlined below will result in all applications being void for all hunts applied.

- To enter the random lottery, you must:
1. Have a hunting and fishing license or harvest license issued by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.
 2. Not be ineligible for a tag for the year applying (generally due to not reporting).

3. Apply by the application deadline, 5 p.m. Friday, July 18.
Staff will begin notifying successful applicants by telephone/email Tuesday, July 22, and no later than Friday, July 25.
Tags will be available for issue on Monday, July 28.

How to apply:
To apply online use the below QR Code or weblink. For a paper application contact Natural Resources.

UPDATED



Trask applications

<https://weblink.grandronde.org/Forms/traskhunting2025>

UPDATED



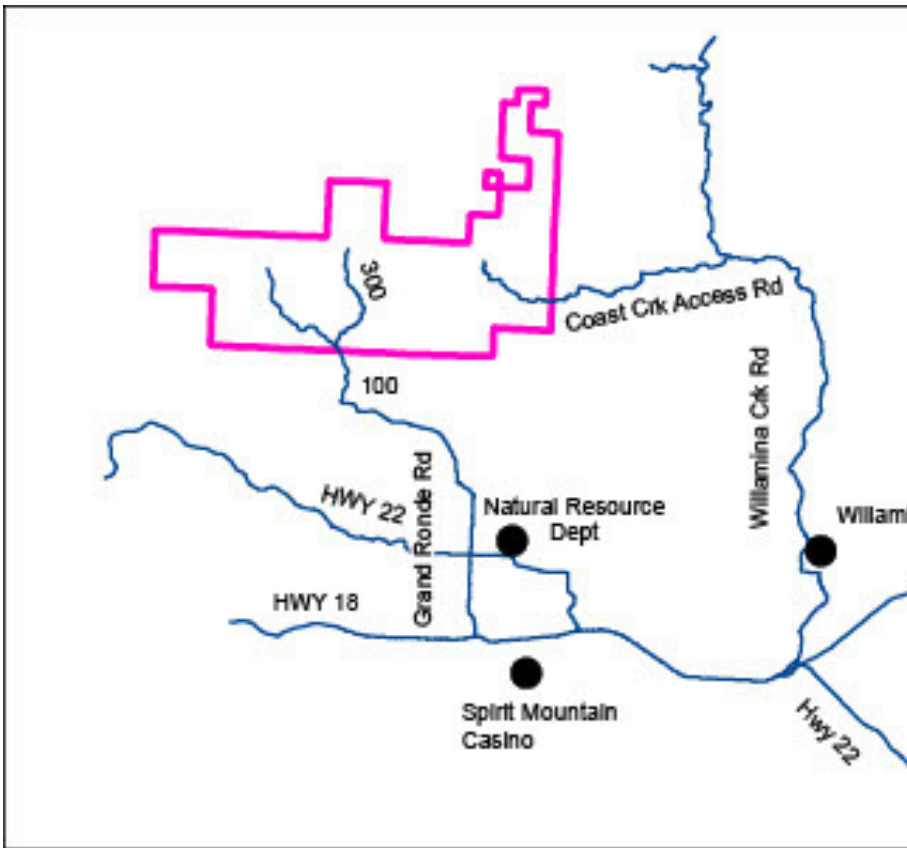
Reservations

<https://weblink.grandronde.org/Forms/Reservation-HuntApp2025>

For any questions you may reach us at the following:
Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Attn: Natural Resources
Mail: 9615 Grand Ronde Road
Physical: 47010 SW Hebo Rd.
Grand Ronde, OR 97347
Office: 503-879-2424
Email: HuntingandFishing@grandronde.org

Reservation only

Reservation only tags and seasons are ONLY VALID ONLY ON



General guidelines

- A valid Grand Ronde hunting and fishing license or harvest license is required before submitting applications, this includes youth 11 and older.
- Lost tags will not be replaced. It is the licensee's responsibility to keep all tags in a safe and secure place.
- Under no circumstances will a tag be issued without a Tribal issued harvest license.
- If picking up for others, please notify Natural Resources **prior** to pick up. The Tribal issued harvest license **AND** Grand Ronde issued Tribal ID card of the person requesting to have their tag picked up will be required when picking up the tag. No exceptions.
- To apply for the Reservation only hunt, Tribal members must successfully complete a one-time mandatory educational tutorial, which can be completed at time of application. **Under no circumstances will a tag be issued without the hunter having completed the tutorial.**

Youth tags

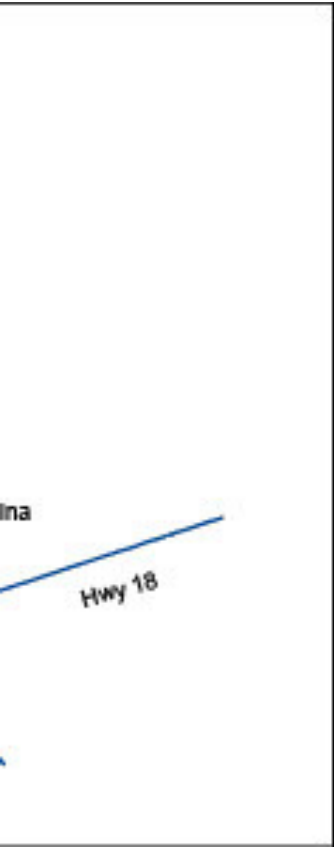
- Any licensed Tribal member between the ages of 11-17 may apply. Youth 13 and under, **MUST BE ACCOMPANIED** by a licensed adult at least 21 years of age unless hunting on property owned by the parents or legal guardian.
- Youth hunters 11 years of age may apply. However, they must turn 12 by the "last day to pick up tag" and possess a Grand Ronde issued harvest license. All youth must have completed their hunter's safety certificate before a tag will be issued.
- Youth may apply for all tags in addition to youth only hunts. All rules apply.
- Youth may not hunt with a youth tag once they turn 18. Example: Youth apply for youth bow (hunt dates Aug. 30-Sept. 28), is awarded tag when 17, receives tag, turns 18 Sept. 10. This tag could no longer be hunted by that youth after Sept. 10.

Tag reporting

In accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Ordinance, all tag reports (harvest, non-harvest and lost tags) are required **to be reported within 30 days of the last day of the season or as otherwise specified on the tag receipt.** If tags are not reported, the licensee is ineligible to receive tag(s) for the next harvest season.

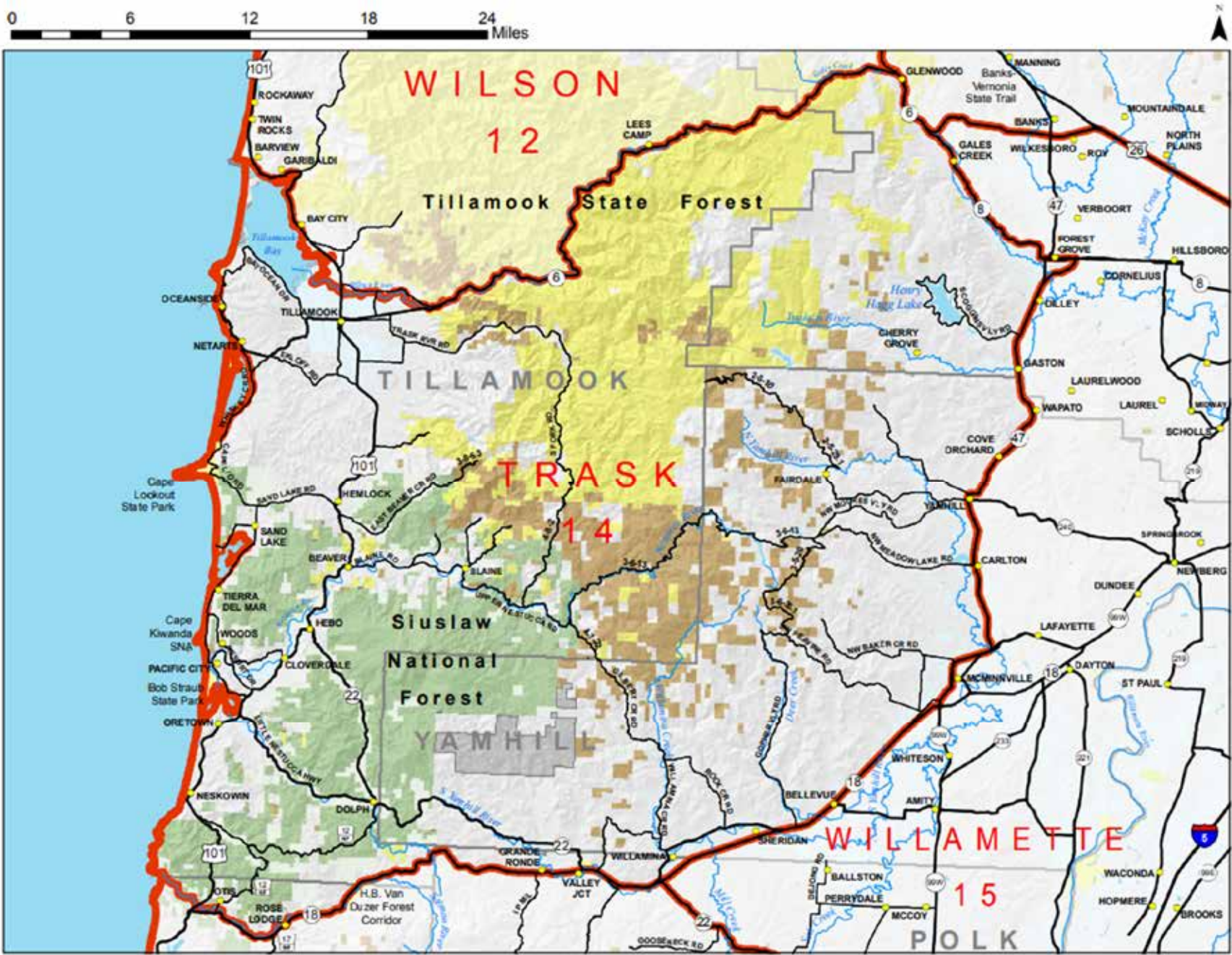
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N THE RESERVATION.

