



Indigenous
Peoples Day
photos — pg. 12

OCTOBER 15, 2025



SMOKE SIGNALS

UMPQUA · MOLALLA · ROGUE RIVER · KALAPUYA · CHASTA

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

Tribe watchful for federal government shutdown impacts

By Nicole Montesano

Smoke Signals staff writer

As the shutdown of the federal government continues, Tribal Communications Director Sara Thompson said it's not yet clear what impacts, if any, there will be on the Tribe.

"The Tribe is staying up to speed on the federal government shut-down," Thompson said. "While we haven't had any immediate impacts, we are monitoring developments closely for any shifts that would threaten the stability of Tribal programs or Tribal funding. As always, we are committed to providing services and programming to the Tribal membership and Grand Ronde community."

Some 750,000 federal employees have been furloughed since the shutdown began Wednesday, Oct. 1, and President Donald Trump has threatened to lay off thousands of federal workers, shut down programs Democrats favor and pause or cancel billions of dollars in funding to blue states if the shutdown continues.

Native News Online reported on Oct. 1 that "The Bureau of Indian Affairs is set to furlough more than half of its employees across the country."

However, the overall effects on Indian Country are still unknown. "Departments and agencies across the federal government that support Tribes with health care, education, public safety, environmental protection and housing have executed different staffing orders," the

See SHUTDOWN
continued on page 7



Photo by Kamiah Koch

Grand Ronde Tribal member Fabian Quenelle poses on the runway wearing clothing by Indigenous designer Aurolyn Stywer during the Northwest/West Coast Indigenous Fashion Show & Market held at the Spirit Mountain Casino Event Center Thursday, Sept. 25.

Indigenous Fashion Show returns

By Nicole Montesano

Smoke Signals staff writer

The Northwest/West Coast Indigenous Fashion Show at the Spirit Mountain Casino

Event Center has grown significantly from its first year, featuring two intermission acts fitted between sets of designers. The collections went beyond clothing this year, with some designers showcasing beaded jewelry instead.

SEE MORE OF THIS STORY

Visit **YouTube**

@SmokeSignalsCTGR



Ribbon skirts, jingle dresses, basketry designs, beads and sequins were on display, along with tiaras, royalty crowns, feather fans, medallions and braids. Attire ranged from casual outfits, classic A-line skirts and breezy summer dresses to formal regalia and gowns.

See FASHION SHOW
continued on page 8

Tribe participates in conservation property tour



Photo by Danielle Harrison

By Danielle Harrison

Smoke Signals editor

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts and the Polk Soil and Water Conservation District hosted a tour that included one of the Tribe's conservation properties, Noble Oaks, a 667-acre site located in Sheridan.

The Thursday, Sept. 25 tour highlighted oak

and prairie habitat restoration at the property.

Before the tour began, Tribal Fish & Wildlife Policy Analyst Lindsay McClary gave a brief history of the site, which the Tribe acquired through the Willamette Wildlife Mitigation Program, funded by Bonneville Power Administration

See TOUR
continued on page 9

Tribal Natural Resources Department Manager Colby Drake, right, discusses how the department is returning "good fire" to the landscape at Tribal conservation property Noble Oaks, located in Sheridan. Drake and Tribal Fish and Wildlife Policy Analyst Lindsay McClary, left, led a tour Thursday, Sept. 25, at Noble Oaks which highlighted oak and prairie habitat restoration at the site.

General Council meeting

11 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 2

Tribal Council Chambers

Tribal members can participate remotely via Zoom and in-person attendance. Call 800-422-0232 for more information.

NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday meetings

DATE

TIME

Wednesday, Oct. 22.....

4 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 5.....

4 p.m.

Please note that these times and dates are subject to change if needed.

Attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 503-879-2304.

Grand Meadows lot available for lease

Lot number 33 in Grand Meadows is now available for lease.

Applicants must be pre-approved for a new manufactured home.

The lot size is 55-by-100 feet and the pre-approved manufactured home must fit the size of the lot.

The lot has a 26.8-by-66.4-foot cinder block skirting as well as a 20-by-24-foot garage with no garage door but it does have a man door.

The garage on the lot will be included in the purchase.

The sale will be preceded by a lottery system. To be included in the lottery, the leasing application and pre-approval letter from a lender must be received no later than 5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 16.

The leasing application is on the Tribal webpage at www.grandronde.org or applicants can stop by the Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Department, 28450 Tyee Road, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday and pick one up. ■

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 office line, 503-879-1389. ■

LISTEN TO SMOKE SIGNALS PODCASTS

General Welfare Assistance payments explained

Smoke Signals sat down with Finance Officer Chris Leno and Audit Manager Michael Langley to understand the General Welfare Assistance Program. They answer who is eligible for payments, where the funds are coming from, how often they may be provided and why the Tribe is moving in this direction.

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

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VISIT SMOKESIGNALS.ORG AND CLICK ON PODCAST

Ad by Samuel Briggs III

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DEADLINE DATE

ISSUE DATE

MEMBERS OF:

Wednesday, Oct. 22.....

Nov. 1

Indigenous Journalists Association

Wednesday, Nov. 5

Nov. 15

Oregon Newspaper Publishers Assoc.

Tuesday, Nov. 18

Dec. 1

2022 IJA General Excellence

Thursday, Dec. 4

Dec. 15

2023 IJA General Excellence

EDITORIAL POLICY

Smoke Signals, a publication of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon, is published twice a month. No portion of this publication may be reprinted without permission.

Our editorial policy is intended to encourage input from Tribal members and readers about stories printed in the Tribal newspaper. However, all letters received must be signed by the author, an address must be given and a phone number or 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.

Smoke Signals reserves the right to edit letters and to refuse letters that are determined to contain libelous statements or personal attacks on individuals, staff, Tribal administration or Tribal Council. Not all letters are guaranteed publication upon submission. Letters to the editor are the opinions and views of the writer. Published letters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Smoke Signals.

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IN THE FUTURE



(k^hapa atqi)

tałlam-mun (October)

- Saturday, Oct. 18 – Tribal plankhouse achaf hammi’s 16th birthday celebration. Doors open at 4 p.m. and a meal will be served at 5:30 p.m. Contact bobby.mercier@grandronde.org or 503-879-2076 for more information.
- Sunday, Oct. 19 – Spirit Mountain Casino 30th anniversary celebration for Tribal members, 2 to 4 p.m., Spirit Mountain Casino Event Center. Light hors d’oeuvres and refreshments will be served.
- Wednesday, Oct. 22 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 800-422-0232.

tałlam-pi-ixt-mun (November)

- Sunday, Nov. 2 – General Council meeting, 11 a.m., Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 800-422-0232.
- Wednesday, Nov. 5 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 800-422-0232.
- Tuesday, Nov. 11 – Tribal offices closed in observance of Veterans Day.
- Wednesday, Nov. 19 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 800-422-0232.
- Friday, Nov. 21 – Tribal offices closed in observance of Restoration Day.
- Friday, Nov. 21 and Saturday, Nov. 22 – 42nd Restoration Day celebration, Spirit Mountain Casino Event Center. The celebration will be held Friday and the Restoration Powwow will be held Saturday. Contact publicaffairs@grandronde.org for more information.

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

Find us on



OFFICIAL TRIBAL FACEBOOK PAGES

Smoke Signals:
facebook.com/SmokeSignalsCTGR

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde:
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Grand Ronde Health & Wellness:
facebook.com/GRHWC

Grand Ronde Children & Family Services:
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Grand Ronde Royalty:
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Grand Ronde Education Programs:
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Grand Ronde Youth Council:
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Grand Ronde Station:
facebook.com/GrandRondeStation

Grand Ronde Social Services Department:
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Grand Ronde Food Bank:
facebook.com/GrandRondeFoodBank

Spirit Mountain Community Fund:
facebook.com/SpiritMountainCommunityFund

Grand Ronde Cultural Education:
facebook.com/Grand-Ronde-Cultural-Education

Grand Ronde Community Garden:
facebook.com/GrandRondeCommunityGarden

Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department:
facebook.com/Grand-Ronde-Tribal-Police-Department

Grand Ronde Employment Services
Facebook.com/EmploymentServices



Ad by Samuel Briggs III

Greene retires



Photos by Kamiah Koch

Tribal Council Secretary Jon A. George, left, and Tribal Council member Lisa Leno present Tribal Attorney Rob Greene with a Pendleton blanket to celebrate his retirement after more than 31 years with the Tribe Tuesday, Sept. 30, in Tribal Council Chambers. Greene holds a paddle presented to him by Tribal Council Vice Chair Chris Mercier. When he began working for Grand Ronde, Greene shared that he didn’t have an office for the first month. “I wasn’t so sure this gig was going to work out,” he said with a smile. “But working here has really been a pleasure. I can’t even think of the person I would be otherwise...As for the people in my office, I could not do my job but for them...We’ve done so many great things together...I can’t forget the Tribal Council. It’s incredible the things that we’ve accomplished. There have been challenges over the years and people sued each other, but overall, where we started and where we’ve come has truly been an honor and the most important thing is the ability to serve you.”



