

REMEMBER TO **VOTE** BY DEC. 9



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CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ELECTION

DECEMBER 1, 2024



SMOKE SIGNALS

UMPQUA · MOLALLA · ROGUE RIVER · KALAPUYA · CHASTA

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

Celebrating 41



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

By Nicole Montesano

Smoke Signals staff writer

Dancing, drumming and singing marked the Tribe's 41st Restoration Celebration and Powwow Friday and Saturday, Nov. 22-23, at the Spirit Mountain Casino Event Center. Attendees took the opportunity to spend time with family and friends, as well as to honor the past and look forward to the future.

"It means remembrance to me," Tribal Elder Colette Abdie said.

Her cousin, Tribal Elder Tammy Cook, agreed.

"We honor our ancestors today," she said. "And our own moms are over 80, so we're happy they're still here with us. We're also having the meteorite display here that kind of ties us into where we come from."

See **RESTORATION**
continued on pages 10-11

Freedom Norwest, 2, dances with her aunt, Tribal member Alicia Selwyn, during the Tribe's 41st Restoration Powwow at the Spirit Mountain Casino Event Center on Saturday, Nov. 23.



TO SEE MORE PHOTOS AND VIDEO

@SmokeSignalsCTGR @ctgrsmokesignals @SmokeSignalsCTGR

Tribal Council releases working draft of enrollment ordinance

By Kamiah Koch

Social media/digital journalist

On Thursday, Nov. 7, Tribal Council shared the long-awaited working draft of the enrollment ordinance that will be considered upon the passage of the lineal descent constitution amendment on Monday, Dec. 9.

The constitutional amendment would change the criteria for Grand Ronde Tribal membership and the enrollment ordinance would be the process by which enrollment is conducted.

The 22-page drafted ordinance is available on the Tribe's website, grandronde.org, and details the proposed changes to the existing ordinance if the membership votes to amend the constitution.

The proposed ordinance changes the membership requirements from blood quantum to lineal descent; an annual limitation of no more than 200 accepted membership applications (except children younger than 6 months or who are the subject of

The constitutional amendment would change the criteria for Grand Ronde Tribal membership and the enrollment ordinance would be the process by which enrollment is conducted.

child welfare court proceedings); removal of the Enrollment Committee's limited number of regular and special meetings; processing membership applications in the order in which they are received with date stamps; and the complete removal of the section de-

See **ENROLLMENT**
continued on page 9



Contributed graphic

This is the proposed design for the Tribe's resident and recreation center. Designs for the 47,000-square-foot building and surrounding amenities were presented at a meeting about the facility on Wednesday, Nov. 13.

Recreation center plans weigh cost versus amenities

By Nicole Montesano

Smoke Signals staff writer

There are some decisions to make about the proposed Tribal resident and recreation center, Tribal Engineering & Community Development Department Manager Ryan Webb told members during an input session

Wednesday, Nov. 13.

Primarily, the Tribe must decide whether the significant annual maintenance cost for a swimming pool and/or hydrotherapy pools is worth the benefit of having them.

See **CENTER**
continued on page 8

General Council meeting

11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 1

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, Dec. 4.....	10 a.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 18.....	4 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 31.....	10 a.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 welcome

Letters should be exclusive to **smok signalz**.

Letters should be **400 words or less** and must include the writer's name, address, phone number and Tribal roll number. You will be contacted to confirm authorship.

All letters are subject to editing for space, grammar and, on occasion, factual accuracy. Only two letters per writer are allowed during a three-month period. Letters written in response to other letter writers should address the issue at hand and, rather than mentioning the other writer by name, should refer to the date of the letter published. Discourse should be civil and people should be referred to in a respectful manner.

Letters deemed in poor taste will not be printed. Send letters via e-mail to news@grandronde.org, or submit in person at the Tribal Governance Center in Grand Ronde, Ore. or mail to **smok signalz**, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR, 97347.

TRIBAL OFFICE CLOSURES

Tribal offices will be closing at noon Tuesday, Dec. 24, and remain closed on Wednesday-Friday, Dec. 25-27, in observance of the Christmas holiday. Offices also will be closing at noon Tuesday, Dec. 31, and all day on Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2025, in observance of New Year's Day.



TRIBAL VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

Scheduled Appointments Only	Walk-In Day
Monday	Thursday
Tuesday	

To schedule an appointment:
Call (503) 879-1424 or
CTGRtribalVSO@GrandRonde.Org

Minors'

TRUST FUND

Do you want to know more?

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

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

smok signalz

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DEADLINE DATE	ISSUE DATE	MEMBERS OF:
Monday, Dec. 9	Dec. 15	Indigenous Journalists Association
Monday, Dec. 23	Jan. 1	Oregon Newspaper Publishers Assoc.
Monday, Jan. 6	Jan. 15	2022 IJA General Excellence
Tuesday, Jan. 21	Feb. 1	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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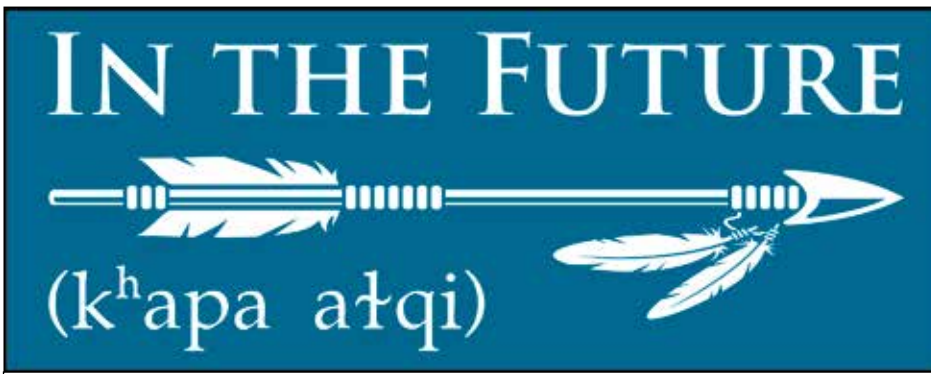
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tałlam-pi-wakwst-mun (December)