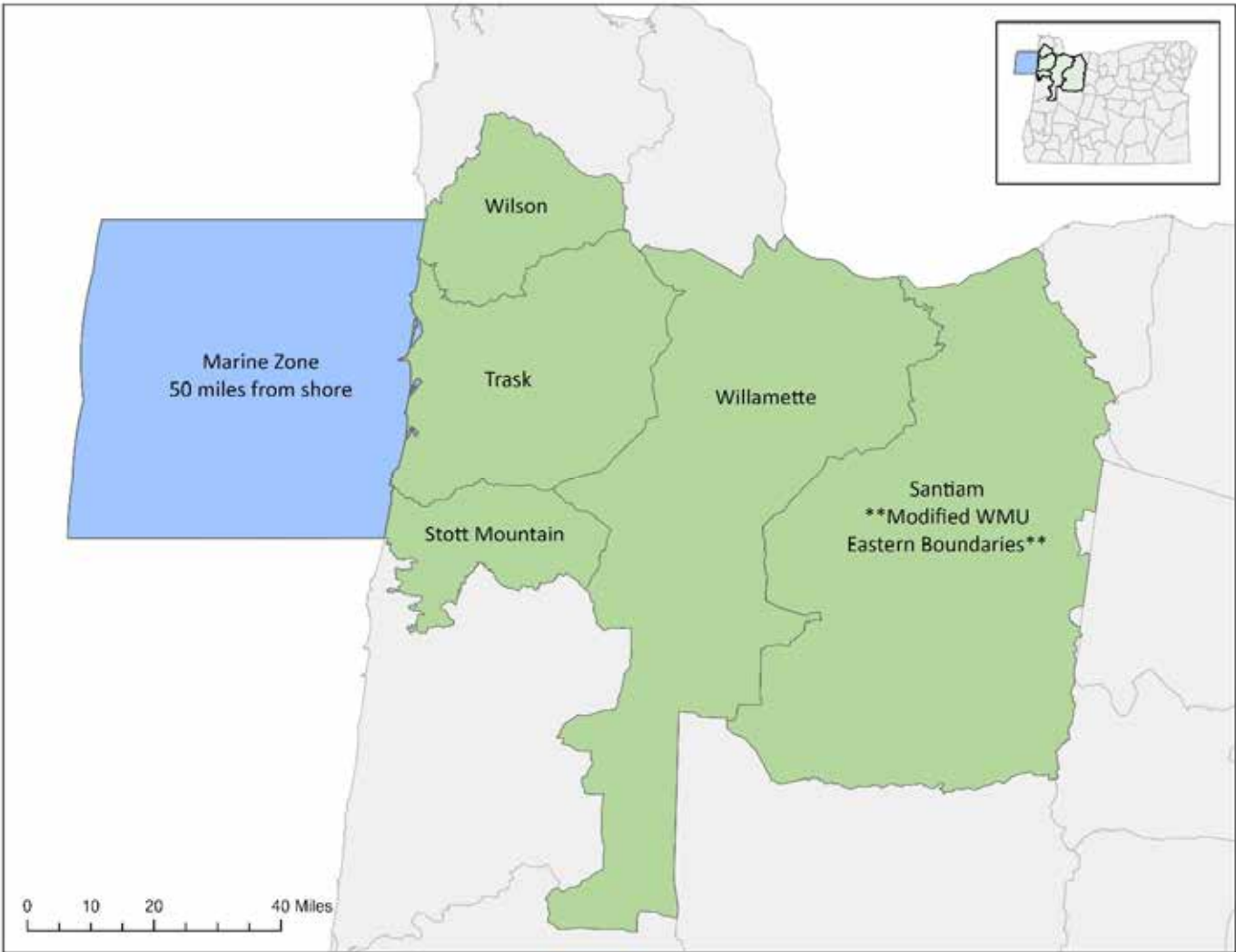


DEER						
The hunter is allowed both a MOA general season and Trask buck tag. The hunter may request one additional MOA tag after the initial successful hunt is reported. A hunter may only apply for one Reservation only season and one Trask draw season (excluding control damage doe).						
Hunt Area	Draw Or Over The Counter	Season	Opening Day	Last Day	Last Day To Pick Up Tag	Last Day To Report Hunt
Reservation Only	Draw	Bow Buck	8/26/2025	8/29/2025	8/19/2025	9/28/2025
Trask	Draw	Bow Buck	8/30/2025	9/28/2025	8/22/2025	10/28/2025
MOA	OTC	General Season (Bow and ALW seasons on 1 tag. Hunt dates and Bag limits vary based on WMU, see MOA information for specifics)	8/30/2025	12/14/2025	N/A	1/13/2026
Reservation Only	Draw	Coast Buck	9/30/2025	10/3/2025	9/23/2025	11/2/2025
Trask	OTC	Coast Buck	10/4/2025	11/7/2025	N/A	12/7/2025
Trask	Draw	Control Damage Doe	10/4/2025	11/7/2025	9/25/2025	12/7/2025
Trask	Draw	Muzzleloader Deer	11/8/2025	11/21/2025	10/31/2025	12/21/2025
Reservation Only	Draw	Muzzleloader Deer	12/7/2025	12/13/2025	12/1/2025	1/12/2026
ELK						
The hunter must choose either a MOA general season or Trask tag; limit one per hunter. A hunter may only apply for one Reservation only season.						
Hunt Area	Draw Or Over The Counter	Season	Opening Day	Last Day	Last Day To Pick Up Tag	Last Day To Report Hunt
Reservation Only	Draw	Bow Bull	8/26/2025	8/29/2025	8/19/2025	9/28/2025
MOA	OTC	General Season (Bow and ALW seasons on 1 tag. Hunt dates and Bag limits vary based on WMU, see MOA information for specifics)	8/30/2025	11/28/2025	N/A	12/28/2025
Trask	Draw	Bow Bull	8/30/2025	9/28/2025	8/22/2025	10/28/2025
Reservation Only	Draw	1st Season - Bull	11/12/2025	11/14/2025	11/5/2025	12/14/2025
Trask	OTC	1st Season – Bull	11/15/2025	11/18/2025	11/7/2025	12/18/2025
Reservation Only	Draw	2nd Season - Any Elk	11/19/2025	11/21/2025	11/12/2025	12/21/2025
Trask	OTC	2nd Season – Spike	11/22/2025	11/28/2025	11/14/2025	12/28/2025
Reservation Only	Draw	Muzzleloader Elk - Any Elk	12/14/2025	12/27/2025	12/8/2025	1/26/2026
CONTROL DAMAGE ELK - May only apply for one season						
Hunt Area	Draw Or Over The Counter	Season	Opening Day	Last Day	Last Day To Pick Up Tag	Last Day To Report Hunt
Trask	Draw	NE Trask Muzzleloader Elk - Any Elk	12/13/2025	12/30/2025	12/5/2025	1/29/2026
Trask	Draw	Trask Unit	12/1/2025	3/31/2026	11/14/2025	4/30/2026
Trask	Draw	West Trask #1	12/1/2025	1/31/2026	11/14/2025	3/2/2026
Trask	Draw	West Trask #2	2/1/2026	3/31/2026	1/24/2026	4/30/2026
Trask	Draw	Central Trask #1	1/1/2026	2/14/2026	12/12/2025	3/16/2026
Trask	Draw	Central Trask #2	2/15/2026	3/31/2026	2/6/2026	4/30/2026
Trask	Draw	SE Trask	12/1/2025	3/31/2026	11/14/2025	4/30/2026
Trask	Draw	NE Trask #1	12/1/2025	3/31/2026	11/14/2025	4/30/2026
Trask	Draw	NE Trask #2	1/1/2026	3/31/2026	12/12/2025	4/30/2026
Trask	Draw	Panther Creek	1/1/2026	3/31/2026	12/12/2025	4/30/2026
BEAR						
The hunter must choose either a MOA general season OR a Trask tag. The hunter may request one additional MOA tag after the initial successful hunt is reported. An ODFW check in is required within 10 days of kill.						
Hunt Area	Draw Or Over The Counter	Season	Opening Day	Last Day	Last Day To Pick Up Tag	Last Day To Report Hunt
MOA	OTC	General Fall Bear	8/1/2025	12/31/2025	N/A	1/30/2026 or within 10 days of kill
Trask	OTC	Bear (Transfer Eligible Only)	8/1/2025	12/31/2025	N/A	1/30/2026 or within 10 days of kill
COUGAR						
The hunter may request one additional tag after the initial successful hunt is reported. An ODFW check in is required within 10 days of kill.						
Hunt Area	Draw Or Over The Counter	Season	Opening Day	Last Day	Last Day To Pick Up Tag	Last Day To Report Hunt
MOA	OTC	General Cougar	8/1/2025	7/31/26	N/A	8/1/26 or within 10 days of kill
TURKEY						
The hunter may request one additional card after seasonal limit is reached and the initial successful card is returned to NRD.						
Hunt Area	Draw Or Over The Counter	Season	Opening Day	Last Day	Last Day To Pick up Tag	Last Day To Report Hunt
MOA	OTC	General Fall Turkey	9/1/2025	1/31/2026	N/A	3/2/2026
YOUTH HUNTS						
The youth hunter may apply for each hunt.						
Hunt Area	Draw Or Over The Counter	Season	Opening Day	Last Day	Last Day To Pick Up Tag	Last Day To Report Hunt
Trask	Draw	Youth Antlerless Elk	8/15/2025	12/31/2025	8/8/2025	1/30/2026
Reservation Only	Draw	Youth Bow Buck	8/26/2025	8/29/2025	8/19/2025	9/28/2025
Reservation Only	Draw	Youth Bow Bull	8/26/2025	8/29/2025	8/19/2025	9/28/2025
Trask	Draw	Youth Bow Elk - Any Elk	8/30/2025	9/28/2025	8/22/2025	10/28/2025
Reservation Only	Draw	Youth Coast Buck	9/30/2025	10/3/2025	9/23/2025	11/2/2025
Trask	Draw	Youth C/D Deer	10/4/2025	11/9/2025	9/25/2025	12/9/2025
Reservation Only	Draw	Youth 1st Season - Bull	11/12/2025	11/14/2025	11/5/2025	12/14/2025
Reservation Only	Draw	Youth 2nd Season - Any Elk	11/19/2025	11/21/2025	11/12/2025	12/21/2025
Reservation Only	Draw	Youth Muzzleloader Deer - Any	12/7/2025	12/13/2025	11/30/2025	1/12/2026
Reservation Only	Draw	Youth Muzzleloader Elk - Any Elk	12/14/2025	12/27/2025	12/7/2025	1/26/2026