Tribal Council member Pete Wakeland hugs Tribal Attorney Rob Greene during his retirement party held Tuesday, Sept. 30.

Drug take-back kiosk located at Tribal Police Department

There is a new drug take-back kiosk in the front lobby of the Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department, 9655 Grand Ronde Road. It is open during regular business hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The following items are accepted:

- Unused or expired prescription medications, including pet medications
 - Unused or expired over-the-counter medications
- The following items are not accepted:
- Thermometers or any item containing mercury
 - Needles
 - Pre-loaded needles
 - Empty bottles
 - Personal care products (vitamins, herbal remedies, supplements, cosmetics)
 - Batteries
 - Illegal drugs
 - Aerosol cans ■

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 October 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 1:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 24, via Zoom. Chair: Mia Prickett. Contact Editorial.Board@grandronde.org for the meeting link.
- **Education Committee** meets at 5:30 p.m. on the last Tuesday of the month in the 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 Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy was filmed as a hologram to share information about the Grand Ronde Tribe’s history and experiences in the “Oregon’s First People” film at the End of the Oregon Trail Interpretive & Visitor Information Center. Dressed in regalia, Kennedy talks about the history of her ancestors at Willamette Falls.



2020

File photo

2015 — A record-breaking fire season kept the Tribe’s Fire Protection Program busy, with firefighters sent to 13 fires that were 100 acres or larger in three states: Oregon, Washington and California. In addition to keeping the crews busy, it brought in a significant amount of revenue for the Tribe to run the program.

2010 — A state economic analysis found that a proposed private casino in Wood Village would harm the state economy, potentially taking \$29 million to \$87 million more a year than it would bring in. In addition, the analysis noted that it would take that income away from rural areas where the state’s nine Tribally owned casinos are located.

2005 — Tribal Council members traveled to Washington D.C. to take their case against an off-reservation casino in the Columbia River Gorge, proposed by the Warm Springs Tribe, to federal lawmakers. They argued that the opposition “is not about Warm Springs and Grand Ronde,” but rather about fairness of policy and fear of proliferation of casinos in Oregon, to the detriment of all Tribes.

2000 — Smoke Signals urged Tribal members to vote in the upcoming presidential election, where Vice President Al Gore was running against Texas Gov. George W. Bush. An editor’s note reminded readers that Bush had said Tribal governments should be governed by states, which the newspaper called “ignorance of the nature of the sovereignty Tribes fought so hard to attain.”

1995 — Human Resources staff were working through an “overwhelming” number of job applicants for the new Spirit Mountain Casino, prioritizing qualified Tribal members for positions, followed by applicants from other Native Tribes.

1990 — Western Oregon State College was offering performances by the nationally-acclaimed American Indian Dance Theatre, along with exhibits of Native American culture and art by members of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.

1985 — There were 117 applicants enrolled in the Tribe in the month of August, the most recent month announced. Smoke Signals reminded readers of the requirements for applying for enrollment, which included birth documentation.

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

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.

For information contact:

Shannon Ham-Teixeira • 503-879-2301
shannon.ham-teixeira@grandronde.org



Ad by Samuel Briggs III



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.

Tribe implements new domestic violence leave policy for employees

By Nicole Montesano
Smoke Signals staff writer

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde has instituted a new domestic violence leave policy to enable employees to take time needed to seek protection or deal with home needs.

It provides for up to 90 days leave for employees who are victims of domestic violence, harassment, sexual assault or stalking. It also covers time for employees to seek care for their minor children or dependents.

Copies of the new policy were emailed to all employees in early September. They must contact their manager and/or human resources representative to submit a request.

“The policy was designed to ensure support for time off to attend court, counseling or relocation appoints without fear of losing their job,” Tribal Human Resources Director Sarah Harvey said. “This type of policy for the casino and Tribe will build loyalty and reduce turnover. It is also a visible commitment to protecting our employees, as it fosters a culture of care and inclusion. The policy also signals to the workforce and the community, that we do not tolerate harassment, intimidation or violence of any form. In short, a domestic violence and stalking policy is essential because it saves lives.”

Harvey said she and Spirit Moun-

tain Casino CEO Camille Mercier “began discussions on a policy over a year ago, due to the state of Oregon’s protections that are in place. We wanted to extend our commitment to protecting employees in a personal situation that is unsafe.”

The policy stipulates that “employees will not face retaliation, discrimination or any adverse action for requesting accommodations or taking leave related to domestic violence and any related harassment, sexual assault or stalking.”

It also stipulates that employees may request “reasonable safety accommodations,” including being walked to their car, modified work schedules, transfers or reassignments and changes to work phone number or workstations, in addition to taking unpaid leave.

“I believe we are a leader in Tribal government at this time,” Harvey said.

The policy also reminds employees of the following resources:

- National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-SAFE (7233)
- Find a Shelter near you: www.domesticshelters.org
- National Network to End Domestic Violence: www.nnedv.org
- Oregon Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence: www.ocadsv.org

For more information about the new policy, contact humanresources@grandronde.org or 503-879-2109. ■

Clinic turns 28



Photos by Kamiah Koch

Tribal Public Health Coordinator Sacheen Lampert, right, serves Tribal Operations Director Tresa Mercier a slice of cake during the Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Center’s 28th birthday celebration in the Health & Wellness Atrium Wednesday, Oct. 1. The Health & Wellness Center opened in 1997 with Tribal Elder Kathryn Harrison delivering a speech about the importance of health care for Native people and Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy speaking on how far the Health and Human Services Division had come since 1983’s Restoration.



A variety of cheesecakes and cookies were served as the main attraction during the Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Center’s 28th birthday celebration in the Health & Wellness Atrium Wednesday, Oct. 1. One cake had “Happy Birthday Health & Wellness Center” written in frosting.

BE A READING HERO

Volunteer with SMART Reading!

Make a lasting impact in just 30 minutes a week!

SMART Reading is looking for caring adults to volunteer as reading mentors for PreK students.

30 Minutes a week – Tuesdays from 9:45–10:15 – looking to start in early November

Located in the Early Care and Education building

- Books provided – no experience needed!
- Fun, easy, and rewarding!

Learn more & sign up: ashlee.webb@grandronde.org

Learn more about SMART Reading: [SMART Reading Children’s Literacy Nonprofit](#)

Together, we can help kids thrive—one book at a time.

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.

WWW.SMOKESIGNALS.ORG

Ad by Samuel Briggs III

Investment report presented at General Council meeting

By Nicole Montesano
Smoke Signals staff writer

A representative from Robert W. Baird & Co. Inc. briefed the general membership on the Grand Ronde Tribe’s investment portfolio Sunday, Oct. 5, in a hybrid General Council meeting on Zoom and in Tribal Council Chambers.

Tribal drummers performed a song and Tribal Council member Kathleen George gave the invocation.

The 44-minute briefing was held in executive session, which limits how much Smoke Signals may report. The council entered executive session at 11:13 a.m. and resumed regular session at 12:01 p.m.

Presenters took two comments and questions from the audience. Door prize winners were Judy Ballini, Tamie Spitzer and Debi Anderson, \$100 each; and Kim Bentz, Jesse Norton, Mike Wilson, Andrea Knight and Heather Bliven, \$50 each.

The next General Council meeting will take place Sunday, Nov. 2 in Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom, and feature the annual Tribal budget hearing in executive session.

The council broke for lunch a few minutes after noon, reconvening at 12:30 p.m. for other business.

To watch the entire meeting, visit www.grandronde.org and click on the Videos tab. ■

Tribal Council approves 76-acre WWMP acquisition, approves non-infant enrollments

By Danielle Harrison
Smoke Signals editor

Tribal Council approved acquisition of the 76-acre k’anawi property through the Willamette Wildlife Mitigation Program, funded by the Bonneville Power Administration, at its Wednesday, Oct. 8, meeting.

During a Tuesday, Oct. 7, Legislative Action Committee meeting, Tribal Economic Development and Lands Director Jan Reibach noted that the site, located near McMinnville, includes an existing parcel with a new access easement, and that the Tribal Lands Department and the Natural Resources Department have worked with the BPA to bring this project to its final acquisition phase.