- Sunday, Dec. 1 – General Council meeting, 11 a.m., Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 800-422-0232.
- **UPDATED:** Wednesday, Dec. 4 – Tribal Council meeting, 10 a.m., Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. Time has been changed to accommodate a hearing. 800-422-0232.
- Friday, Dec. 6 – Grand Ronde Light Parade, 6 p.m., parade begins near the Governance Center and goes through Tribal and Elders housing. Float applications due by Tuesday, Dec. 3. Contact Kaylene.barry@grandronde.org or call 503-879-1701 for more information.
- Saturday, Dec. 14 – Tribal Council Christmas Party, 10 a.m., Spirit Mountain Casino Event Center.
- Wednesday, Dec. 18 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 800-422-0232.
- Tuesday, Dec. 24 – Tribal offices closing at noon in observance of the Christmas holiday.
- Wednesday-Friday, Dec. 25-27 – Tribal offices closed in observance of the Christmas holiday.
- **UPDATED:** Tuesday, Dec. 31 – Tribal Council meeting, 10 a.m., Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. Time and date have been changed due to the New Year's Day holiday. 800-422-0232.
- Tuesday, Dec. 31 – Tribal offices closing at noon in observance of New Year's Eve.

ixt-mun (January)

- Wednesday, Jan. 1 – Tribal offices closed in observance of New Year's Day.
- Sunday, Jan. 5 – General Council meeting, 11 a.m., Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 800-422-0232.
- Wednesday, Jan. 15 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 800-422-0232.
- Monday, Jan. 20 – Tribal offices closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.
- Wednesday, Jan. 29 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 800-422-0232.

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

REMINDER

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

IT'S TIME TO SEND US A COPY OF YOUR '2025' SOCIAL SECURITY AWARD LETTER!

If you haven't received your '2025' Social Security Award letter yet, please contact the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213 or online at www.ssa.gov

Your current SSA award letter must reach our office by Wednesday, January 15th, 2025 by 5:00 PM to avoid any future delays in your benefits.

Please send a copy of your 2025 SSA letter to:

CTGR Member Services
Attn. Shayla Myrick-Meyer
9615 Grand Ronde Road
Grand Ronde, OR 97347

Fax: 503-879-2480 - Email: Shayla.myrick-meyer@grandronde.org - 503-879-1364 or 1-800-422-0232 Ext. 1364

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

Hayu masi!

REMEMBER TO VOTE

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ELECTION

BALLOTS WERE MAILED:
FRIDAY, NOV. 8

ELECTION DAY / RESULTS:
MONDAY, DEC. 9

More information available at:
WWW.GRANDRONDE.ORG

Ad by Samuel Briggs III

ATTENTION GRAND RONDE TRIBAL MEMBERS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING: December per capita & timber payments

PER CAP INFORMATION: CALL 503-879-1983

Onsite pickup available

Friday, Dec. 13, 2024
8:30 a.m. – 3:45 p.m. (Doors close at 3:30 p.m.)
Tribal gymnasium

Important Notes

- Bring a valid ID
- No pickup for other Tribal members
- Direct deposit payments will not be impacted
- Checks that have not been picked up by 3:45 p.m. will be mailed
- As always, please update address and direct deposit information for December distribution

Finance Department Member Benefits

Ad by Samuel Briggs III

CTGR Member Services

Requests for Descendancy Options

1. Descendancy letter (no DNA testing)
2. Certificate of Descendancy (DNA testing required)

Process:
Submit completed application (digital signatures are not accepted) along with a copy of an original state certified birth certificate (we cannot accept copies) and proof of payment for the DNA from the Finance Department. Once application is received, Enrollment Office staff will process and setup the DNA appointment.

DNA at the Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Center: Cost of DNA testing is \$50 and you must pre-register with the clinic prior to your appointment. To pre-register, contact Ashley Stonebrink at 503-879-1325 or Stacy Pond-Bissonette at 503-879-2096.

To request an application or if you have any questions, contact the following:
Memberservices@grandronde.org

Enrollment staff:
Tristin Armstrong 503-879-1619, Tristin.armstrong@grandronde.org
Nick Labonte 503-879-2490, Nick.labonte@grandronde.org

Please send completed applications to:
The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
Attn: Enrollment Office
9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347

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 December food box distributions from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fridays. In addition, there is a light food box (mostly bread and produce) distribution from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesdays.

The Food Bank will be hosting a drive-through holiday food box distribution from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21.

The Food Bank will be closed Friday, Dec. 20, to prepare for Saturday’s distribution, and will remain closed from Monday, Dec. 23 through Friday, Dec. 27.

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 Grand Ronde Food Bank/*iskam məkʰmək haws*, 9675 Grand Ronde Road. Chair: Francene Ambrose.
- **Editorial Board** meets monthly. The next meeting will be held at 11:30 a.m. Friday, Dec. 13, at the Employment Services building on the Tribal campus. Contact Chair Mia Prickett at Editorial.Board@grandronde.org for more information.
- **Education Committee** meets at 5:30 p.m. on the last Tuesday of the month in the Adult Education building. Interim Chair: Valeria Atanacio.
- **Elders Committee** meets at 10 a.m. the first and third Wednesday of the month in the Elders Activity Center. Chair: Carmen Robertson.
- **Enrollment Committee** meets quarterly in Room 204 of the Governance Center. Chair: Debi Anderson.
- **Fish & Wildlife Committee** meets at 5:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at the Natural Resources building off Hebo Road. Chair: Reyn Leno.
- **Health Committee** meets at 10 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month in the Molalla Room of the Health & Wellness Center. Chair: Darlene Aaron.
- **Housing Grievance Board** meets at 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: Raymond Petite.

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

GRAND RONDE HOUSING DEPARTMENT

28450 Tye 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.



2019 – The Tribe formally ended its effort to purchase 1.5 acres along the Willamette River in Oregon City, after being unable to agree with the owner on a price. A few months earlier, the Tribe had purchased the 23-acre former Blue Heron Paper



2019

File photo

Mill site at Willamette Falls. It had hoped to add the smaller property to its holdings.