2025 Trask Management Unit



MOA area for CTGR



MOA general information

Grand Ronde follows all state seasons within the expanded MOA areas of Wilson, Trask, Willamette, Stott Mountain and Santiam wildlife management units, and Marine Zone. Hunting or fishing outside of the expanded MOA area is not authorized and may result in state or Tribal citation. If in doubt, contact the NRD office.

Columbia River fishing is allowable from the Bonneville Dam to the Interstate 5 bridge on the Oregon side as state regulations allow.

Maps of MOA boundaries for Avenza or onX are available at the website.

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

In Re: Estate of:

Case No. 25C0001

NOTICE TO HEIRS

Veronica Eileen Gaston

NOTICE

TO: THE HEIRS of the above named decedent:

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF GRAND RONDE
TRIBAL COURT
9615 GRAND RONDE RD.
GRAND RONDE, OR 97347

The following information is given to you as an heir of the above-named decedent who Walked

On in Portland, Oregon, Multnomah

on December 4, 2024

NOTICE

Estate proceedings in the decedents estate, bearing the Tribal Court Case Number 25C0001, have been commenced and are now pending in the above-entitled court. The Court has determined that there is a valid Will NOT a valid Will that Decedent Walked on intestate leaving no known Will. On May 7, 2025, the undersigned was duly appointed and is now serving as Personal Representative of the estate. Your rights may be affected by this proceeding: additional information may be obtained from the records of the court, the undersigned Personal Representative, or the attorney for the Personal Representative, if applicable. The name and address of the Personal Representative and the attorney for the Personal Representative is as follows:

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE:
Marianne Blanchard (attn)
9521 Raven Loop
Grand Ronde OR 97347
(971) 267-0924

ATTORNEY FOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE:
Susan P. Cook, OSB 462492
WUCL T+E Clinic Tribal Ct #
790 State St
PO Box 5443
Salem OR 97304

Tribal Probate Code, Chapter 310, section (s) provides that any interested person may file a petition to contest the validity of a Will or finding Decedent dies Intestate within 60 days of receipt of notice or date of first publication of notice, whichever occurs first, as provided in Subsection (n)(1), and all untimely filed petitions are forever barred.

DATED THIS 5th DAY OF June, 2025

Signature of Personal Representative

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

In the Matter of:

Case No. 25C0011

MYRICK-MEYER, SHAYLA VICTORIA

ORDER GRANTING REQUEST TO CHANGE NAME

PETITIONER

FILED
JUN - 5 2025
TRIBAL COURT

Based on the allegations set forth in the Petition for Name Change filed by Petitioner on April 15, 2025;

THE COURT FINDS AS FOLLOW:

The Petition does does not meet the requirements of the Name Change Ordinance, Chapter 303 and the Petition is dismissed granted;

The Court has does not have jurisdiction over the Petitioner and subject matter of the Petition herein;

The Petitioner is is not over 18 years old;

The Petitioner is is not an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde;

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

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

The Petition for Name Change is not granted and is dismissed without prejudice.

The Petition for Name Change is granted and Petitioner's name is changed from SHAYLA VICTORIA MYRICK-MEYER to SHAYLA VICTORIA MURPHY

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

The Clerk of the Tribal Court shall submit a certified copy of this Order to the Grand Ronde Tribal Enrollment Office and to the State Department of Vital Statistics Office in the state in which Petitioner was born.


DATED THIS 4TH DAY OF JUNE, 2025.

Patrick S Melendy
Chief Judge

Medical Transport Services

Medical transportation services are available to Tribal members within the six-county service area when an alternate means of transportation is not available. Advance notice required.

Please call 503-879-2078 to schedule a reservation.



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

In Re: Estate of:

Case No. 25C0001

NOTICE TO PUBLIC AND CREDITORS

Veronica Eileen Gaston Decedent.

NOTICE

TO: THE PUBLIC AND CREDITORS of the above named decedent:

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF GRAND RONDE
TRIBAL COURT
9615 GRAND RONDE RD.
GRAND RONDE, OR 97347

The following information is being provided to the public and all Creditors, the above-named decedent who Walked On in

Portland, Oregon, Multnomah

on December 4, 2024

NOTICE

ESTATE OF: Veronica Eileen Gaston

The Person named below has been appointed as Personal Representative of this estate. Any person having a claim against the Decedent must present the claim in the manner as provided in the Tribe's Probate Ordinance Chapter 310, subsection (p) which is available online at www.grandronde.org by serving on or mailing the personal representative or the Personal Representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the Court. The claim must be presented within 60 days of receipt of notice or date of first publication of notice, whichever occurs first as provided in the Tribe's Probate Ordinance, Chapter 310, Subsection (n)(2). Any claim against the Estate not presented within the 60 day time line shall be barred.

Date of First Publication: June 15, 2025

Personal Representative: Marianne Blanchard Catron

Attorney for Personal Representative (if applicable): Susan P. Cook


Address for Mailing or Service: 9521 Raven Loop

Grand Ronde OR 97347

Phone: (971) 267-0924

DATED THIS 5th DAY OF June, 2025

Signature of Personal Representative




WILLAMINA SCHOOL DISTRICT

FREE SUMMER MEALS PROGRAM

NO COST. JUST SHOW UP!

KIDS OR THEIR PARENT MUST BE PRESENT

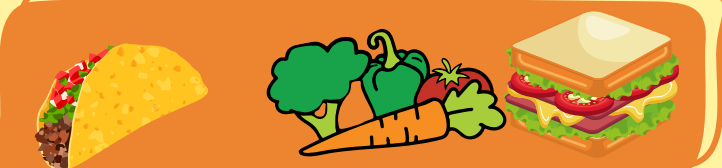


This summer, all kids and teens 18 and under can enjoy FREE healthy meals all week long!

PICK UP 5 MEALS EVERY THURSDAY IN JULY!

TINA MILLER PARK 11:30-11:45


CHACHALU MUSEUM 12:15-12:30



QUESTIONS? CALL US: 503-876-2702

Fuel your summer with good food and great vibes. Spread the word!

This institution is an equal opportunity provider



NATIVE AMERICAN WATCHLIST

Watchlist: ‘What Makes Someone Native American?: Ep. 4 of CrashCourse Native American History’

(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 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 Grand Ronde Tribal membership voted to amend the Tribal constitution in 2024 to do away with blood quantum and move toward lineal descent. The Tribe began accepting new membership applications Tuesday, June 3.

Serendipitously, a popular education channel on YouTube called CrashCourse released a video a month before, debunking the misconceptions of blood quantum.

Native comedian Che Jim (Navajo and Odawa) hosts a 10-episode series covering various Native American topics. In episode four, he discusses a brief history of blood quantum and federal recognition.