“Through this program, the Tribe has done really well,” Reibach said. “How the program works is you have 100% external funding and we get to acquire lands, and the Tribe gets to own the land and reestablish Indigenous species. We also get paid to do it because we get management funds put into this program...The Tribe has increased our land base throughout our homelands by 2,578 acres...When this property is closed, it will increase our Willamette Wildlife Mitigation Program acres to 2,654.28.”

Tribal Council also approved the first round of 15 non-infant enrollment determinations during the Wednesday meeting.

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.

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.

“These are the first of non-infants, non-emergency enrollments (under the new requirements),” Tribal Council member Tonya Gleason-Shepek said. “It was a good process and I wanted to say ‘hayu masi’ to the staff.”

Tribal Council member Kathleen George said that she was aware of nervousness and concerns about the new enrollment process, but that lineal descent is what the Tribal membership approved.

“It is our future and we’re very happy for the families who are now enrolled,” she said. “We also ask for patience and understanding for those who are waiting.”

- In other action, Tribal Council:
- Approved the 2026 Grants Evaluation and Management Systems Indian Housing Plan, which describes all eligible programs that the Tribal Housing Department will be operating during 2026;
 - Approved a Tribal credit card for up to \$5,000 for Kim D’Aquila to use in her duties as the new Tribal attorney after the retirement of longtime Tribal Attorney Rob Greene in early October;
 - And approved the reappointment of Kathleen George to the Spirit Mountain Gaming Inc. Board of Directors with a term ending Sept. 30, 2028.

To watch the entire meeting, visit www.grandronde.org and click on the Videos tab. ■


Culture Committee Cultural Craft Classes

10-4pm

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 @ indigenouartstattooco@gmail.com
Stephanie Craig @ kalapuyaweaver@gmail.com
Molly Leno @ molly.leno@grandronde.org



FALL PREVENTION AND AWARENESS

FALLS ARE THE LEADING CAUSE OF HIP FRACTURES AND TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURIES AMONG OREGON'S OLDER ADULTS.
YOU ARE AT INCREASED RISK FOR FALLING IF YOU HAVE ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- MEDICATION SIDE EFFECTS
- POOR VISION
- POOR BALANCE
- DIFFICULTY WALKING
- HOME HAZARDS

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO PREVENT FALLS?

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF

TALK TO YOUR DOCTOR ABOUT YOUR MEDICATIONS AND THEIR SIDE EFFECTS.

POOR VISION INCREASES YOUR CHANCE OF FALLING.
SEE AN EYE DOCTOR ONCE A YEAR.
CLEAN EYEGLASSES REGULARLY.

REGULAR EXERCISE BUILDS STRENGTH AND IMPROVES BALANCE AND COORDINATION.
ASK YOUR DOCTOR ABOUT THE BEST EXERCISE FOR YOU.

KEEP WALKING AREAS CLEAR OF LOOSE RUGS, CORDS, SHOES, CLOTHIN BOOKS, MAGAZINES, PAPER, AND OTHER CLUTTER.

SMOOTH OUT WRINKLES AND FOLDS IN LOOSE RUGS AND CARPETING.

WIPE UP SPILLED LIQUIDS IMMEDIATELY.

WATCH OUT FOR PETS AND CHILDREN.

SLOW DOWN

WHEN STANDING, GET YOUR BALANCE BEFORE WALKING.

GET OUT OF CHAIRS SLOWLY.
SIT UP A MOMENT BEFORE GETTING OUT OF BED.

DON'T RUSH TO ANSWER THE PHONE OR DOOR BELL.

Now Accepting Applications



ADULT FOSTER CARE

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

Eligibility Requirements

- TRIBAL ELDER (55+)
- COMPLETED WAITLIST APPLICATION

RETURN APPLICATIONS TO ALISHA PARKS SHELL,
COMMUNITY HEALTH AND ADULT FOSTER CARE MANAGER
PHONE: 503-879-6542
ALISHA.PARKSSHELL@GRANDRONDE.ORG

Holiday food boxes uncertain this year

By Katherine Warren
Smoke Signals staff member

Francene Ambrose, Grand Ronde Food Bank (iskam mək'hmək haws) Coordinator, is uncertain whether there will be holiday food boxes for both Thanksgiving and Christmas due to a lack of funds and basic pantry staples.

The food bank is a part of Marion Polk Food Share and although it will be getting a small amount of food through the United States Department of Agriculture, it relies on local grocery stores such as Win-Co, Safeway, Trader Joes and Dollar General for a majority of donations.

Like other food banks, it has been hit hard by the double whammy of federal USDA cuts and an increasing client need due to job loss, as well as increased costs of food and housing. Currently, the food bank is down to less than one pallet of food.

The food bank receives produce from local farmers and the Farm Share RX program. Meat is obtained through USDA and wild game through the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

"We just received 1,200 lbs. of bear meat," Ambrose said.

During a recent Friday distribution, there were already 30 families in line when it opened. An hour after opening, more than 40 fami-



Photo by Katherine Warren

The Grand Ronde Food Bank (iskam mək'hmək-haws) may not be able to provide holiday food boxes during both Thanksgiving and Christmas this year, due to a lack of funds and basic pantry staples. Above, the food bank is pictured during a recent Friday food box distribution.

lies had been served. In addition to food, people can also receive books, clothes, female products, party decorations and more.

A volunteer, who goes by Niles, has been volunteering for five years and has been a food bank customer for eight years.

"The wait time can be up to three hours sometimes with people showing up as early as 6 a.m.," he said. "The volunteers take time with each family that comes through to check in with them about things and truly care about each and every person, just as if they were a family member."

In addition to checking in with families, during the Friday distribution volunteers unloaded a truck

of bread, salad kits, premade sandwiches, veggies and fruit.

There were also coolers full of eggs and dairy products donated by a variety of grocery stores.

Ian Dixon-McDonald, Vice President of Programs for Marion Polk Food Share, said that with USDA distributions down approximately 15%, people are walking away with less food than in prior years, with fewer meat and dairy products available. He noted there was a silver lining in that more grocery stores are making donations. However, it isn't enough to make up for the loss of USDA staples.

"People can help by donating food locally, donating money to Marion Polk Food Share, volunteering at the food bank and talking to the lawmakers about the needs of USDA funding for the low-income family," Dixon-McDonald said.

The Grand Ronde Food Bank is one of the only local food banks

that offers holiday boxes. There are several options to help out:

- Donate key items such as peanut butter, jam, tuna, canned chicken, pasta, sauce, cereal and shelf-stable milk to the food bank.
- Attend the Elders Activity Center fundraiser starting at 11 a.m. Monday, Oct. 27. The event will include Indian tacos and a silent auction. All proceeds will go directly to the food bank for the holiday boxes.
- Purchase a holiday food box voucher from the Elders Activity Center for any amount and get entered into a raffle for various prizes. The deadline is Monday, Dec. 1.

In the past, the Spirit Mountain Community Fund, as well as Tribal Council, have helped to fund the holiday food boxes.

"We value the long-term partnership we've developed with Marion Polk Food Share over the past 21 years and we appreciate the work they do within the community," Community Fund Director Angela Sears said. "While we have provided an official sponsorship for holiday food boxes in the past, it was never intended to be a long-term commitment. The appropriate path for seeking funding to support holiday food boxes is through our competitive grant program and MPFS has not yet submitted a request for this initiative."

Smoke Signals reached out to Tribal Communications Director Sara Thompson and Tribal Council Chief of Staff Stacia Hernandez but did not receive a response by press time in regard to council assisting with food boxes. This story will be updated later if that is provided. ■

Tribe operates on a calendar year system

SHUTDOWN continued from front page

publication stated.

It also noted that Indian Health Service is exempt from shutdown orders and that the Bureau of Indian Education is also expected to continue operations across Indian Country.

Thompson noted that after the Tribe's Restoration in 1983, leadership made independence and self-sufficiency a priority.

"They made certain financial decisions that can provide us with a certain level of stability during extended periods of uncertainty," she said.

The Tribe does use federal funding for a number of programs, including Bureau of Indian Affairs contracts, Indian Health Service and Head Start programs.

"As a matter of practice, we try to use outside funding first, but if it's not available we are fortunate to have Tribal resources to help withstand potential delays in funding," Tribal Finance Officer Chris Leno said.

The Tribe operates on a calendar year system, while the federal government operates on a fiscal year beginning Oct. 1 of every year, so effects from the shutdown will not



Chris Mercier

be felt immediately.

Tribal Council Vice Chair Chris Mercier said it's difficult to know how things might go, in part because it's impossible to know how long the shutdown will last.

"The shutdown just seems like one of many fires going on in our country," he said.

He noted that the Tribe does have an advantage in being its own nation.

"I did have somebody ask if we were going to shut down," Mercier said. "We're our own sovereign nation here and no, we're not shutting down like them. So far, the fact that the shutdown isn't affecting us is a demonstration of how strong we can be as a nation."