2014 – The Tribe issued a statement on the passage of Measure 91, which made possession of marijuana legal in Oregon, reminding employees and Tribal members that it is a sovereign nation and the measure did not, and does not, apply on Tribal lands. That’s partly because the Tribe receives federal grants requiring it to maintain a drug-free workplace, and marijuana remains illegal under federal law.

2009 – A contingent of Grand Ronde Tribal members led by Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy participated in the 12th annual Tribal-State Government-to-Government Summit, hosted by Gov. Ted Kulongoski, at the Oregon State Fairgrounds in Salem. Topics included the economy, how unearthed Native remains should be handled in accordance with state law and improving Oregonians’ awareness of Tribal history and sovereignty.

2004 – A Circle of Weaving gathering helped teach Tribal members and other attendees ancestral basketry techniques, and to get them interested in carrying on the traditions. Approximately 100 people attended, an estimated 70% of them Tribal members.

1999 – With construction of a new 38-unit rental complex underway on the campus, the Tribe encouraged Elders to apply for housing that would allow them to live near the governance center, health clinic and other amenities.

1994 – The Tribe purchased a two-story modular building to increase badly-needed office space for employees. The 10,752-square-foot building was to be located near Spirit Mountain Development Corporation.


1989 – No December edition was available.

1984 – Tribal membership approved the Tribe’s Constitution by an overwhelming majority. It stated that the blood quantum requirement for enrollment would be lowered to 1/16.

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

GENTLE YOGA

WITH INSTRUCTOR MALLORY HARMAN, LAC



FIRST CLASS IS THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12TH
4:30 PM - 5:45 PM AT THE
CTSI PORTLAND AREA OFFICE
3220 SW 1ST AVE.

All Levels Welcome - Open to the Community
Please bring yoga mats & blocks or blankets!

\$5 DONATION PER CLASS APPRECIATED

Tribal Council approves contract for Great Circle detox center

By Danielle Harrison

Smoke Signals editor

Tribal Council approved a design-build contract agreement to expand and modernize Great Circle Recovery in Salem by including a detox center and medical services for those seeking treatment for opioid addiction.

Tribal Engineering & Community Development Department Manager Ryan Webb said there had been five bids for the project and Perlo Construction of Tualatin was the lowest qualified bidder.

“They will help us create the plan, specs and permitting of this work and then allow us to do the construction as well,” he said during a Tuesday, Nov. 19, Legislative Action Committee meeting.

The Tribe opened its first medication assisted clinic, Great Circle Recovery, on Commercial Street Northeast in Salem in 2021 and a Portland clinic in 2023. Since then, both clinics have served hundreds of clients.

Additionally, both clinics provide mobile units for those unable to get to the brick-and-mortar locations to receive treatment.

Webb added that Tribal Health Services Director Kelly Rowe applied for and received a \$2 million grant from Indian Health Service to help offset the cost of construction and had applied for two other grants as well.

“This is another great grant opportunity to continue the good work for the community,” Webb said.

In other action, Tribal Council:

- Approved final adoption of amend-

ments to the Tribe’s Gaming Ordinance which will amend numerous definitions, revise license applications and background investigation requirements to better reflect information currently needed for safe operation of Spirit Mountain Casino, and other changes as per the National Indian Gaming Commission;

- Approved a new contract for pharmacy benefit management services with Optum RX Incorporated;
- Approved a \$412,781 grant application to the Environmental Protection Agency for 2026-27 Performance Partnership Grant;
- Approved an application to the National Park Service Historic Preservation Fund Save America’s Treasures Grant for \$750,000;
- Approved an application to the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development for the Community Green Infrastructure Program grant for \$396,000;
- And approved an application to the Oregon Department of Forestry for the Urban & Community Forestry Inflation Reduction Act grant for \$1 million.

In other news, Tribal Council set the agenda for the Sunday, Dec. 1, General Council meeting. It will include nominations for the Elders Committee, a program report from Smoke Signals and a board report from the Editorial Board.

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

Former casino employee pleads not guilty

Former Spirit Mountain Casino Marketing Manager Chris Cherry pled not guilty in Grand Ronde Tribal Court on Wednesday, Nov. 20, in response to a civil citation for a public safety violation.

A trial date is set for 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 15.

Chris Cherry was issued a non-criminal citation under the Tribal Public Safety Ordinance for violating the campaign provision by using a casino graphics printer to print out sample proofs of campaign signs for his wife, now-former Tribal Council member Michael Cherry’s, reelection campaign.

According to the police report and Smoke Signals interviews, Chris Cherry said he was using the computer to help troubleshoot a print quality issue that had come up with the signs.

He said in an Aug. 15 interview with Tribal Police that he had not printed the actual signs at the casino. Additionally, Michael Cherry provided Smoke Signals with invoices from the printing companies, Graphic Print Solutions of Lake Oswego, for a 6x12-foot billboard cover, three 60x30-inch signs and two 84x42-inch signs, and 1 Day Signs of Salem for 20, 14x16 inch brochures.

Michael Cherry had no advance knowledge of the incident, according to Grand Ronde Tribal Police reports and what she told Smoke Signals. She was not cited in the matter.

The incident came to light in August, while Michael Cherry was running for re-election. Chris Cherry, who had worked for the casino for 28 years, is no longer employed there. ■

smok signalz offering fast email subscription

Want to be one of the first Tribal members to receive smok signalz? Want to receive the Tribal publication on your computer instead of waiting for it to arrive in the mail?

Want to get up-to-date and in-the-know about the Grand Ronde Tribe before anyone else? In an effort to be more efficient and reduce printing and postage costs, smok signalz electronic subscribers receive a PDF (portable document format) version sent to them instead of a newsprint version sent via the mail. All you need on your computer is Adobe Acrobat or another program that can read a PDF and you’re set.

Why would you want to do that? The PDF version is available before the newspaper is sent to our printing contractor in Salem. You can read the paper on your computer or print out a copy of individual pages yourself. And you will receive Tribal news much faster than the current standard mailing utilized by the Tribe.