“Before colonization, Tribes often used descent to figure out membership,” Jim said. “If you were descended from someone in the Tribe, adopted or married in, you were welcomed. We kept it chill! But thanks to standards imposed by the U.S. government over the years, things have shifted for many Tribes.”

Jim explains the various methods Tribes now use to determine membership. He says the most wildly used way to figure out enrollment eligibility is through a particular blood quantum.

“About 70% of federally recognized Tribes today require a blood quantum but it’s a controversial way of determining Tribal enrollment,” Jim said.

According to Jim, blood quantum relies on American government records created to “sort” Native Americans who were mixed with European parentage. Jim explains the intention behind measuring “Indian-ness” was that after generations of interracial marriage, there wouldn’t be many people who qualified as Native anymore. Most importantly to the U.S. government, they would not be held to the treaties they signed with Tribes.

As any controversial topic goes, some support blood quantum because they believe it’s the best way at proving lineage and keeping close-knit communities together. Others believe it’s a colonial invention and leaves younger generations outside their ancestor’s community.

“Some Tribes are taking action, returning to enrollment based on descendency,” Jim said.

The Grand Ronde Tribe is one of the more recent adopters of this requirement, among others like St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin who voted to remove blood quantum in 2023 and has a photo of their Tribal Council included in the video.

You can watch the entire CrashCourse video now at www.youtube.com/watch?v=UxmD-Lone7A. ■

Tribe offering support to incarcerated members

Grand Ronde Tribal members who are incarcerated, have been recently released from prison or are involved in addiction treatment programs don’t have to face challenges alone.

The Tribe has a post-prison/post-treatment peer support specialist, Tribal member Joe Ulestad, who is also a certified recovery mentor.

“I want our members who are incarcerated or need help to know we haven’t forgotten about them and we’re here to help,” he said. “They can call me, email or text.”

Ulestad can be reached at joe.ulestad@grandronde.org, by text/call at 971-237-5262 or on his office line, 503-879-1389. ■

CTGR EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

2025 Honor and Recognition Event Graduation Celebration

Are you a CTGR tribal member promoting from 8th grade, high school/GED graduate, or college graduate? We invite you and your family to celebrate with us on June 27th at 5:00pm at Spirit Mountain Casino for our Honor and Recognition event! Meal included.



JUNE 27, 2025 • 5:00 P.M.

8TH GRADE PROMOTERS & HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/zGhjz2yoZAYvS4c69>



GED & COLLEGE GRADUATES

Please email Higher Education for the college graduate form.
highereducation@grandronde.org - 503-879-2275

Culture Committee Cultural Craft Classes

10-4pm

~~April 7th @ CTGR Public Health Building~~
~~May 18th @ CTGR Community Center~~
~~June 9th @ CTGR Community Center~~
July 6th @ CTGR Community Center
August 3rd @ CTGR Community Center
September 14th @ CTGR Community Center
October 12th @ CTGR Community Center
November 9th @ CTGR Community Center
December 14th @ CTGR Community Center

Come make new projects, work on old projects!
Tribal families welcomed!!
All ages!!

Questions? Please reach out to the Culture Committee:
Pamala Warren-Chase @ Pamala.warren-chase@thecommunityfund.com
Marianne Blanchard @ indigenousartstattooco@gmail.com
Stephanie Craig @ kalapuyaweaver@gmail.com
Molly Leno @ molly.leno@grandronde.org

Save the Date

FAMILY NIGHT OUT

Date: August 22, 2025
Time: 4:00pm
Location: Grand Ronde Tribal Gym



FOOD
RIDES
PRIZES
RESOURCE BOOTHS

Please note: This is just a save the date, formal invitations will be sent out closer to the event date.

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 and obtain a new Regional Library Service card. For more information, contact Cole at 503-879-1488. ■

Reading volunteers needed

Children’s literacy nonprofit SMART Reading is seeking volunteers to read with students weekly at Grand Ronde Head Start. Reading is an essential skill for kids, helping them start and stay on a path to success in school and beyond, according to a press release from the organization. “Volunteering with SMART Reading is a fun, meaningful way to impact kids right here in our community,” Michael Finlay, Interim Program Manager for SMART’s northwest area, said. “I regularly have volunteers tell me that the hour they spend at SMART is the best part of their week.” The time commitment is one hour per week. To learn more, contact 971-634-1628 or visit www.SMARTReading.org. ■



We are looking for part time bus drivers during Summer Break 2025



If interested please apply at

When Applying please provide a copy of your CDL-B and CBR if you have one. Please indicate if you don't have a CBR (Central Background Registry) it may take 45 day to process.



Tracy Howerton
Early Childhood Education Transportation and Facilities Coordinator
The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
503-879-2285
Tracy.howerton@grandronde.org

Apply for the Temp pool



Position Title	Grade	Min. Start Wage	Max Start Wage	Closing Date
Certified Medical Assistant – Public Health	8	\$24.60/hr.	\$31.84/hr.	Until Filled
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Therapist	12	\$74,901.04/yr.	\$96,316.53/yr.	Until Filled
Cook – Adult Foster Care	5	\$18.86/hr.	\$24.07/hr.	Until Filled
Family Support Services Specialist – Social Services	9	\$27.05/hr.	\$34.95/hr.	06/16/2025
Family Support Specialist – Public Health	8	\$24.60/hr.	\$31.84/hr.	Until Filled
Forestry Technician (Fire Suppression/Prevention) Intermediate	6	\$20.75/hr.	\$26.42/hr.	Until Filled
Forestry Technician (Fire Suppression/Prevention) Engine Boss/Crew Boss/EMT	7	\$22.36/hr.	\$29.00/hr.	Until Filled
Foster Care Recruitment Specialist – Social Services	9	\$27.05/hr.	\$34.95/hr.	Until Filled
Health & Wellness Staff Accountant	11	\$32.74/hr.	\$42.16/hr.	Until Filled
Lodge Caregiver – Full Time	7	\$22.36/hr.	\$29.00/hr.	Until Filled
Lodge Caregiver – Part-Time & On-Call	7	\$22.36/hr.	\$29.00/hr.	06/16/2025
Licensed Practical Nurse – Portland - GCR	12	\$36.01/hr.	\$46.31/hr.	Until Filled
Licensed Practical Nurse – Sheridan - GCR	12	\$36.01/hr.	\$46.31/hr.	Until Filled
Maintenance & Grounds Coordinator	9	\$27.05/hr.	\$34.95/hr.	06/10/2025
Mental Health Counselor – Sheridan - GCR	12	\$74,901.04/yr.	\$96,316.53/yr.	Until Filled
Mental Health Therapist – Behavioral Health	12	\$74,901.04/yr.	\$96,316.53/yr.	Until Filled
Natural Resources Technician	7	\$22.36/hr.	\$29.00/hr.	06/16/2025
Nurse Practitioner – Health & Wellness	22	\$176,396.03/yr.	\$248,130.43/yr.	Until Filled
Optometrist	17	\$118,408.71/yr.	\$154,344.91/yr.	Until Filled
Peer Support Specialist - Behavioral Health	9	\$27.05/hr.	\$34.95/hr.	06/16/2025
Pharmacy Technician	8	\$24.60/hr.	\$31.84/hr.	Until Filled
Physician – Health & Wellness	25	\$226,851.26/yr.	\$330,026.39/yr.	Until Filled
Physician Assistant – Salem – Great Circle Recovery	20	\$151,691.92/yr.	\$205,141.88/yr.	Until Filled
Pow Wow 2025 – Temporary Pool	2	\$16.00/hr.	\$18.00/hr.	Until Filled
Secretary - Housing	6	\$20.75/hr.	\$26.42/hr.	06/16/2025
Substance Use Disorder Therapist – Salem – GCR	10	\$61,901.69/yr.	\$79,848.88/yr.	Until Filled
Substance Use Disorder Therapist – Portland – GCR	10	\$61,901.69/yr.	\$79,848.88/yr.	06/10/2025
Temporary Pool	2	\$16.00/hr.	\$16.00/hr.	

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:

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

Apply online at: www.grandronde.org



2025 ANNUAL POW WOW TEMP WORKER RECRUITMENT



Questions? Contact:
Toni Mercier
(503) 879-2493
Toni.mercier@grandronde.org

*CTGR Tribal Preference Applies

JULY - VETERANS 10TH – 14TH

AUGUST - CONTEST 14TH – 18TH

TEMPORARY POSITION \$16.00/HR. TO \$18.00/HR.

Apply online at www.grandronde.org/employment



POSTING TITLE	CLOSE DATE	WAGE/SALARY
Banquet Server (*Part-Time)	6/12/2025	\$14.70/hr. DOE + Tips
Cage Cashier	6/12/2025	\$18.29/hr. DOE
Guest Services Cashier (*Part-Time)	6/12/2025	\$18.02/hr. DOE
Prep Cook	6/12/2025	\$18.02/hr. DOE
Surveillance Supervisor	6/12/2025	\$52,937.25/yr. DOE
Bar Porter	Until Filled	\$18.29/hr. DOE
Cleaning Attendant (Full-Time & *Part-Time)	Until Filled	\$18.02/hr. DOE
Cook (Full-Time & *Part-Time)	Until Filled	\$18.29/hr. DOE
Executive Casino Host	Until Filled	\$48,329.22/yr. DOE
Hospitality Attendant (*Part-Time)	Until Filled	\$18.02/hr. DOE
Host/Hostess Cashier (*Part-Time)	Until Filled	\$18.02/hr. DOE
Mountain View Sports Bar Waitstaff (*Part-Time)	Until Filled	\$14.70/hr. DOE + Tips
Slot Floor Supervisor	Until Filled	\$23.24/hr. DOE
Stewarding Assistant Manager	Until Filled	\$44,140.10/yr. DOE
Table Games Dealer (Full-Time & *Part-Time)	Until Filled	\$14.70/hr. DOE + 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.