He added that individual members might be affected by loss of funding to federal programs such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and the WIC program.

"If it goes on long enough and we start to feel it's going to have an adverse effect on our members, I imagine we'll convene and talk about it," Mercier said. ■

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Grand Ronde, OR 97347

Questions: Call Shannon at 503-879-1358 or email shannon.simi@grandronde.org

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

Ad by Samuel Briggs III

Many of the collections contained a reference to Missing and Murdered Indigenous People

FASHION SHOW
continued from front page

Several of the models wore moccasins in a variety of styles; a couple went barefoot while others sported chunky heels. A few thigh-high boots also made an appearance.

Outfits in one collection included several pairs of men’s jeans in heavily patched blue denim as well as orange, adorned with baggy front thigh pockets featuring strips of bright pink and blue floral fabric, “influenced by powwow culture and grandmas all over,” according to the designer. The collection also included a women’s pair of shorts and a tank top in the same floral fabric.

Another collection with jingle dresses and ribbon skirts paired with wide leather belts included a jingle dress dance performed by the models.

Many of the collections contained a reference to Missing and Murdered Indigenous People, such as a white man’s overcoat with red handprints and a calf-length, long-sleeved red sheath dress slit up the side, with blue handprints scattered across the hem. A few models wore the symbolic MMIP red handprint across their faces.

The show was organized by Keeli Littleleaf (Warm Springs), a model and fashion designer, who worked closely with Ampkwa Advocacy, a Grand Ronde-based nonprofit that advocates on behalf of MMIP and works to raise awareness. Emcees were Ampkwa Advocacy board member Kola Shippentower (Umatilla) and her son, Abraham Shippentower (Umatilla). Abraham



Photo by Kamiah Koch

Grand Ronde Tribal member Auburn Logan models a traditional ribbon skirt during the Northwest/West Coast Indigenous Fashion Show & Market held at the Spirit Mountain Casino Event Center Thursday, Sept. 25. Logan had her own fashion designs shown on the runway later during the show.

Shippentower sang a blessing song to open the show.

Many of the models were taking the opportunity to enter the field for the first time, following an application call on social media, Littleleaf said. A few brought family members with them: One young woman walked with a 2-year-old sibling on her hip, while a man brought his infant and young son to join in. The child showed off his modeling chops with aplomb as he folded his arms and posed back-to-back with his father.

“The show was definitely intended to not only bring the nine Tribes of Oregon together to showcase unity through fashion and artistry, and we not only want to propel Indigenous excellence but (also to) break colonial beauty standards, providing an opportunity for Indigenous

people of all backgrounds to enter into entertainment and fashion,” Littleleaf said. “I think that’s really important; maybe others wouldn’t have an opportunity otherwise. (We also wanted) to show traditional Oregon hospitality.”

Grand Ronde Tribal member Auburn Logan had her new collection on display, as she expands from modeling to design. Logan said her “Heavenly” collection, featuring all-white dresses, gowns, nightgowns and menswear, was “created and inspired by angels in clouds in old paintings,” that she has been “fascinated by since childhood.”

Logan said it was also “inspired

by one of my language teachers from the K-5 language program when I was learning Chinuk Wawa as a youth. She always treated me with dignity, respect, kindness and love. She was very beautiful. She always wore her hair down, which was black, or wore it in a braid. To me, she was an embodiment of an ‘angel,’ someone who was soft, gentle and carried herself beautifully.”

In between sets of collections, Indigenous rappers and hip-hop artists entertained the crowd. Wassla Allen (Klamath), W44vy (San Diego) and G Precious (Ohkay Owingeh) performed in the first set.

In the second set, brothers C.L.A.N. or Changing Lives Around Nations, comprising brothers Grizzly Brown and YNG Native (Yukutat Alaska and Seattle), performed with Fish Martinez (Shasta, Moroc, Yurok, Mescalero and Azteca) and Josh Saus (Rocky Boy Montana Chippewa Cree), while DJ Buckwheat Kurtis Wiggins kept the music going.

Fashion designers for the show include the following: Aurolyn Stwyer, Native Queens, War Party Apparel, Kweys Creations, Finest Feathers and Beth Ann Gibson, House of Jingle Dress, Nitahz Clothing, Fish Martinez, EWS Gen, Ussasence, Angela Noah, Syreeta Thompson, Foxfire Designs, Heavenly by Auburn Logan, Shiney Moon Creations, Jericho, Harris Sisters Company, Creations by Kehala and Thomi Mountain Sheep. ■

yutqat-haws t’ap-san lu?lu

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Tribe owns two parcels at Noble Oaks

TOUR continued
from front page

and administered by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. The Tribe owns two parcels at Noble Oaks and parts of the area are in private ownership as well.

“There are two conservation easements on this property because it was acquired in two parcels,” she said. “The Tribe holds the deed to the property but the federal government has oversight through the conservation easements. The good news is that it will always be held as wildlife habitat long after we’re all gone. Hopefully, the wildlife habitat will still be thriving.”

Since time immemorial, the Tribe has been the historical caretaker of the Willamette Valley, which was once home to vast oak and prairie habitats, managed by the Kalapuya using Indigenous fire practices. The Tribe is actively restoring the oak and prairie habitats at Noble Oaks and has successfully returned “good fire” to the site.

Approximately 30 people attended the tour, including several Grand Ronde Tribal government staff, representatives from state Sen. Bruce Starr and Oregon Rep. Andrea Salina’s offices, and employees of various conservation districts, trusts and non-profits throughout the state.

Grand Ronde Tribal Council members in attendance included Toby McClary, Kathleen George and Secretary Jon A. George.

“I’m so grateful that today, we are once again stewards of these lands,” Jon A. George said. “I’m so grateful for our people here today. In partnership with each and every one of you, these lands continue to thrive.”

Lindsay McClary shared that the Noble Oaks site was formerly a wildlife sanctuary but most of the animals were not native to the area. As a result, the giraffes, rhinos, big cats, zebras and impalas did not fare well in the wet Pacific Northwest weather.

The property was eventually acquired by The Nature Conservancy, who worked directly with the Tribe to transfer the property into Tribal ownership in 2019.

In total, the Tribe’s Natural Resources Department manages more than 2,500 acres of conservation land at 12 different sites.

“We’ve been working on doing a lot of different projects,” Tribal Natural Resources Department Manager Colby Drake said. “I’m excited to showcase and share some of this.”

Tribal Fish & Wildlife Program Manager Kelly Dirksen said that McClary had been tasked with a “huge opportunity,” to manage the conservation properties.

“But we gave her no money to do it,” he said. “And she’s done a fantastic job of partnering with people like you or programs like yours to find the funding to do the restoration. I don’t know everyone’s contribution but I feel like you’re going to see some things that some of you helped sign a check to pay for and we’re really proud of that and the work she’s done.”

McClary also recognized Mike Wilson, retired Tribal Natural Resources Department manager and current chair for the Polk Soil and Water Conservation District.

At the first stop on the tour, atop a gravel road with a view overlooking the valley below and with the smell of smoke still in the air, McClary and Drake discussed

a recent controlled burn and site restoration.

“We’ve been able to fund our own Tribal employees and Tribal equipment operators to come in and do some stump grinding,” McClary said. “As the burns continue, those will help to break down those existing stumps and the residue...I’d like to highlight that we don’t do this work in a vacuum and we heavily rely on our partnerships, not only for funding but also for collaboration to make those dollars stretch...It takes a village.”

Kathleen George asked Drake if there are ever any issues or concerns from the neighbors or area businesses regarding smoke from the controlled burns. She noted that before a burn takes place, the Tribe sends out an email to all employees and others.

“It’s easy to reach out and do that at the Tribe,” she said. “But what about the folks who are not on our send lists?”

Drake replied that NRD does run into that issue from time to time.

“There are a lot of vineyards in

the area and putting smoke up in the air for them is a big concern,” he said. “So, just trying to reach out and check in with our people because there’s a lot of other agriculture and projects going out here that we could impact very easily. So, smoke management is probably one of our biggest things that we’re checking and calling about. When we’re putting up smoke, we get a lot of people interested in what’s going on in the community so it’s really just keeping that communication line open so if we do get the public making fire calls to 911, they can adjust to it and let people know that there’s just good fire going on there.”

The tour was sponsored by the Oregon Conservation Partnership, which includes the Coalition of Oregon Land Trust, Network of Watershed Councils, Oregon Association of Conservation Districts and Oregon Conservation Education and Assistance Network.