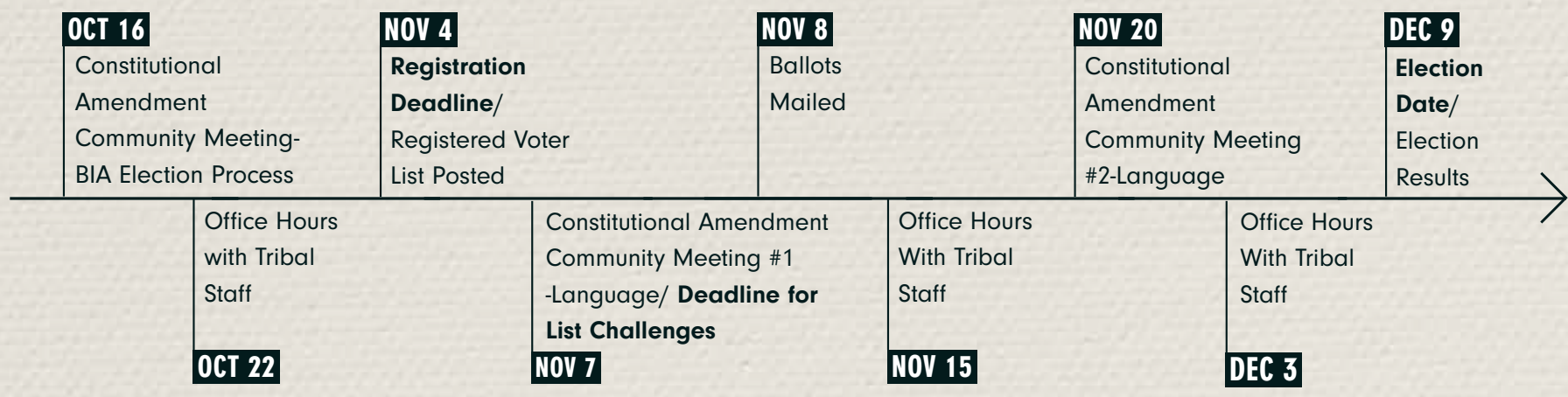
If you would like to receive an emailed PDF version of smok signalz and stop receiving a mailed newsprint version, send your email to esubscription@grandronde.org. Stopping mailed delivery of the newspaper will not affect other Tribal mail. ■

Gas discount in Grand Ronde

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

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

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TIMELINE



All meetings and office hours will be Hybrid. In-Person location is the Tribal Council Chambers in the Tribal Governance Center. Scan for more information and to register for online participation.

Important Note: The Election Board will be holding office hours from Oct 17- Nov 26 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:00AM -1:00PM in the Community Center.



Contributed illustration

White Cindy (Klamath) is stunningly summoned in this “Transgressors” promotional illustration by Tribal member and artist Steph Littlebird.

‘Transgressors’ to open at Chachalu on Dec. 13

Grand Ronde Tribal members and artists Anthony Hudson and Felix Furby are back at Chachalu Tribal Museum & Cultural Center for their follow-up to “My Father’s Father’s Sister: Our Ancestor Shimkhin,” which presented queer and trans history. The newest exhibition, “Transgressors” will begin with an open house from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13. The public is invited to attend.

While “Shimkhin” focused on queer and transgender history, “Transgressors” will focus on contemporary art, according to Hudson, who said the opening is also very timely.

“This show demonstrates that queerness and transness are cultural identities, not criminal ones,” he said. “Your support is more important than ever.”

Hudson said the exhibition is inspired by ancestors like Shimkhin (Atfalati Kalapuya) and White Cindy (Klamath), who is featured in a promotional illustration by Tribal member and artist Steph Littlebird.

“Transgressors” presents nine local and international artists including a.c. ramírez de arellaño, Evan Benally Atwood, Geo Soctomah Neptune, Jeffrey Gibson, Lehuauakea, Qahir-beejee Peco, Roin Morigeau, Littlebird and Walter Scott.

“Transgressors” will tour Oregon through 2026 after its run at Chachalu is finished on Saturday, April 26. ■

Tax season is upon us

Help us get your tax documents to you in a timely manner:

It is that time of the year where we in the Finance Department are starting to prepare for tax season.

In an effort to have current information for W2s and 1099s, we are asking everyone who has moved in the last calendar year to update their address.

How to update:

If you are a Tribal member, contact Member Services at memberservices@grandronde.org or 503-879-2116.

If you are an employee, contact Human Resources at compensation_HRIS@grandronde.org or 503-879-2109 and the reception desk will direct your call to the appropriate person. Alternatively, an employee can make any updates in the timesheet module as well.

If you have recently updated your address at the clinic/pharmacy, you will still need to update your information with either Member Services and/or Human Resources. The clinic/pharmacy does not share your private information due to HIPAA regulations.

Remember that even if you have direct deposit you will need to update your address, as W2s and 1099s are mailed.

The Finance Department thanks you in advance for your assistance in making the upcoming tax season go as smoothly as possible.

The deadline for updating addresses is **Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2024**. We cannot guarantee changes after this date. Both W2 and 1099MISC forms will be mailed before the Friday, Jan. 31, 2025 deadline. ■

HEALTH & WELLNESS CENTER

NEW SIGN AT THE HWC

THE DESIGNATED AREA IN FRONT OF THE CLINIC IS FOR LOADING AND UNLOADING ONLY.

PICK-UP AND DROP-OFF ONLY

NO PARKING

CTGR 2024 Winter Surplus Grand Ronde Fish Distribution

Natural Resources Department

Fish Lab

47010 SW HEBO ROAD

Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347

(503) 879-2424

When:

Thursday, December 12, 2024 9:00am – 4:00pm

Friday, December 13, 2024 9:00am – 4:00pm



GRAND RONDE LIVING and ENROLLED TRIBAL MEMBERS ONLY

Must show current photo I.D.

Fish will be handed out in a drive through system. Please follow the signage up the hill to the fish lab, receive your fish and then follow the exit loop road out.

If picking up for others: A Signed release and copy of Tribal ID or CIB is required!

No Early or late Pickups and fish will not be mailed.

2024 Fish Distribution Release Example

I, _____ Roll Number, _____

Give _____ Permission to pick up my fish.