Bill to remove offensive names heads to governor’s desk

A bill to speed up the process of renaming waterways, valleys, mountains and roads that have derogatory names has passed the Oregon Senate and is now headed to Gov. Tina Kotek’s desk for approval.

The bill was approved 26-1 Thursday, May 29, with Sen. Noah Robinson casting a “nay” vote.

On Tuesday, May 6, the Oregon House of Representatives voted to advance the bill, called the Dignity in Place Act, House Bill 3532.

Led by Rep. Tawna Sanchez, the bill will “expedite a multi-decade effort to rename derogatorily named waterways, valleys, roads and more in Oregon including Squaw Creek (Douglas County), Chinaman Hat (Josephine County) and Cannibal Mountain (Lincoln County),” a press release stated.

The Oregon Geographic Names Board — a group advised by the Oregon Historical Society — will be tasked with compiling a list of places with offensive geographic names within three years of the bill’s passage and determining new names in consultation with local Tribes and government entities.

The bill builds on legislation passed in 2001 to eliminate derogatory geographic names from Oregon. The 2001 legislation came at the request of two women from the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

Since then, the Oregon Historical Society has compiled a list of 107 geographic locations bearing offensive names, but many remain unchanged. ■

Contains information from the Oregon Capital Insider

Tribal member’s work part of Portland art exhibit

Tribal member Matthew Williams (aka M. Earl Williams) is a part of the Blue Sky Oregon Center for the Photographic Arts’ Pacific Northwest Drawers program for 2025. He is sharing a set of photographs which seek a reconciliation between the self, the land and the painful histories they carry.

These can be viewed from noon to 5 p.m. Wed-Sat, through March 2026 at 122 N.W. 8th Ave., Portland. ■

INDIAN TRUST SETTLEMENT

Are you an Heir of an Individual Indian Money Account Holder?

**\$38 MILLION IS AVAILABLE TO PAY HEIRS.
THE DEADLINE TO FILE A CLAIM IS JUNE 30, 2025.**

A \$3.4 billion dollar settlement was approved in a class action lawsuit, called *Cobell v. Salazar*, that claimed individual Indian land, funds and other assets were mismanaged by the federal government. \$38 million is available to pay heirs and awards could be significant.



Who is eligible?

You are eligible for a money award if you are an heir of one or more of the over 17,000 Individual Indian Money (IIM) account holders whose *Cobell* settlement awards were not distributed. You must submit a claim form with proof that you are an heir. Claim forms can be submitted online or can be downloaded and mailed to the administrator by **June 30, 2025**. More details are available on the website.

Here’s what you need.

Heir eligibility proof includes any of the following:

- A state or tribal probate order identifying estate heirs; or
- A last will and testament approved by a probate order; or
- A small estate document from an approved state in accordance with small estate procedures; or
- Documentation showing the appointment of an estate Executor, Administrator, or Personal Representative; or
- A federal probate order that directs distribution of trust funds or trust lands.

A copy of a tribal, or state, or federal probate order is needed to establish whether the Settlement Administrator can pay the heir(s) directly for the estate’s Settlement award.

If you do not have a tribal or state probate order but a personal representative or executor has been named for the estate, funds may be released to the representative or executor and they will be responsible for distributing the funds according to the wishes of the deceased Class Member.

You must act quickly.

The deadline to file is June 30, 2025.

After the deadline, all remaining funds will be distributed to the Cobell Scholarship Fund, which is managed by Indigenous Education, Inc.

LEARN MORE

CobellSettlement.com

800-961-6109

Indian Trust Settlement
c/o Kroll Settlement Administration
P.O. Box 5324
New York, NY 10150-5324



2025 SUMMER BIKE CAMP

- OUR POPULAR BIKE CAMP IS BACK THIS SUMMER WITH A NEW LOCATION, NEW TRAILS AND MUCH MORE- IN THE BEAUTIFUL VERNONIA/BANKS OREGON AREA
- GET READY FOR AN AMAZING 3 DAY, 2 NIGHT CAMP FILLED WITH ADVENTURE, CHALLENGES AND A WHOLE LOT OF FUN! MORE INFO BELOW

IMPORTANT INFO:

- CAMP DATES: JULY 14-16
- MINIMUM AGE: 14
- FOR NATIVE YOUTH
- MUST BE PHYSICALLY ABLE TO RIDE MOUNTAIN BIKE UP TO 2 HOURS ON AND OFF TRAILS

REGISTRATION INFO:

OPEN REGISTRATION MAY 12 UNTIL FULL TRIBAL PREFERENCE POLICY IN PLACE

REGISTER WITH THE LINK OR WITH THE QR CODE

[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/4CJDYGWQ563WZNL8A](https://forms.gle/4CJDYGWQ563WZNL8A)



YOUTHENRICHMENT@GRANDRONDE.ORG

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT & PREVENTION

JUNE GIFT MAKING

Help us prepare for Canoe Journey. All are welcome, come at your lunch or stay the whole time!

DATES & TIMES

WEDNESDAY 4TH, 3:30PM-6:30PM


WEDNESDAY 11TH, 10:30AM-2:30PM

WEDNESDAY 18TH, 3:30PM-6:30PM

Thank you for respecting Grand Ronde Community & Culture by not displaying gang affiliation and by not bringing drugs, alcohol or weapons to this event.

Location: Community Center
Supplies & Snacks Provided

YEP@grandronde.org or (503) 879-2034 for more information





Kiah



Keylie

Congratulations Kiah and Keylie

Tribal members Kiah Lightning Runningbird Redhawk and Keylie Thunder Runningbird Redhawk, both 18, graduated from Willamina High School Saturday, May 31. Both will be attending community college in the fall.

Summer lunch programs and assistance offered in the area

A summer EBT program is available for anyone who currently receives SNAP benefits, TANF cash assistance, Medicaid, resides in foster care, or is attending a school with a free lunch program. Benefits began being issued for families who were automatically eligible on Thursday, May 22. The online application opened Friday, May 30. For more information, visit sebt.oregon.gov or call 503-945-5600. The Willamina School District will be offering a free summer meals program in two different locations every Thursday in July. Youth 18 and younger may pick up five meals at Tina Miller Park in Willamina from 11:30 to 11:45 a.m. and at Chachalu Tribal Museum & Cultural Center in Grand Ronde from 12:15 to 12:30 p.m. The Willamina School District will also be offering free breakfast and lunch for youth at the Willamina Elementary School cafeteria Monday through Thursday, June 16 to July 24. Breakfast will be served from 8:30 to 9:15 a.m. and lunch will be served from 11 to 11:45 a.m. Meals must be eaten in the cafeteria. For more information, call 503-876-2702. ■

NRD Spotlight

Harvest Card holders we want to connect with you! Please send us your email address to receive hunting and fishing announcements, breaking news and other outdoor related information and opportunities

HuntingandFishing@grandronde.org

hush pus chaku k^hapa k^hofi haws



k^hofi haws

OPEN XALAQŁ
HOURS:


FALL: CHXI K^hUL ILI?I

WINTER: K^hUL ILI?I




SPRING: CHXI WAM ILI?I

SUMMER: WAM ILI?I

7:30AM-3:00PM



**CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF GRAND RONDE
FAMILY FISHING DAY**



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

When: Friday, June 20
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Where: Hebo Lake in Hebo, OR.

Fishing Contest and Prizes at 11 a.m. for Children (4-15 years old)

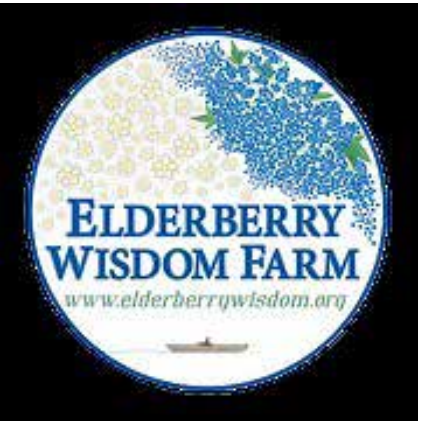
We will have fishing poles and reels, bait and free fishing lessons available.

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.

FLU/COVID PRECAUTIONS

- Please do not attend if you are experiencing symptoms or are positive for FLU/COVID
- Keep your social distance, 6 Feet apart.
- Clean your hands frequently.
- Face mask use is optional and for your own safety.

Thanks!!!