After the tour concluded, boxed lunches were served to all participants at the Noble Oaks site. ■



TRIBAL VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

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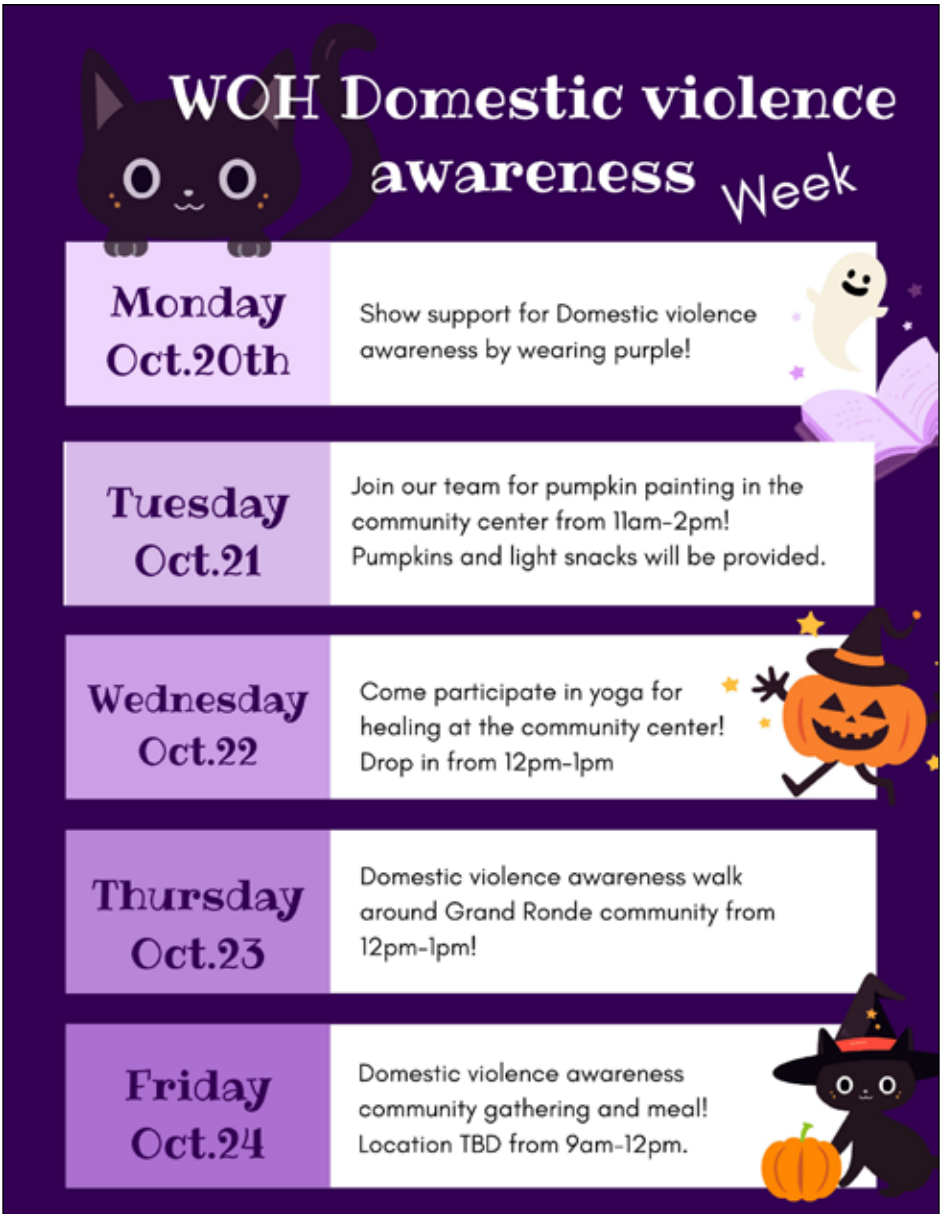
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Wednesday Oct.22	Come participate in yoga for healing at the community center! Drop in from 12pm-1pm
Thursday Oct.23	Domestic violence awareness walk around Grand Ronde community from 12pm-1pm!
Friday Oct.24	Domestic violence awareness community gathering and meal! Location TBD from 9am-12pm.



Tribal youth from the q’aləs classroom at Shawash-ili?i Skul hold an orange sign they made for Orange Shirt Day outside the Tribal Governance Center Tuesday, Sept. 30. The sign says “munk kimtaks k’anawi ntsayka t’enas” which translates to “Respect all of our children.” Orange Shirt Day is a day of remembrance for Indigenous children who had to endure the residential school system.

Tribe remembers the lost children

Tribal members, many wearing orange shirts, gathered by the Visionaries statue Tuesday, Sept. 30, to remember the children forced into boarding schools, particularly those who never came home.

The Day of Remembrance began with a song by the children of Shawash-ili?i Skul, led by Tribal drummers and singers.

Tribal Council Vice Chair Chris Mercier, Secretary Jon A. George and Tribal Council members Lisa Leno, Tonya Gleason-Shepek, Matthew Haller, Pete Wakeland and Toby McClary attended the event.

Tribal Family Support Specialist and event organizer Alexandra Masters-Warren then introduced George, who told the crowd it was an honor to attend with the Tribe’s children, remembering in grief the children who were taken and traumatized, leaving even those who survived indelibly marked. But, he said, the Tribe is working to heal that damage.

“Today, I know our Tribe is going to be OK,” he said.

George then gave the invocation, and the Tribal drummers and children sang again, while the children and some of their teachers danced. George joined in to dance with the boys, as the girls and teachers circled them. ■



Tribal students and staff dance to drumming around the Visionaries statue for Orange Shirt Day Tuesday, Sept. 30.



Tribal youth and staff lead drumming and singing outside the Tribal Governance Center for Orange Shirt Day. After the drumming and singing concluded, a moment of silence was held for Indigenous children who had to endure the residential school system. Orange Shirt Day started in 2013 and is a prominent holiday in Canada, known as the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation.

Photos by Kamiah Koch

Art summit brings practitioners together

By Nicole Montesano

Smoke Signals staff writer

Practitioners of Native artwork will have the opportunity to gather and exchange ideas and views Thursday, Oct. 23 at Chachalu Tribal Museum & Cultural Center, as the Cultural Center brings back its art summit. This year's theme is "Carving out space for keeping place."

The public will be invited in the following day for an open house in conjunction with the Chachalu Marketplace, which is held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 24.

Current and past winners of Indigenous Place Keeping Artist Fellowships will be invited to attend and this year's winners, Douglass Burgess (Grand Ronde) and Chantele Rilatos (Siletz), will be giving presentations during the artists-only portion of the summit.

"It's a great opportunity for the Indigenous Place Keeping fellows to be able to share what they're working on," Tribal Arts Administrator Mack McFarland said. "It's an opportunity to create those networks and links for artists."

The fellowship, which provides up to \$20,000, was created by the Tribe in 2022 to enable artists within the Tribe's traditional homelands to develop their careers and resumes.

"Part of what the art program hopes to do is support and champion the lower Columbia River and Chinookan art that is native to this region," McFarland said. "It is separate from other forms of Native art. So, it's a way of bringing practitioners together, to talk about the future of this art form. ... It's the

mission of the Cultural Resources Department to foster dialogue and that's what the summit does."

Art, McFarland noted, "is not static. It will shift and grow and change, and how you do that is by being in dialogue with artists."

Toward that end, the department is scaling back to just two presenters this year, rather than the four it offered last year, to give individual artists more time to connect.

"A lot of people will also be working on things," he said, which will give them the opportunity to see each other's work, share tips, seek advice and generally enjoy the camaraderie and support of fellow artists.

"These kinds of gatherings are vital for artists and lifeway practitioners," McFarland said.

Although the public will not be invited to attend that portion of the summit, which is strictly for the artists, they are encouraged to attend Friday to meet with the artists, view their art, learn more about the fellowships, tour the museum and enjoy shopping at the marketplace for Native-made art, crafts and more, plus, produce, flowers and homemade foods.

McFarland said that in addition to the usual vendors at the marketplace, the participating artists will be provided with wall or table space to set up displays and be able to offer work for sale, if they choose.

The fellowship is administered by the Grand Ronde Cultural Resources Department. More information is available by emailing Cultural.Resources@grandronde.org. ■

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- Court Year 2026–27.
- Title: Little Miss Grand Ronde.
- Crowns must be completed and delivered by July 31, 2026.

Must submit photos of progress when requested.

Bid deadline is Friday, Oct. 31, 2025. (deadline is firm and no bids will be accepted after 5 p.m.)

Mail bids and designs to:
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Grand Ronde, OR 97347

Questions: Call Shannon at 503-879-1358 or email shannon.simi@grandronde.org

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



Indigenous Day



Photos by Kamiah Koch

Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy gave opening remarks at the Indigenous Peoples Day event at Clackamas Community College in Oregon City Sunday, Oct. 12. She spoke about the history of the Grand Ronde Tribe and thanked Clackamas Community College for their ongoing partnership.