Signature of Tribal Member: _____ Date: _____

CTGR 2024 Winter Surplus Portland Office Fish Distribution

CTGR Portland Office

4445 SW Barbur Blvd #101

Portland, OR 97239

Pre-Registration Not Required For Surplus Distribution.

Contact Crystal Smith (503)879-1881 with any questions



When:

Wednesday, December 18th, 2024 10:00am – 2:00pm

GRAND RONDE LIVING and ENROLLED TRIBAL MEMBERS

Must show current photo I.D.

If picking up for others: A Signed release and copy of Tribal ID or CIB is required!

Pre-Registration NOT required for surplus Distribution. Fish will be given out on a first come first served basis

No Early or late Pickups and fish will not be mailed. Fish cannot be picked up in both Grand Ronde and Portland.

2024 Fish Distribution Release Example

I, _____ Roll Number, _____

Give _____ Permission to pick up my fish.

Signature of Tribal Member: _____ Date: _____

Harvey reappointed to HUD Tribal advisory committee

By Danielle Harrison

Smoke Signals editor

Grand Ronde Tribal Council member Denise Harvey has been appointed to serve a second, two-year term on the Housing and Urban Development Tribal Intergovernmental Advisory Committee.

She will join 12 other Tribal leaders throughout Indian Country to serve on the board. She is one of two delegates selected from West Coast Tribes. The other is Makah Tribal Council Treasurer Glenn Ellis, Jr., of Neah Bay, Washington.

"I'm honored to be selected for my second term," Harvey said. "I will do as I've done in the past to advocate for the federal trust responsibility not only for the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and Oregon Tribes, but all of Indian Country."

Office of Public and Indian Housing Assistant Secretary Richard J. Monochio sent Harvey a letter on Monday, Nov. 18, congratulating her on the reappointment.

"During your tenure, the (committee) developed eight white papers addressing key policy issues and offering formal recommendations to HUD leadership," he said. "These papers focused on topics including the impact of inflation on the Indian Housing Block Grant program, culturally specific housing counseling requirements, interagency challenges, the Build America, Buy America Act, Indian Community Development Block Grant rulemaking, equity in Native American hous-



Denise Harvey

ing funding, and construction and procurement costs in Indian Country. Your efforts have contributed to streamlin-

ing HUD programs, reducing barriers for Tribes and improving interdepartmental coordination to better support Tribal communities in accessing funding opportunities."

In addition to the HUD board, Harvey also serves as the Indian Gaming Association Northwest Delegate and as the finance committee chair on the organization's executive board.

Closer to home, Harvey serves on the Spirit Mountain Community Fund Board of Trustees as a secretary/treasurer, Newberg-Dundee Bypass Parkway Committee, Polk County Sheriff's Advisory Team, Liberty House Board of Directors, Chemawa Station LLC Board of Directors, Head Start liason and the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians Gaming Committee Co-Chair.

Harvey's past board service includes the Oregon Tribal Gaming Association, Willamette Falls Legacy Project Tribal Advisory Board, City of Portland Office of Equity and Human Rights Advisory Committee and U.S. Department of Justice VAWA/MMIP Tribal Testimony Liaison.

Harvey has served on the Grand Ronde Tribal Council since 2013. ■



Photo courtesy of Jan Michael Looking Wolf

Tribal Elder and musician Jan Michael Looking Wolf (Reibach) received two nominations for this year's 21st annual Native American Music Awards.

Tribal Elder receives two NAMMY nominations

By Danielle Harrison

Smoke Signals editor

Tribal Elder and musician Jan Michael Looking Wolf (Reibach) has received his 41st and 42nd Native American Music Awards nominations.

Looking Wolf, 58, was nominated in the Best Americana Recording category for his song, "Native Rose" and in the Best Live Performance Video category for his video with the Native Rose Band called, "Love! Hope! Peace! Live at the PRAX!"

The nominees for the 21st annual awards were announced in November.

"The awards proudly recognize Indigenous artists from all communities across North America," a press release stated. "This year's awards program celebrates and features an overwhelming amount of musical talent who have produced full-length albums, single recordings and music video releases."

Looking Wolf has been nominated for 42 Native American Music Awards and has won six so far for Flutist of the Year (2008), Artist of the Year (2009), Record of the Year (2010), Music Video of the Year (2011), Best Music Video (2017) and Best Pop Single (2018).

"This has been a long, beautiful journey with making music," he said. "My first nomination at the Native American Music Awards was back in 2003 for a breakthrough album called "Native Blues." It combined Tribal drums, chants and flutes with soulful authentic blues guitars and vocals. My uncle, Michael Standing Elk and Vernon Kennedy (Burns-Pauite) played guitars on that album."

Looking Wolf said at the time, it was a huge thing for a Grand Ronde Tribal member to be nominated.

"Vernon and I travelled to Hol-

lywood, Florida, for the awards ceremony together in early 2004," he said. "Smoke Signals sent a reporter to cover it. While in Florida, we took a boat out to the everglades with Misasuki Tribal members. Vernon was a huge influence on my music journey and life. He taught me how to play the first notes on the flute, we often recorded and performed. Prior to that, we drummed in a group together. Vernon was a teacher to many by how he shined and loved. He was also an incredibly talented musician that loved music with all his heart."

Vernon Kennedy walked on Friday, Nov. 15. He was the husband of Grand Ronde Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryl A. Kennedy.

"I dedicate these nominations to Vernon, his family and our Tribe," Looking Wolf said. "Our families are the greatest awards of all. May there be flowers on our path."

Public voting for the awards is open at www.NAMALIVE.com. The ceremony date has not yet been announced.

During his 30-year career, Looking Wolf has recorded and released more than 30 commercial albums that include musical genres from traditional solo flute, blues, jazz, new age and folk rock. His latest project is the Native Rose Band, which was founded to promote world peace and unity. Both of the NAMMY nominations are from it.

"Love! Hope! Peace! Live at the PRAX!" can be viewed at <https://youtube/LRCbqMXguXg?si=wZ0L-C77hgAgEx1fz>.