**Elderberry Wisdom Farm
TEK Conservation Internship
Summer and Fall 2025**


The Native American nonprofit, Elderberry Wisdom Farm is recruiting Interns interested in conservation careers to apply for Summer and Fall 2025 openings. We provide culturally tailored habitat restoration training, experiential service learning, and mentoring by integrating Traditional Ecological Knowledge into Mid-Willamette Valley habitat restoration, urban forestry and native plant nursery development practices. A \$3,000 stipend is provided for those completing the 9-week internship, or 200 hours of classroom education and experiential service-learning activities. Send resume and letter of interest or Q's to accounts@elderberrywisdom.org.



- A crash occurred in the area of Highway 18 and Jahn Road.



GRAND RONDE POLICE LOG



POLICE LOG continued from page 24

- A protection order violation arrest occurred in the area of Fort Hill and Yamhill River roads.
- Officers assisted an outside agency in the area of Yamhill River and Fort Hill roads.
- Officers assisted an outside agency in the 900 block of Sheridan Road.
- A disturbance was reported in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.

Thursday, March 20

- Citizen contact occurred in the area of Grand Ronde Road and Salmon River Highway.
- A warrant arrest occurred in the 9500 block of Raven Loop.
- A welfare check occurred in the 100 block of Wind River Drive.

Friday, March 21

- A crash was reported in the area of A R Ford Road and Ash Avenue.
- Officers attempted to locate a vehicle in the area of Highway 18B near milepost 3.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Officers assisted an outside agency in the 25000 block of Southwest Beaver Court.
- Trespassing occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

Saturday, March 22

- Drugs were reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Theft was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- A driving complaint was reported on Highway 18 near milepost 35.
- A domestic disturbance was reported in the 9600 block of Tilixam Circle.
- A gunshot wound occurred in the 9600 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Theft was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

Sunday, March 23

- Citizen contact occurred in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- A driving complaint was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Officers assisted an outside agency in the area of Main and Bridge streets in Sheridan.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- An alarm call was reported in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- A suspicious person was reported on Highway 18 near milepost 33.
- Officers attempted to locate a vehicle on Highway 17 near milepost 33.
- A driving complaint was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- A suspicious vehicle was reported in the area of Highway 18 near Harmony Road.
- Drugs were reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

Monday, March 24

- Citizen contact occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Citizen contact occurred in the area of Fort Hill and Yamhill River roads.
- Officers assisted an outside agency in the 800 block of Center Street in Sheridan.
- A suspicious vehicle was reported on Hebo Road near milepost 24.
- A driving under the influence of intoxicants arrest occurred on Highway 18 near milepost 24.
- Officers assisted an outside agency in the 300 block of Faulconer Street in Sheridan.
- A driving complaint was reported on Highway 18 near milepost 16.
- A traffic hazard was reported on Highway 18 near milepost 17.
- A suspicious vehicle was reported in the area of Highway 18 and Hebo Road.
- Citizen contact occurred in the area of Highway 18 and Highway 18B.

Tuesday, March 25

- A drug complaint was reported on Highway 18 near milepost 23.
- A crash occurred on Highway 18 near milepost 24.
- A welfare check occurred in the 9600 block of Raven Loop.
- Officers assisted an outside agency on Highway 18 near milepost 23.
- A disturbance was reported in the 9600 block of Raven Loop.

Wednesday, March 26

- An alarm call was reported in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- A domestic incident was reported in the 9500 block of Raven Loop.

Thursday, March 27

- A suspicious vehicle was reported in the area of Jahn Road and Highway 18.
- Trespassing was reported in the area of Grand Ronde Road and North Street.
- An attempted homicide was reported in the 46000 block of Southwest LaChance Road.
- A driving under the influence of intoxicants arrest occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Officers assisted an outside agency in the area of Hebo and LaChance roads.

Friday, March 28

- A domestic disturbance was reported in the 29000 block of Joe Day Way.
- A drug complaint was reported in the 284000 block of McPherson Road.
- Citizen contact occurred in the area of Jahn Road and Highway 18.
- Officers assisted an outside agency on Agency Creek Road near milepost 3.
- Officers attempted to locate a vehicle on Agency Creek Road near milepost 2.
- Sexual solicitation was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- A suspicious person was reported in the area of Tyee Road and Wind River Drive.

Saturday, March 29

- Suspicious activity was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Officers attempted to locate a vehicle on Highway 18 near milepost 3.
- Officers assisted traffic on Highway 18 near milepost 26.
- A drug complaint was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- A warrant arrest occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Criminal mischief was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- A warrant arrest occurred in the area of SW Sourgrass Road and Hebo Road.
- A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 26800 block of Salmon River Highway.

Sunday, March 30

- An intoxicated person was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Suspicious activity was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- An animal complaint was reported in the area of Grand Ronde Road and Salmon River Highway.
- Officers assisted an outside agency in the 1200 block of Northwest Pacific Place in Sheridan.
- An audible alarm was reported in the area of Dragonfly Drive and Blacktail Drive.
- Suspicious activity was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

Monday, March 31

- Suspicious activity was reported on Highway 18 near milepost 22.

Tuesday, April 1

- Fraud was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Civil service occurred in the 28400 block of McPherson Road.
- Drugs were reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Officers assisted an outside agency in the 7900 block of Fire Hall Road.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- A suspicious vehicle was reported on Highway 18 near milepost 24.
- A suspicious vehicle was reported in the area of Grand Ronde Road and Salmon River Highway.
- Citizen contact occurred on Highway 18 near milepost 27.

Wednesday, April 2

- Drugs were reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Harassment was reported on Agency Creek Road near milepost 6.
- A welfare check occurred in the 26800 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 8700 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Eluding arrest was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

Thursday, April 3

- A warrant arrest occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Citizen contact occurred in the area of Grand Ronde Road and Salmon River Highway.
- Citizen contact occurred in the area of Grand Ronde Road and Salmon River Highway.
- Citizen contact occurred in the area of Fire Hall Road and Salmon River Highway.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.


Friday, April 4

- Drugs were reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Drugs were reported on Highway 18 near milepost 24.
- A suspicious vehicle was reported on Highway 18 near milepost 23.


Saturday, April 5

- A suspicious vehicle was reported on Highway 18 near milepost 17.

See POLICE LOG continued on page 26



GRAND RONDE POLICE LOG



POLICE LOG continued from page 25

- A structure fire was reported in the 47000 block of Southwest Hebo Road.
- Fraud was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Officers assisted an outside agency in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Attempt to locate a vehicle occurred on Highway 18 near milepost 23.
- Officers assisted an outside agency in the 9600 block of Tilixam Circle.
- Harassment was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

Sunday, April 6

- Drugs were reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Suspicious activity was reported on Agency Creek Road near milepost 2.
- A driving complaint was reported on Highway 18 near milepost 24.
- Disorderly conduct was reported in the area of Grand Ronde Road and Salmon River Highway.
- A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 7200 block of Alvord Alley.
- A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- An emotionally disturbed person was reported in the 48000 block of Dragonfly Drive.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.

Monday, April 7

- Citizen contact occurred in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Theft was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- A suspicious vehicle was reported on Hebo Road near milepost 24.
- Officers assisted with traffic on Highway 18 near milepost 26.
- Officers covered a request on the 800 block of Northeast Bockes Loop in Sheridan.
- A suspicious vehicle was reported in the area of Fire Hall Road and Salmon River Highway.

Tuesday, April 8

- A driving complaint was reported on Highway 18 near milepost 19.
- A welfare check occurred on Hebo Road near milepost 18.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 9600 block of Tilixam Circle.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 48000 block of Eagle Loop.
- A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 26800 block of Salmon River Highway.

Wednesday, April 9

- Officers assisted an outside agency in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- A suspicious vehicle was reported on Hebo Road near milepost 24.
- A driving complaint was reported on Highway 18 near milepost 17.
- A driving complaint was reported on Highway 18 near milepost 23.

Thursday, April 10

- A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 9600 block of Hebo Road.
- A sex offense was reported in the 9600 block of Tilixam Circle.
- Officers assisted an outside agency in the 100 block of South Bridge Street in Sheridan.
- A driving while suspended arrest occurred on Highway 18 near milepost 27.

Friday, April 11

- A suspicious vehicle was reported on Hebo Road near milepost 24.
- A domestic disturbance occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Officers assisted an outside agency in the 53500 block of Sourgrass Road.
- Officers assisted an outside agency in the 200 block of South Bridge Street in Sheridan.
- A driving under the influence of intoxicants arrest occurred on Highway 18 near milepost 25.
- An overdose occurred at the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

Saturday, April 12

- A crash occurred in the area of Highway 18B and Highway 22.
- A welfare check occurred in the 100 block of Wind River Drive.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.

Sunday, April 13

- A welfare check occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- A driving complaint was reported on Highway 18 near milepost 23.
- A driving complaint was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Officers assisted an outside agency in the area of Richard and Main streets in Sheridan.
- A driving complaint was reported on Highway 18 near milepost 16.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 8900 block of Hebo Road.

Monday, April 14

- An emotionally disturbed person was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Officers assisted an outside agency in the 25900 block of Salmon River Highway.

- Citizen contact occurred in the 9600 block of Tilixam Circle.
- Officers assisted an outside agency on Highway 18 near milepost 24.
- A welfare check occurred in the 8800 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- A welfare check occurred in the 9500 block of Raven Loop.