From left, Tribal Council Secretary Jon A. George, Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy and Tribal Elder/musical artist Jan Michael Looking Wolf (Reibach) drum and sing to start the Indigenous Peoples Day event at Clackamas Community College in Oregon City Sunday, Oct. 12. Later during the event, Looking Wolf performed songs with Robin Gentlewolf.

SEE MORE OF THIS STORY

Visit **YouTube**

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Visitors to EAC asked to utilize parking lots, not streets

Tribal administration is requesting that non-Elder visitors to the Tribe’s Elders Activity Center utilize the parking lot across the street from the Adult Foster Care homes, as Blacktail Drive was not built to accommodate street parking.

“We have allowed street parking knowing that at some point this was going to need to be addressed because of how narrow the street becomes when cars park on one side of the roadway, which only allows for one car to pass through at a time,” Tribal Interim General Manager Bryan Langley said in an email. “With the increase in the numbers of residents and employees, the traffic in this area has also increased, making this area unsafe at times. Public Works will be reviewing this area to determine potential changes that will need to be made to allow cars to pass uninhibited and provide safe street parking, therefore we are asking that only Elders park on the south side of Blacktail Drive while visiting the Elders Activity Center.”

The Tribe is planning on doing some curb painting and placing additional signage to raise awareness regarding the changes. ■

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

Oct. 1, 2025

The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon
9615 Grand Ronde Road
Grand Ronde, OR 97347
503-879-2404

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about Saturday, Nov. 1, 2025, the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the release of FY 2022 Community Project Funding Grant funds under Title I of the Native American Housing and Self-Determination Act of 1996, to undertake a project known as tumwata village Block 1 for the purpose of constructing new multimodal public access streets and associated public utilities around Block 1 at 419 - 427 Main Street, Oregon City, Oregon 97045, to support the future development.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347 and may be examined or copied weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group or agency may submit email comments on the ERR to Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Ryan.Webb@grandronde.org. All comments received by Friday, Oct. 31, 2025, will be considered by the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon certifies to HUD that Cheryle A. Kennedy in her capacity as chairwoman consents to accept the jurisdiction of the federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD’s approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon to use program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The HUD Region X Administration Office will accept objections to its release of fund and the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon’s certification for a period of 15 days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the certifying officer of The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon; (b) The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) The grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD Region X administration office; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to HUD Region X Administration Office at 909 First Ave., Suite 340, Seattle, WA 98104-1000. Potential objectors should contact the HUD Region X Administration Office to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

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

Head Start Awareness Month



Contributed photo

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Early Childhood Education Program is celebrating Head Start Awareness Month during October. “At the Grand Ronde Head Start Preschool, our mission is to provide a safe and inclusive preschool education; laying the foundation for lifelong success, partnering with families to create opportunities and celebrating the community and its culture,” Early Childhood Program Education Manager Dawn Doar said. “Head Start is not just about preparing children for school — it is about preparing families for the future. The program empowers parents as their child’s first and most important teacher and together we create a foundation that uplifts the entire community. As we celebrate Head Start Awareness Month, we honor the children, families, staff and community members who make this program strong. We invite our Tribal community to learn more, share in our successes and help spread the word about the positive impact of Head Start in Grand Ronde.” The Grand Ronde Head Start Preschool has served more than 350 families in the past five years and more than 100 preschoolers have graduated from the program.

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SPIRIT MOUNTAIN EVENT CENTER



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New baby


Langley Hubbell

Born : Thursday, Sept. 4, 2025

Parents: Ben and Kamryn Hubbell

Grandparent: Christopher Hubbell

Great-grandmother: Jody Langley



MARRIAGES IN TRIBAL COURT

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

School clothes program is open

The Social Services school clothing program is open and requirements are as follows:

- Child must be an enrolled Grand Ronde Tribal member (must provide CIB or Tribal ID);
- Child must be of school age and must be registered in preschool, elementary, middle or high school;
- Income must meet eligibility criteria.

To learn more about the application process or to get an application, call the Social Services front desk at 503-879-2034 or stop in between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Social Services is located in the Tribal Community Center building on the Tribal campus.

The program closes Wednesday, Dec. 31. ■

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. ■

Attention All Artisans

Now accepting bids for our Junior Miss crown.

Submit full design that includes:

- The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde logo including feathers.
- Court Year 2026–27.
- Title: Junior Miss Grand Ronde.
- Crowns must be completed and delivered by July 31, 2026.

Must submit photos of progress when requested.

Bid deadline is Friday, Oct. 31, 2025. (deadline is firm and no bids will be accepted after 5 p.m.)

Mail bids and designs to:
CTGR Royalty c/o Shannon Simi
9615 Grand Ronde Road
Grand Ronde, OR 97347

Questions: Call Shannon at 503-879-1358 or email shannon.simi@grandronde.org


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




Ad by Samuel Briggs III

Students of the month


The Tribe's Youth Enrichment Program hayu-munk skukum implemented student of the month awards for grades K-2, 3-5 and 6-12. The first students of the month for the 2025-26 school year were named for the month of September.




Kennedy Burns was chosen as student of the month for grades K-2 for always coming to class with a positive attitude and always being willing to help others.




Copper Chargualaf was chosen as student of the month for grades K-2 for being a great leader in the classroom and always having a positive attitude.



Barrett Hunt was chosen as student of the month for grades 3-5 for always willing to lend a helping hand, having great leadership skills and a positive attitude.



Jack Weatherall was chosen as student of the month for grades 3-5 for being an outstanding student, showing growth and always being a positive role model.



Agency Anderson was chosen as student of the month for grades 6-12 because he has taken it upon himself to show new students how to be a successful young person in 6-12.

Contributed photos

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

RECYCLE



Bottles and Tubs 4oz or Larger



Metals



Mixed Paper and Cardboard



Items Not Allowed



RECOLOGY.COM/RECOLOGY WESTERN OREGON
RWDINFO@RECOLOGY.COM
(866) 908-1183



*ITEMS MUST BE EMPTY, CLEAN & DRY
*PLACE ITEMS LOOSE IN THE CONTAINER, NOT IN PLASTIC BAGS



Watchlist: ‘Indigenous Peoples Day celebrated at Salem’s Riverfront Park’

(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

Indigenous Peoples Day was first recognized in Oregon in 2021 as the second Monday of October, making this year’s Indigenous Peoples Day Monday, Oct. 13.

For years, a community organization called Indigenous Now has hosted an event at the Riverfront Park in Salem to celebrate the holiday.

Local station KGW News covered last year’s event and published the news clip to YouTube.

Event organizer Hannah Shooting Bear was interviewed by KGW and said she hosts this event to create a safe space for anyone interested in learning about her culture.

“They can go and start understanding our cultures and educating themselves,” Shooting Bear said. “A lot of them don’t because they never heard about our atrocities. They never saw it in their schoolbooks.”

The event offers Indigenous vendors selling food and gifts, live performers, drumming and singing.

One vendor interviewed said she joined this event because it brings Indigenous people and their culture together. She also likes the questions she gets from visitors, learning about Indigenous histories and the Indigenous culture still present today.

This year, another Indigenous Peoples Day event was held at the Salem State Capitol Mall Park Monday, Oct. 13.

Other local events included an Indigenous Peoples Day celebration at Clackamas Community College Sunday, Oct. 12, at which a few Grand Ronde Tribal members and Tribal Council members attended and participated. Oregon State University celebrated Indigenous Peoples Day by hosting an event with the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs in Bend Saturday, Oct. 11, and another event in Corvallis Monday, Oct. 13, with activist Leonard Peltier joining via Zoom as the keynote speaker. ■

TERO Worker of the Month
September 2025

Name: Tino Casarez
Employer: Suulutaaq
Position: Laborer
Tino first joined TERO in June 2022 and was soon referred out to Roger Langeliers Construction. Tino spend most of the three years he worked for RLC traveling away from home on various projects. He was very dependable and a key employee for their company.

In July 2025, he was dispatched out to a company named Suulutaaq on the Abernethy Bridge Project. This crew is comprised of 90% Natives and he fit right in immediately.

Soon after being dispatched, we received reports from his foreman on what a hard-working young man he is. Tino just turned 21 and has been in the heavy highway construction industry since he was 18 and has a very bright future. He has also attended TERO trainings to ready him for the industry.

We asked Tino how the TERO program has helped him, and he said that he is learning new skills every day and he hopes to start his own Native-owned business someday.

We here at TERO chose Tino for the September TERO Worker of the Month for his hard work, reliability and dedication.