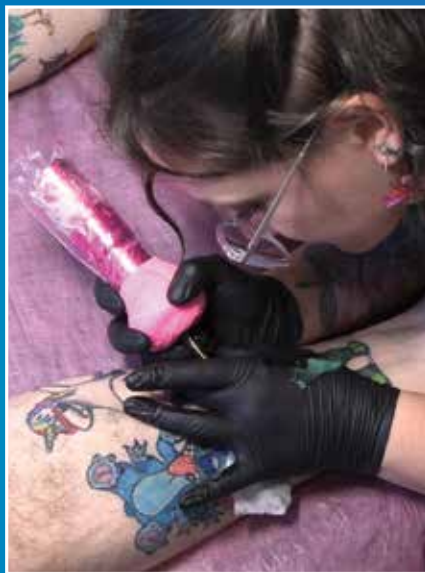
"Native Rose" can be viewed at <https://youtube/oyTikR7UJVY>.

To download a free MP3 of the song, visit <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MzgtRBQj3zM2N6kcXfW58oVtgYrvmkRu/view?usp=drivesdk>. ■

WATCH SMOKE SIGNALS VIDEOS

Tribal member opens tattoo shop in Willamina

Tribal member and tattoo artist Noel Pond opened her tattoo shop, Nebula Ink, on Main Steet in Willamina, Ore., a few months ago. Her shop is the latest addition to the increasing number of Tribally-owned businesses in the city. She shares with Smoke Signals her long appreciation for tattoos and the story behind the name "Nebula Ink."



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



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Ad by Samuel Briggs III



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Recreation center would be located on the Smith Property

**CENTER continued
from front page**

Designs for the planned 47,000-square-foot building and surrounding amenities were presented at the meeting and are available online. Members are now asked to fill out a survey about their preferences so the design team can begin narrowing down options. The presentation and survey are available at: grandronde.org/press-media/tribal-announcements/resident-recreation-center/.

The site would be located on the Smith Property, on the corner of Tyee Road and Ead Creek Loop, with half the property occupied by housing and apartments, and half by the recreation center grounds, Webb said.

Tribal Council Vice Chair Chris Mercier, Tribal Council Secretary Jon A. George, and Tribal Council members Lisa Leno, Brenda Tumomi, Kathleen George and Denise Harvey attended the meeting, some in person and some remotely. Jon A. George delivered the invocation and attendees were served a Hawaiian meal.

Webb explained that the council has budgeted \$5 million for the project and the Tribe has been able to secure \$22.5 million in grants.

“We believe we’ve still got to do a little bit more work to maybe turn over a few more rocks when it comes to grants and find some more funding,” he said. “There’s ongoing operational costs that we’ll want to take into account.”

A \$1 million grant from the Oregon Department of Energy is specifically designated for solar panels intended to both lower electricity costs and to keep the building available as a warming or cooling center for residents during power outages or other emergencies, Webb said. It will have a backup battery system to keep the electrical systems running during power outages.

To put the size of the building into context, the child development center now under construction on the Tribal campus is 26,000 square feet. The plans call for a host of ame-

nities: A double basketball court, event hall, craft center, fitness center, youth activity center, climbing wall, sauna, and space and equipment for strength and endurance training are all included in the plans, along with a mezzanine above the gym with a track for people to walk during inclement weather and a community kitchen.

Windows along the wall would allow walkers on the mezzanine track to look down into the pool.

Outside, the plans call for a skatepark, splash pad, playground, ball field, trails, a meadow and restored wetlands. A covered porch would offer space for activities while still keeping participants sheltered from either sun or rain.

However, Webb said, the estimated \$25.5 million price tag does not include the outdoor facilities.

“They also have substantial price tags,” he said.

Project Manager Ted Grund of MCA Architects estimated the cost of the outdoor facilities would be around \$6 to \$8 million.

The Tribe is being offered three options, with the swimming pool, hydrotherapy pools and sauna as the “cadillac” version, Webb said.

Option two, the middle option, removes the swimming pool, replacing it with a secondary gym. That option would cost an estimated \$23 million, Webb said.

Option three, the least expensive, removes the swimming pool, small hydrotherapy pools and the sauna, with the secondary gym for gymnastics equipment. Webb said the estimated price tag is roughly \$22 million.

Grund said the site is a wetlands and will require significant earth work and managing. Ponds will capture excess runoff that will gradually evaporate over the summer.

On the south end of the building, which faces the street, the entrances will be reached by crossing small bridges above a wetland.

“We think it’ll actually be very nice way to come in to the building,” Grund said. “We’re planning on having that stormwater retention

area planted with natural wetland flowers and plants that will do well in that environment. And it’s just a nice reference to the site and to what would be there.”

Webb noted that swimming pool maintenance is a significant expense — an estimated \$40,000 a month, for heating, chemicals and equipment maintenance — not including the cost of staff, such as lifeguards. Total operating costs for the building would be approximately \$800,000 per year.

One Tribal member asked whether it would be less expensive to install a salt-water pool but the design team said they didn’t have the answer to that question.

Webb said the operating cost for the building in option two would be approximately \$500,000 per year, and approximately \$300,000 per year for option three.

Membership fees and insurance coverage for therapy, along with gym rentals could help with some

of those costs, General Manager Angie Blackwell said, but some would likely come out of the Tribe’s General Fund.

One member suggested that tennis courts might be useful to more people than a football field.

“This is the type of feedback that we’re looking for,” Webb said.

The center is intended to potentially serve a high school, if the Tribe is eventually able to build one, he said, in answer to another question.

Project Captain Ashley Snelling of MCA Architects said there will be both hard and soft surface trails around the site to accommodate wheelchair users as well as pedestrians.