Tuesday, April 15

- Trespassing was reported on Agency Creek Road near milepost 16.
- A warrant arrest occurred in the 9600 block of Hebo Road.
- Trespassing was reported on Hebo Road near milepost 24.
- Citizen contact occurred on Hebo Road near milepost 24.

Wednesday, April 16

- A suspicious vehicle was reported in the area of Fire Hall Road and Salmon River Highway.
- Theft was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- A domestic disturbance was reported in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- An emotionally disturbed person was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

Thursday, April 17

- Officers assisted an outside agency in the area of Fort Hill Road.
- A domestic disturbance was reported in the 55700 block of Salmon River Highway.
- A stolen vehicle was reported in the 26800 block of Salmon River Highway.
- A suspicious vehicle was reported on Hebo Road near milepost 24.
- A driving complaint was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

Friday, April 18

- A suspicious vehicle was reported on Hebo Road near milepost 24.
- A crash occurred on Highway 18 near King Road.
- A suspicious person was reported in the area of Grand Ronde Road and Salmon River Highway.
- Theft was reported in the 26800 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Officers assisted with traffic in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- A suspicious vehicle was reported on Hebo Road near milepost 24.
- Theft was reported in the 26800 block of Salmon River Highway.

Saturday, April 19

- Officers assisted an outside agency in the 9500 block of Raven Loop.
- Criminal mischief was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Menacing was reported in the 26800 block of Salmon River Highway.

Sunday, April 20

- Officers assisted an outside agency in the 48600 block of Southwest Dragonfly Drive.
- Trespassing was reported in the area of Fire Hall Road and Salmon River Highway.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Trespassing was reported on Hebo Road near milepost 24.
- Officers assisted an outside agency in the area of Main and B streets in Willamina.
- A suspicious vehicle was reported in the area of Grand Ronde Road and Salmon River Highway.
- Officers assisted with traffic on Highway 18 near milepost 25.
- A suspicious vehicle was reported on Highway 18 near milepost 18.


Monday, April 21

- A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 26800 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Officers assisted an outside agency in the area of Grand Ronde Road.
- A domestic disturbance was reported in the 9600 block of Tilixam Circle.
- A traffic arrest occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- A runaway was reported in the 9600 block of Tilixam Circle.
- A driving complaint was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- A suspicious vehicle was reported on Hebo Road near milepost 24.


Tuesday, April 22

- A suspicious vehicle was reported on Highway 18 near milepost 18.
- Criminal mischief was reported in the 9600 block of Tilixam Circle.
- Trespassing was reported on Hebo Road near milepost 18.
- Officers assisted an outside agency in the 48700 block of Dragonfly Drive.
- A suspicious person was reported in the 48000 block of Dragonfly Drive.
- Found property was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

See POLICE LOG continued on page 27



GRAND RONDE POLICE LOG



POLICE LOG continued from page 26

- Fraud was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

Wednesday, April 23

- Officers requested cover in the area of Willamina Creek and Tindle Creek roads.
- Officers attempted to locate a vehicle in the area of Highway 18B and Highway 22.
- Officers assisted an outside agency in the 7000 block of Alvord Alley.

Thursday, April 24

- A traffic arrest occurred in the area of McPherson and Grand Ronde roads.
- Driving complaint reported in the area of Highway 22 near milepost 17.
- A drug complaint was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Officers assisted an outside agency in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Citizen contact occurred in the 290 block of Ead Creek Loop.
- Found property was reported in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Fraud was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- A stolen vehicle was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.

Friday, April 25

- Officers assisted an outside agency in the 28300 block of Andy Riggs Road.
- An emotionally disturbed person was reported in the 1300 block of West Main Street in Sheridan.
- Officers assisted traffic in the 26800 block of Salmon River Highway.
- A drug complaint was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- A driving complaint was reported on Highway 18 near milepost 24.

Saturday, April 26

- Found property was reported in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.
- Found property was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Suspicious activity was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- An alarm call was reported in the 9600 block of Grand Ronde Road.

Sunday, April 27

- Civil service occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- An intoxicated person was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- Suspicious activity was reported in the 26000 block of Salmon River Highway.

- A suspicious vehicle was reported in the area of Grand Ronde Road and Salmon River Highway.
- A civil complaint occurred in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- An alarm call occurred in the area of Grand Ronde Road and Salmon River Highway.
- Fraud was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- A drug complaint was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- A warrant arrest occurred in the area of Hebo Road and Salmon River Highway.

Monday, April 28

- Citizen contact occurred in the area of Grand Ronde Road and Salmon Way.
- A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 26000 block of Salmon River Highway.
- An intoxicated person was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- A suspicious vehicle was reported in the area of Hebo Road and Salmon River Highway.

Tuesday, April 29

- Trespassing was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- A rollover crash occurred on Hebo Road near milepost 19.
- Officers assisted an outside agency in the area of Main and B streets in Willamina.
- Officers assisted an outside agency on Hebo Road near milepost 16.
- Trespassing was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- A suspicious vehicle was reported on Hebo Road near milepost 20.

Wednesday, April 30

- Trespassing was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- A driving under the influence arrest occurred on Highway 22 near milepost 1.
- Trespassing was reported in the 27100 block of Salmon River Highway.
- A warrant arrest occurred in the 26800 block of Salmon River Highway.

Compiled by Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department Officer Austin Gomez



SHAWASH-ILI?I SKUL

tunus-tənas
lu?lu

Shawash-ili?i Skul

Are you interested in learning more about what we do at Shawash-ili?i Skul and jump starting your little's exposure to language? Beginning in May, Shawash-ili?i Skul will be hosting chinuk wawa language and culture socializations for littles 2 years old and younger every third Tuesday of the month.

Socializations are scheduled for the following dates from 5:00 to 6:30PM at the Chinuk Wawa Skul Building behind Adult Education:

MAY 20TH
JUNE 17TH
JULY 15TH
AUGUST 19TH

If you have any questions, please email chinukwawaedu@grandronde.org

TYPES OF IN HOME SERVICES

Home Health Care

Home health care providers services in a patient's home to treat an illness or injury. These services are provided by licensed nurses, therapists, home health aids. Insurance may cover home health care if the patient is homebound or needs intermittent skilled nursing or therapy (care at least once every 60 days, but no more than once a day for up to three weeks). Requires referral from healthcare provider.

SERVICES CAN INCLUDE:

- Nursing Care for wound care, medication administration, pain management, and more
- Physical, Speech, Occupational Therapy
- Activities of Daily Living Assistance
- Medication Management

Home Care Services

Home care is care that allows a person to stay in their home. It can be for people who are chronically ill, recovering from surgery and do not qualify for home health care, or have a disability, or are aging and wish to stay home. Home care services, are not covered by insurance, but covered out of pocket by the person receiving the care.

SERVICES CAN INCLUDE:

- Personal care such as helping with bathing, washing hair, or getting dressed
- Household chores such as cleaning, yard work, laundry
- Cooking or delivering meals
- Money management
- Medical transportation

Grand Ronde Community Health

Community Health provider a community approach for improving the overall health, preventing disease and reducing health disparities by addressing the whole person. Services and support is offered to Tribal Elders and Native Family Caregivers.

SERVICES INCLUDE:

- Medical Transportation
- Care Management
- Medication Delivery
- Blood Pressure Checks
- Life Alert Services
- Home Safety Visits
- Elder Justice Support
- Wellness Checks
- Dementia Care Support
- ER/Hospital Discharge Calls
- Any many more....

Tribal nonemergency text

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.

McKnight said that emergency situations still require calling 911.

For more information, contact McKnight at 503-879-1474. ■

GRAND RONDE TRIBAL YOUTH



LIMITED PAID REGISTRATIONS AVAILABLE

NATIVE YOUTH WELLNESS WARRIOR CAMP

JUNE 23 - 26, 2025

The camp is intended to provide healing opportunities and skill development through ceremony, workshops, activities, movement, traditional games, crafts, and more!

 UYXAT POWWOW GROUNDS
GRAND RONDE, OREGON

Contact us at: YEP@grandronde.org or YouthEnrichment@grandronde.org



Thank you for respecting Grand Ronde Community & Culture by not displaying gang affiliation and by not bringing drugs, alcohol or weapons to this event.

WHAT POWERS YOU?



Wanda
Exec. Director, Turtle Cove
Created a comfortable home
and haven for her community,
and families in need.

Offering energy savings and solutions that power your life.

Find cash incentives and resources at energytrust.org

EnergyTrust

of Oregon

Paid ad

Students of the month

The Tribe’s Youth Enrichment Program hayu-munk skukum has implemented student of the month awards for K-2, 3-5, middle and high school students. The students of the month of May.

Leonidas Pond, 12, was chosen as student of the month for grades 6-12 for having a positive attitude and engaging with others and kindness, respecting others opinions and values.

Arya Clark, 12, was chosen as student of the month for grades 6-12 for taking healthy risks and stepping up to help staff and students, as well as for engaging with others in a positive manner and being a good example to her peers.

Benson Spencer, 10, was chosen as student of the month for grades 3-5 because he made outstanding improvements from the beginning to the end. He is actively participating in cultural activities and has shown great improvement in every aspect.

Sophia Catron, 9, was chosen as student of the month for grades 3-5 because she has demonstrated remarkable growth throughout the year, exhibiting empathy towards other students and consistently being a wonderful friend to peers.