Great work Tino, we commend you for the great representation of our TERO program and to Suulutaaq.



Tino Casarez

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

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. ■

Indian Taco Fundraiser
&
Silent Auction



Elder Activity Center
Monday, Oct. 27, 2025
11 a.m.- 1 p.m. Indian Tacos
11 a.m -3 p.m. Silent Auction
Taco’s \$12
Frybread \$6
Pop & Water \$2

* Proceeds benefit Holiday Food Boxes @ our local Food Pantry



Grand Ronde WIC is a public health nutrition program serving CTGR members.

TO SUPPORT YOU WE OFFER:

- Pregnancy and breastfeeding guidance
- Wholesome foods
- Nutrition-focused counseling
- Free health screenings
- Connections to resources

WIC is all about healthy babies, kids, and families. If you are pregnant, breastfeeding, or have a child under 5, WIC could be for you!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT 503-879-6701



This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



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. ■

Attention Tribal Elders

Do you have a will or trust?
Do you need one updated?



Come get all the information you need and to access this service for FREE!

Willamette Law
will be here
Friday, Oct. 17, 2025
11:30 a.m.
Elder Activity Center

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IN THE TRIBAL COURT FOR THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES
OF THE GRAND RONDE COMMUNITY OF OREGON
In The Matter of:) Case No.: 25C0018
Melody Ann Anderson)
Petitioner.) NOTICE OF NAME CHANGE [ADULT]
NOTICE TO ANY INTERESTED PERSONS:
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that the above Petitioner has filed a Petition with this Court on the 2nd day of October, 2025, requesting that Petitioner's name be changed from Melody Ann Anderson to Melody Ann Wright.
The purpose of this Notice is to give all interested persons an opportunity to show cause why the name change should or should not be granted. Any person objecting to the purposed name change may file a written objection with the Court within 14 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as to why the Court should not enter an order granting the proposed change of name.
DATED this 2nd day of October, 2025.
Melody A. Anderson
Melody Ann Anderson M.A.
Petitioner
Melody Ann Wright [Print Name]

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/

Serving urban Natives, infant to elder, in Portland and Vancouver

Open Positions

Chief Financial Officer	\$160- 180K/yr
Housing Development Manager	\$110-120K/yr
Resident Services Manager	\$72-76K/yr
High School Counselor for Health & Welfare (9.5 months)	\$60K/yr
Resident Services Coordinator	\$26-27/hr
Family Shelter Advocate (On Call)	\$28-30/hr
Alcohol & Drug Specialist	\$25-27/hr
Youth Housing Advocate	\$22-25/hr
Foster Care Support Specialist	\$24+/hr
Youth Advocate	\$23+/hr

All jobs are located in Portland or Vancouver.
Visit nayapdx.org/about/jobs to learn more.

10/06/25

Paid ad

Services Provided:

- Criminal record expungements
- Eviction expungements
- And tenant advocacy letters
- Court fines and fee waiver petitions
- Legal name and gender marker changes
- Referrals for other legal services

There is an Oregon State police charge of \$33 for finger printing for all criminal expungements
Cash, Card or Money order

Wednesday October 15th
Thursday October 16th
3-7 pm
12-4 pm

At the Grand Ronde Gym
Grand Ronde

FROM GRAND RONDE ♥ WITH LOVE ♥

As the seasons shift and the air grows colder, compassion becomes our greatest medicine. Here in Grand Ronde, we know the strength of community, of showing up for one another, and of never letting anyone walk alone.

This September, I am gathering Compassion Bags for our houseless relatives — to carry warmth, dignity, and love from the reserve to the city. Each bag is more than supplies, it's a reminder that they are seen, valued, and not forgotten.

**From Grand Ronde with love,
let's spread kindness across every mile.**

Suggested Donations



Warm socks, gloves, beanies



First aid (band-aids, ointment, wipes)



Hygiene items (toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, deodorant, feminine care)



Non-perishable snacks (protein bars, nuts, dried fruit)



Handwarmers, small blankets



Journals, pens, and handwritten words of encouragement



Journals, pens, and handwritten words of encouragement

Every gift is a prayer in action. Every bag is a spark of hope. Together, we can turn the chill of September into the warmth of compassion.

Drop-off / Contact: Amber Case 503-793-2037

Chachalu Friday Marketplace

FOOD // ART // CRAFTS



UPCOMING MARKETS

~~October 10~~
October 24 // Fall Harvest Marketplace
December 12 // Holly Jolly Marketplace

**ALL MARKETS HELD FROM 10-5PM
RAIN [IN THE GYM] OR SHINE**

VENDOR INFO / CHACHALU.MARKETPLACE@GRANDRONDE.ORG

8720 GRAND RONDE ROAD, GRAND RONDE, OREGON



When you need someone to listen, 988 is here.

Our caring counselors are here to listen 24/7 to whatever you are going through.
It's free and confidential.

Call or text 988

A message in partnership with Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board

Walking On...

Marion Rose Mercier

July 6, 1954 – Aug. 31, 2025

Family, friends and community gathered Sept. 23, 2025, to celebrate the life of Tribal Elder and longtime Tribal librarian Marion Rose Mercier. Her family would like to thank all those who were able to join them and express their appreciation for all the love that was shared. It was a beautiful celebration.

Marion passed away in her home on Aug. 31. She was surrounded in love.

Marion was born July 6, 1954, in McMinnville to Rose Reznicek and Marion Mercier. She grew up in Grand Ronde and always considered it home. Her gathering was held at the Tribal Elders Activity Center. Family and friends filled the building, which was no surprise as Marion was loved by so many and will be dearly missed.

Marion dedicated 29 years of service working for the Tribe until retiring in 2019. During her role as Education Department manager, she helped plan the current library's construction before moving into the role of librarian in 2006, a position dear to her heart.

Marion's loved ones include children, Candi and Anthony Henry; grandkids, Josh Henry and Ava Fagundes; son-in-law, Vince Fagundes; daughter-in-law, Michelle Henry, brothers, David Mercier, Bruce Mercier and brother-in-law Daryl Wright; and sisters, Joann Mercier, Chris Payne, Terr Wright, Joan Payne and Kim Payne. She also had many nieces, nephews and great-nieces and nephews, along with many cousins. Marion loved and cherished her family above all else.

Marion was preceded in death by her mom, Rose Birt; dads, Roger Birt and Argie Payne; her father, Marion Mercier; her children's father, Pat Henry and many other dear loved ones.

A letter of thanks from Marion's kids and grandkids:

We would like to thank Kristy and her staff at the EAC for sharing your beautiful facility with us to honor our mom/gram. The meal was wonderful and we appreciate all the hard work and love that went into helping us make the day special and it was.

We want to thank Mike Colton for sharing our mom's story with everyone for us. You presented in a way that was so heartfelt and would have made our mom proud.

We would also like to thank our Tribal family and friends that drummed. It was a beautiful song that was felt by everyone.

To all of mom's loved ones, family and friends who attended, please know that all of the hugs, stories, love, tears and laughs are what got us through and what made the day so special. We thank you. Mom loved a good gathering and this one we know in our hearts she would have approved of.


Our love to you all,
Candi, Anthony, Josh and Ava



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. ■



2025-2026 Back-to-School Assistance Program



Youth Education is now opening the "Back to School Assistance Program" for the 2025-26 school year! This program is offered to enrolled Tribal member students entering Kindergarten through 12th grade in the fall of 2025, and supports our youth in acquiring necessary school supplies and clothing.

Eligible students will be issued a one-time \$150 Wal-Mart gift card to be used towards school supplies or school clothing. While applicants will not be required to provide receipt(s), all applicants are subject to audit and may be required to provide receipts at a later date.

Registration opens today and will be a rolling application that remains open until September 30th. Please allow up to three weeks after the date of submission to process applications and distribute your gift card.

Please reach out to Youth Education at (503) 879-2101 with any questions.

Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/LbnvtZ9pLyUrtV1U8>



youtheducation@grandronde.org


Now accepting new residents

For Grand Ronde and other Federally designated Tribal members of Oregon
chaku tush tæmtæm haws – Grand Ronde's new treatment program in Sheridan, Oregon

We are proud to welcome new residents to chaku tush tæmtæm haws, a newly launched healing program by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. Located in Sheridan, Oregon, this program provides a safe, supportive living environment with on-site wraparound services focused on recovery, mental health, and traditionally centered wellness.

If you or a loved one is ready to take the next step toward healing, we're here for you. Our compassionate team is committed to walking alongside you on your path to wellness.

Location: 1330 West Main Street, Sheridan, Oregon
Call for services: 503-879-1501



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





HEALTH & WELLNESS NEWS

Healing as a community

Healthy parents create healthy children. Healthy children create a healthy future. The old ones said, “It takes a village to raise a child.” Unfortunately, some of our youth are faced with traumas that take them to unhealthy spaces. Some are there for just a short time, while others are for years, well into their adulthood.