“The softer pads we’re working out with our landscaping and they’re supposed to be more informal so we’ve got different methods of wandering throughout this site,” Snelling said. “And you’ll notice these paths are supposed to look more natural.” ■

COMMUNITY FOOD DISTRIBUTION

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5TH
10-2PM

4445 SW BARBER BLVD

QUESTIONS CALL CRYSTAL
503-879-1881

THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF GRAND RONDE



West Valley Veterans Memorial Application

Deadline is January 15, 2025

Name: _____ DOB: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Gender: Male/Female (Circle) _____

Rank: _____ Branch: _____ Honorable: Yes/No (Circle) _____

DOE: _____ Place of entry: _____

DOS: _____ Place of separation: _____

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 Tribal Council, Attn: Chelsea Clark, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR, 97347. If you have any questions, please contact Chelsea Clark at 503-879-1418 or email: publicaffairs@grandronde.org

Any applications received after January 15, 2025, will be kept on file for inclusion to the Memorial in 2026.

State parks commission approves transferring Fort Yamhill to the Tribe

By Danielle Harrison

Smoke Signals editor

More than 165 years after Fort Yamhill was first established to surveil the movement of Tribal people to and from the Grand Ronde Reservation, it will soon be returned to Tribal ownership.

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission unanimously voted to transfer the 110-acre Fort Yamhill State Heritage Area to the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde during a Wednesday, Nov. 20 meeting.

The park is located near the uyxat Powwow Grounds and achaf-hammi Tribal plankhouse off Hebo Road.

“This has been a long and important process...To really understand why this all makes sense you have to go back 170 years and understand that the whole reason this fort existed was to assist in the rounding up, sometimes by force, of the ancestors of the Grand Ronde and placing a military presence on their back doorstep to keep them contained and under surveillance,” Commissioner Doug Deur said. “So, it is really their history and an awkward history, and an awkward one for us to try and interpret and



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission unanimously voted to transfer Fort Yamhill State Heritage Area to the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde during a meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 20.

manage on their behalf. So, it is a unique property with a unique history tied specifically to this Tribe and so it feels like that just going back the Tribe and then in federal trust for the Tribe is an interesting kind of full circle in that history... we’re playing a role in history as we speak.”

The commission first tried to transfer the land to the Tribe in

2022 but was unable to complete the process because at the time, there was no Oregon statute that permitted a no-cost transfer to a federally recognized Tribe. In the interim, a memorandum of understanding was approved in 2023 between the Tribe and the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department to jointly manage the property with

the eventual goal of the Tribe taking over ownership.

“The arrangement has been very successful,” OPRD Field & Community Services Deputy Director Matt Rippee said. “Operations are going well. (The Tribe) would like to assume ownership and use the site as a hub for celebration in addition to keeping the property open to visitors. (We) are committed to an ongoing relationship.”

Tribal Lands and Self-Governance Manager Jan Michael Reichbach said the transfer process is expected to be complete by early 2025 and that more information on the process would be forthcoming.

Before the transfer is finalized, Tribal Council must give its approval, which is tentatively set to occur in January.

“We are honored by OPRD’s board of commissioners unanimous decision to transfer Fort Yamhill park to the Tribe,” he said. “This has been a lengthy, multi-layered project and we are now close to completing the process. Our hearts are full of gratitude. We look forward to the continuation of healing the land and celebrating with our members and communities.” ■

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. ■

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. ■

No in-person voting available

ENROLLMENT continued from front page

tailoring the procedures for correcting the membership roll with blood quantum corrections.

If approved, the amendment will change the Tribe’s enrollment criteria from 1/16 Grand Ronde blood quantum to descent from a biological parent or grandparent who were enrolled members of the Tribe, and not enrolled by error.

Additionally, the 1999 enrollment amendment requirements will be removed, including the provision that an applicant had to be born to a parent who was a member of the Tribe at the time of their birth and who, unless they had passed away, was a member of the Tribe when the applicant filed an enrollment application.

The constitutional amendment will be decided by Tribal members 18 years and older in an election conducted by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, while the enrollment ordinance is only approved by Tribal Council. There is no precedent for the Tribal membership voting on language in a drafted ordinance

before Tribal Council votes on it, according to Tribal staff.

If the constitutional amendment passes, the amended enrollment ordinance would be approved during the next Tribal Council meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 18.

Ballots for the constitutional election were sent out Friday, Nov. 8, and Tribal members must return the ballots in the mail by Monday, Dec. 9. There is no in-person voting available and the mail-in ballot is the only form of voting. Tribal members are also encouraged to mail in their ballots sooner than later.

Several community meetings and office hours with Tribal staff have been held to offer opportunities for the Tribal membership to discuss the amendment and drafted ordinance.

Remaining office hours with Tribal staff are scheduled from noon to 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 3, in Tribal Council Chambers and on Zoom.

Any Tribal member who did not receive a ballot and is registered to vote with their name on the voter registration list should request one as soon as possible by calling 360-614-5848 or by email at Cherisse.Tiger@bia.gov. ■

Attention All Artisans

Now accepting bids for our Senior Miss crown.

Submit full design that includes:

- The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde logo including feathers.
- Court Year 2025–26.
- Title: Senior Miss Grand Ronde.
- Crowns must be completed and delivered by July 31, 2025.

Must submit photos of progress when requested.

Bid deadline is Monday, Dec. 9, 2024. (deadline is firm and no bids will be accepted after 5 p.m.)

Mail bids and designs to:
CTGR Royalty c/o Shannon Simi
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.





Juliete Palenshus, right, (Mohawk) and Kieran Hill (Klamath and Modoc) dance a potato dance during the Tribe's 41st Restoration Powwow at the Spirit Mountain Casino Event Center on Saturday, Nov. 23. The pair were winners of the all-ages dance special.



Tribal Elder Joyce Ham selects a raffle prize, with the help of Grand Ronde Veterans Royalty Tiny Tot Warrior William Craig, right, during the Tribe's 41st Restoration Celebration at the Spirit Mountain Casino Event Center on Friday, Nov. 22. Next to Ham is her son, Tribal Elder Dan Ham, who also picked a raffle prize.

Restoration celebration

RESTORATION continued from front page

We're just happy to be here today. And powwow's tomorrow, so we're excited about that."

The exhibit, "Tamanowas," was located in a room off the main event center where vendors were selling jewelry, clothing, blankets and other items.

Tribal Council Secretary Jon A. George served as event emcee. He noted that before it began, Tribal members had gathered at the Tribal Cemetery for prayers, called atudship.