Keenyn Holmes, 8, was chosen as student of the month for grades K-2 for having a positive attitude and engaging with others with kindness.

Contributed photos



ADULT FOSTER CARE

Priority is given to Grand Ronde Tribal Elders, dependent on need and acuity of all Tribal applicants

PROTOCOL PRACTICE DATES

June 16th from 4:30-6PM at the Chachalu Gymnasium

June 30th from 4:30-6PM at the Chachalu Gymnasium

July 7th from 4:30-6PM at the Chachalu Gymnasium

July 14th from 4:30-6PM at the Chachalu Gymnasium

Hosted by the HWC and YEP. A small meal will be provided.

Paddle Practice Days

June 24th - 1:00pm to 4:00pm @ East Devils Lake Park

July 8th - 1:00pm - 4:00pm @ East Devils Lake Park

July 19th - 20th @ Siletz River (in place of Rooster Rock)

August 26th - 1:00pm to 4:00pm @ East Devils Lake Park

August 28th - 1:00pm to 4:00pm @ East Devils Lake Park

Hosted by GRHWC



West Valley Veterans Memorial Application

Deadline is January 15, 2026

Name (as desired on memorial):

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 January 15, 2026, will be kept on file for inclusion to the Memorial in 2027.

Ad by Samuel Briggs III

GRHWC PROJECTED lush lamatsin EVENTS 2025

January

Pajama Jam
1/10 from 5-7pm @Tribal Gym
Fresh Foods Distribution
1/23 Starts 10:00am
@ GR Procurement Building

February

Sweetheart's Jam
2/13 from 5-7pm @ Tribal Gym
Fresh Foods Distribution
2/20 Starts 10:00am
@ GR Procurement Building

March

Fresh Foods Distribution
3/20 Start 10:00am
@ GR Procurement Building

April

Earth Day Jam
4/18 from 5-7 @Tribal Gym
Fresh Foods Distribution
4/24 Starts 10:00am
@ GR Procurement Building

May

Fentanyl Awareness Event
Mother's Day Tea
Canoe Outings
Fresh Foods Distribution
5/22 Starts 10:00am
@GR Procurement Building

June

Elder Canoe Day 6/18 Location TBD
Father's Day BBQ
Canoe Outings
Fresh Foods Distribution
6/26 Starts 10:00am
@GR Procurement Building
June Jam 6/27 (TBD)

July

Fresh Foods Distribution
7/17 Starts 10:00am
@ GR Procurement Building
Marcellus Norwest
Memorial Veterans Powwow
July 11 - 13, 2025
@Uyxat Powwow Ground
Canoe Journey (tentatively)

August

Fun Run / Walk
8/16 - Time TBD
@Uyxat Powwow Grounds
3v3 Bball Collab
Fresh Foods Distribution
8/21 Starts 10:00am
@ GR Procurement Building
Canoe Journey (tentatively)

September

Fresh Foods Distribution
9/18 Starts 10:00am
@GR Procurement Building
Every Child Matters Jam
9/20 - Location & Time TBD
Canoe Races (tentatively)

October

Health and Wellness Centers
28th birthday 10/ 01
Fresh Foods Distribution
10/16 Starts 10:00am
@GR Procurement Building
Fall Festival - TBD


November

Fresh Foods Distribution
11/20 Starts 10:00am
@ GR Procurement Building

December

Fresh Foods Distribution
12/18 Starts 10:00am
@ GR Procurement Building

*All events are subject to change, please look out for our official fliers on the GRHWC Facebook page



Are you frustrated with your diabetes control?


Do you have questions about diabetes?

Do you need help managing your diabetes?

If so...

Call the Medical Clinic today at 503-879-2002

To schedule an individual diabetes education appointment



EARN YOUR GED/ HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

GET STARTED TODAY WE HAVE TWO OPTIONS

GED


- ✓ This program can be done online/on your own or you can take classes at the local Community College.
- ✓ You must be at least 16 years old for this program
- ✓ To earn your GED you will need to pass four tests: Language Arts, Social Studies, Math and Science.
- ✓ The Grand Ronde Higher Education Department will provide you with study materials and tutoring as needed


ADULT HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION

- ✓ In the Adult High School Completion program you will earn an Oregon State High School Diploma.
- ✓ Any High School credits you earned in High School (no matter how long ago) can/will be applied towards the 24 required credits needed.
- ✓ This program is online and is self-paced.

GRAND RONDE HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAM
WILL BE HERE TO SUPPORT YOU

GRAND RONDE HIGHER EDUCATION
Tracy Biery

 503-879-4591

 tracy.biery@grandronde.org

TERO Worker of the Month May 2025

Name: Highpine Eastman

Employer: Dalke Construction

Position: Apprentice Carpenter

Highpine joined the TERO workforce in 2021 when he went to work for Turnkey Scaffold Company, assembling steel frame-work scaffolding under the Yaquina Bay Bridge.

Highpine worked for one year on that project before securing work closer to home in Grand Ronde. Highpine has since worked for several small TERO projects. His most recent dispatch opportunity has been with Dalke Construction on various Spirit Mountain Casino renovation jobs. These include construction of the smoking section, the remodel of the hotel lobby, and the current courtyard remodel between the event center and the hotel.

Highpine is very proud to say his hard work has earned him a promotion from laborer to apprentice carpenter.


Highpine is very grateful to Duke Kimsey for believing in him when he first began his sobriety journey and giving him a chance to show his work ethic. The faith of the TERO staff and his co-workers helped strengthen his commitment to his sobriety.

The living wage Highpine is able to earn has helped him overcome debt and further succeed in his sobriety journey. Today, Highpine is celebrating six years of sobriety and working toward achieving goals for home ownership.

When Highpine is not working on a TERO project, you can find him at the local disc golf course where he has a respected ranking in the sport. His other favorite leisure time activities include swimming, camping with his family, beading and going to powwows.

TERO is proud to award the May TERO Worker of the Month to Highpine for utilizing all the resources that TERO has provided for him and representing our program in a good way.

Great job Highpine. Thank you for your hard work and dedication!



Highpine Eastman

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

Service offered at the Cheryle A. Kennedy Public Health Building





Behavioral
Specialist

Taylor Gustafson

Taylor works with children and their families to address challenging behavior seen in the home, public and/or school. **She currently has openings and is welcoming new clients.** Together, Taylor will work with the child and parent(s) or guardian(s) to address concerns and recommended healthy changes that have been shown to lower the specific behavior being addressed. Taylor has the ability to work with schools and programs the child is engaged in to help create collaboration and consistency across locations. Taylor received her bachelor's in psychology at Western Oregon University. She has worked in the field for 7 years and has partnered with The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde for 4 years.

She has education and training in working with a multitude of diagnoses including multiple levels of Autism. Taylor incorporates a whole person approach when creating a tailored plan for each client.

Contact Details

For appointments contact the Public Health Department front desk at 503-879-6701
OR contact Taylor Directly at 503-879-1697 or Taylor.gustafson@grandronde.org



Service offered at the Cheryle A. Kennedy Public Health Building





Registered Dietitian
Nutritionist

Becky Johnson

Becky Johnson is a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist able to work one-on-one with any HWC-eligible patient at the Cheryle Kennedy Public Health Building. Becky has been licensed as a dietitian since 2019 after completing a Master of Science in Human Nutrition degree at Oregon Health & Science University and dietetic internship with the Veterans Administration Portland Health Care System. Becky has previously work as a dietitian and nutrition services manager at Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital in Lincoln City and dietitian and health education manager with the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians in Canyonville. She enjoys working with individuals of all ages, using the power of food and nutrition to create personalized eating plans and set goals to improve or maintain health. This includes both managing chronic health conditions (such as chronic kidney disease, heart disease, food allergies/intolerances or digestive problems) or promoting optimum nutrition at different life stages (such as early childhood, youth athletes, pregnancy, or older adulthood).

Contact Details

For appointments contact the Public Health Department front desk at 503-879-6701
OR contact Becky directly at 503-879-6711 or Becky.johnson@grandronde.org





Start working towards your goals to reach your BIG goal

- **S-** Specific, be specific in your goal. What do you want to accomplish?
- **M-** Measurable, Set a goal that you can measure
- **A-** Achievable, choose something that you can do
- **R-** Realistic, something you are willing and able to work towards
- **T-** Timely, have a timeframe to check back in to see how your goal is going



SMOKE SIGNALS

UMPQUA · MOLALLA · ROGUE RIVER · KALAPUYA · CHASTA

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

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ZIP-UP HOODIE (GRAY) \$35							Not Available
ZIP-UP HOODIE (TEAL) \$35							Not Available
T-SHIRT (BLACK) <small>BACK GRAPHIC</small> \$15	Discontinued	Discontinued			Discontinued		
T-SHIRT (BLACK) <small>FRONT GRAPHIC</small> \$15							
T-SHIRT (GRAY) <small>FRONT GRAPHIC</small> \$15							
T-SHIRT (TEAL) <small>FRONT GRAPHIC</small> \$15							
T-SHIRT (CYAN) <small>FRONT GRAPHIC</small> \$15		Discontinued	Discontinued	Discontinued			

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