This is where we can heal as a community. Allowing a healthy space for one of our youth in the community can create a healthy future for them and their families. Whether you have thought it was possible or not, if providing space to be a foster or respite provider has crossed your mind, don't hesitate to reach out and fill a role in our children's lives. We have a wonderful team that will walk you through the entire process. Become the missing link.

May you all have a blessed day. Much love and respect.

Fabian Quenelle
Foster Care Recruitment Specialist
541-364-8605
Fabian.quenelle@grandronde.org

Acupuncture/massage service at Health & Wellness Center

Heidi Manning, acupuncture and massage therapist, is now seeing patients at the Health & Wellness Center.

Heidi has been licensed in acupuncture since 2005 after completing a masters of acupuncture degree at Bastyr University. She has been a licensed massage therapist in Oregon since 2017.

In addition, she completed a craniosacral therapy program at Bastyr University in 2004 and employs it as needed. She enjoys practicing acupuncture, massage, cupping, moxibustion, gua sha, Chinese dietary therapy, Chinese herbal medicine and engaging with her clients in a meaningful way.

She specializes in pain management, infertility and gynecological problems, digestive issues and psycho-emotional health issues, especially as they relate to trauma.

Heidi also enjoys working with animals in the state of Oregon under a referral from a veterinarian. She has worked with dogs, cats, cows and horses.

At the Health & Wellness Center Monday and Fridays.

The scheduling link is:

<https://app.acuityscheduling.com/schedule.php?owner=12567238>

Heidi Manning Acupuncture & Massage
541-992-5175 (cell)



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.



Health & Wellness Center entrance

Reminder: The drive-through entrance at the Health & Wellness Center is for loading and unloading only. The entrance was built with our Elders and those with mobility issues and their ease of access in mind.

If you are coming to the center to pick up prescriptions, please park in one of our regular parking spaces. ■



OCTOBER DIABETES NEWS LETTER

Breast cancer awareness!

- Breast cancer is the most common cancer in women worldwide, excluding skin cancer.
- In 2023, an estimated 306,850 new cases of invasive breast cancer are expected in the United States.
- About 1 in 8 women in the United States will develop breast cancer in their lifetime.

To reduce your breast cancer risk, you should maintain a healthy weight, exercise regularly, limit alcohol consumption, eat a balanced diet, and avoid tobacco smoke. Maintaining a healthy lifestyle, avoiding risk factors like smoking and excessive alcohol, and getting regular screenings can significantly lower your chances of developing breast cancer.

FUN FACT:
It takes roughly 540 peanuts to make a jar of peanut butter.

Upcoming Events

- Oct 13th Indigenous peoples day
- Oct 23rd HOT FLASH BASH 12/1pm lunch and learn , Cheryl Kennedy Building

Mammogram van 10/15/25

CONTACTS:
Phone: 503-879-2002
charlene.brewer@grandronde.org
jeannette.cavan@grandronde.org

OCT 20 @ 11:30 Monthly Diabetes meeting, public health building



YOU ARE INVITED TO THE 1ST ANNUAL GRAND RONDE

HOT FLASH BASH

Catching some blows from **menopause**? You don't have to face it alone. Come share space with us to talk and learn about the process we go through during **menopause** and honor all those who are on that journey.

We are hosting a small health fair and educational event dedicated to **menopause** and women's health. **Lunch and piñatas provided for those who attend!**

23RD
OCTOBER

11 AM - 2 PM
CHERYLE A. KENNEDY
PUBLIC HEALTH BUILDING

ALL
ARE WELCOME

LOVE - FUN AND ADVENTURE



LICENSED - ERDC QUALIFIED - CPR CERTIFIED

1930'S SCHOOLHOUSE IN SHERIDAN RURAL SETTING

WITH 2 ACRES OF FENCED YARD AND ORIGINAL PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT.

OUTDOOR PLAY, STORYTIME, MUSIC, AND ARTS & CRAFTS. SNACKS & MEALS PROVIDED

WELCOMING CHILDREN FROM 6 WEEKS TO 13 YEARS OLD

FULL-TIME CARE WITH NEGOTIABLE HOURS

CALL 503-437-0332 OR EMAIL TAMMYTREXLER@ALITTLEBITCOUNTRYDAYCARE.COM



Paid ad

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....

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

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. ■



JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 10, 2025

CTGR EMPLOYMENT

Position Title	Grade	Min. Start Wage	Max Start Wage	Closing Date
Academic Coach K-5	10	\$29.76/hr.	\$38.39/hr.	Until Filled
Administrative Assistant – Tribal Lands	8	\$24.60/hr.	\$31.84/hr.	Until Filled
Assistant Controller	19	\$137,901.75/yr.	\$186,617.49/yr.	Until Filled
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Therapist	12	\$74,901.04/yr.	\$96,316.53/yr.	Until Filled
Driver – Sheridan – GCR	5	\$18.86/hr.	\$24.07/hr.	10/20/2025
Economic Development Analyst	12	\$36.01/hr.	\$46.31/hr.	10/13/2025
Lodge Caregiver – Full Time (Variable Shifts)	7	\$22.36/hr.	\$29.00/hr.	Until Filled
Lodge Caregiver – Part Time & On-Call (Variable Shifts)	7	\$22.36/hr.	\$29.00/hr.	Until Filled
Lodge Caregiver – Full Time, Part Time & On-Call - GRAVE	7	\$22.36/hr.	\$29.00/hr.	Until Filled
Mental Health Counselor – Sheridan – GCR	12	\$74,901.04/yr.	\$96,316.53/yr.	10/13/2025
Mental Health Therapist – Behavioral Health	12	\$74,901.04/yr.	\$96,316.53/yr.	Until Filled
Nurse Practitioner – Health & Wellness	22	\$176,396.03/yr.	\$248,130.43/yr.	Until Filled
Physician – Health & Wellness	25	\$226,851.26/yr.	\$330,026.39/yr.	Until Filled
Senior Dental Assistant	8	\$24.60/hr.	\$31.84/hr.	Until Filled
Social Emotional Learning Specialist	13	\$82,391.14/yr.	\$105,817.37/yr.	10/20/2025
Staff Accountant	11	\$32.74/hr.	\$42.16/hr.	Until Filled
Staff Pharmacist	19	\$137,901.74/yr.	\$186,617.49/yr.	Until Filled
Teacher Aide/Bus Monitor – Part Time	5	\$18.86/hr.	\$24.07/hr.	Until Filled
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:
1. Grand Ronde Tribal members.
(Qualified Grand Ronde Tribal members who show they meet the minimum qualifications of the position during the course of the screening and interview process will be given first consideration for hire and the recruitment process will end)
2. Tribal member spouses, parents and/or legal guardians of Grand Ronde Tribal member children & current regular Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde employees.
3. External candidates including current Spirit Mountain Casino employees.

Apply online at: www.grandronde.org



SPIRIT MOUNTAIN CASINO CAREERS

POSTING TITLE	CLOSE DATE	WAGE/SALARY
Cage Cashier	10/16/2025	\$18.29/hr. DOE
Hotel Front Desk Clerk	10/16/2025	\$18.02/hr. DOE
Hotel Room Attendant (*Part-Time)	10/16/2025	\$18.02/hr. DOE
Prep Cook	10/16/2025	\$18.02/hr. DOE
Surveillance Technician II	10/16/2025	\$21.22/hr. DOE
Cook (Full-Time & *Part-Time)	Until Filled	\$18.29/hr. DOE
Guest Safety Specialist I	Until Filled	\$18.29/hr. DOE
Guest Safety Specialist II	Until Filled	\$18.55/hr. DOE
Guest Services Lead	Until Filled	\$18.55/hr. DOE
Player Services Representative I	Until Filled	\$18.02/hr. DOE
Room Chef	Until Filled	\$63,586.43/yr. DOE
Table Games Dealer (Full-Time & *Part-Time)	Until Filled	\$15.05/hr. + Tips

\$1,000 Hire-On Bonus All Positions

\$500 Referral Bonus SMC & CTGR Employees

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

SPIRIT MOUNTAIN CASINO EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

✓ SMGI adheres to a Tribal hiring preference policy for enrolled members of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon.

✓ Please reference the Job Description for job duties, qualifications, and required knowledge/skills.

✓ Job postings are updated every Friday with remaining and new positions; applications must be received by 5:00pm on the following Thursday to be considered.

✓ Incomplete applications will not be considered.

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

✉employmentteam@spiritmtn.com

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

Call (503) 879-3737 for application assistance.