"We've been doing that every morning of Restoration since the 30th year," George said. "We place our healing stones and pray for healing of our people. It is something we will do every year."

The Grand Ronde singers and dancers opened the festivities, followed by Grand Ronde and Veterans Royalty members. The Grand Ronde Honor Guard posted the colors, and then royalty members performed "The Lord's Prayer."

Tribal Council Vice Chair Chris Mercier welcomed the hundreds of attendees.

"I was only 8 years old when the Tribe got restored," Mercier said. "And the way I found out was my mom showing my brother and me one of those old Time Life photographs of Indians and explaining that was part of our heritage. Up until then, we'd only known the Anglo side of our heritage."

Mercier noted that, "We just went through an awful election," but told the gathering that a strong sovereign nation can be a safe home and refuge from national politics.

"We still have the ability to deliver our own destiny," he said. "We don't have to let the outside world affect us. Let's continue to support each other and be the best version of ourselves."

Tribal Elder Natalie A. "Pebbles" Jackson gave the invocation, while Tribal Elder Veronica Gaston blessed the meal.

In addition to Mercier and Jon A. George, Tribal Council members in attendance included Lisa Leno,

Denise Harvey, Matthew Haller and Kathleen George.

"For me, Restoration is remembering our past, remembering our Elders and being grateful for everything they've done for us and being together today," Harvey said.

Cultural Education Specialist and intern chaperone Cristina Lara and past youth interns Gracie Mercier, Mikayla Mercier and Justine Flynn spoke about their experiences visiting the meteorite in New York City.

Flynn, now the Chinuk Wawa Education Program Manager and an intern chaperone, interned in 2009, then served as a chaperone in 2017-2018 and 2023, while Gracie and Mikayla Mercier, both 17, interned more recently.

One of the things that distressed them, they said, was finding that, although the museum had "hundreds of thousands" of artifacts from Grand Ronde, it was displaying only one.

Mikayla Mercier recalled meaningful glances among the adult members of her group in response to hearing museum staff refer to the items as "these ancient things,

these ancient people."

She said that her group of interns noted that a historical plaque of the history of the meteorite was "not accurate at all," so they presented one of the directors with a corrected account.

Lara said the museum intends to update the plaque in the next six months, to Mercier's delighted surprise.

Flynn said that when she returned from her own internship, "I realized they did a lot of talking at me," but that she now strives to let interns know that museum staff should be listening to them.

"Make sure you say what you want to say and they listen to you, and if you're not being given the space to do that, let one of us know," she said.

A few members of the Tribe spoke briefly about their memories of Restoration. Participants also enjoyed a meal of salmon, fry bread and several other selections.

Restoration concluded after the raffle drawings were held.

On Saturday, the doors opened at 10 a.m. for the powwow, with grand entries at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. Tribal



Tribal member Tasina Bluehorse leads the Canoe Family dancers during the Tribe's 41st Restoration Celebration at the Spirit Mountain Casino Event Center on Friday, Nov. 22.



Tribal member Joseph Dowd plays the guitar during lunch at the Tribe's 41st Restoration Celebration at the Spirit Mountain Casino Event Center on Friday, Nov. 22.



Tribal members Levi and Nichole Liebelt dance a potato dance during the Tribe's 41st Restoration Powwow at the Spirit Mountain Casino Event Center.

Elder Bob Tom served as emcee and Tribal Elder Dietrich Peters served as arena director. Headman and headwoman were Tribal members Chad and Molly Leno.

The host drum was Bad Soul, with invited drum Battle Stone Singers.

Dance specials included a blanket dance for the Marcus Gibbons family, a tiny tot special by the Mark Cook family and an all-ages potato dance by Deitrich Peters, with a \$100 prize for winners. Tribal Council sponsored a golden age special for Elders 60 and older, with three winners each receiving a blanket.

A dinner break was held at 5 p.m., with boxed lunches served.

There was also a sweetheart special by Molly and Chad Leno, with prizes for the first, second and third place, a cancer honor song, and a past Grand Ronde and Veterans Royalty special by current royalty members, with two winners selected.

A Youth Council special was held for teens, with prizes for first, second and third places, and a switch dance special by the Liebelt Family for all ages, with prizes for first, second and third place.

Powwow concluded at approximately 10 p.m. with the retiring of the colors. ■



Tribal member Malia Blanchard dances in a jingle dress dance during the Tribe's 41st Restoration Powwow at the Spirit Mountain Casino Event Center on Saturday, Nov. 23.



The Grand Ronde Royalty and Grand Ronde Veterans Royalty perform "The Lord's Prayer" during the Tribe's 41st Restoration Celebration at the Spirit Mountain Casino Event Center on Friday, Nov. 22.

Photos by Michelle Alaimo

Community open house



Photos by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal Elder Cherie Butler gets stickers from the Tribe's Natural Resources Department table during the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and the Tualatin River and Wapato Lake National Wildlife Refuges community open house at the Chachalu Tribal Museum & Cultural Center gym on Thursday, Nov. 14. About 30 people attended the event where information was shared about the collaboration between NRD, the Tribe's Cultural Resources Department and the wildlife refuges. Habitat restoration work and soil contamination testing at Wapato were among topics discussed.



Tribal Adult Foster Care Lodge Caregiver Deanna Van Pelt picks native onion and brodiaea bulbs to plant during the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and the Tualatin River and Wapato Lake National Wildlife Refuges community open house at the Chachalu Tribal Museum & Cultural Center gym.

December 13th, 2024 - April 26, 2025
Opening Reception, December 13th 4-7 pm

Transgressors

An exhibition presenting now and future Indigiqueer ancestors who move beyond boundaries in life and art.

a.c. ramírez de arellano | Evan Benally Atwood | Geo Soctomah Neptune | Jeffrey Gibson
Lehuauakea | Qahir-beejee Peco | Roin Morigeau | Steph Littlebird | Walter Scott

Curated by Anthony Hudson and Felix Furby



If you or someone you know is struggling with an emotional or mental health crisis, contact any of these organizations for help.

Each group provides free, 24/7 confidential hotlines.

Suicide and Crisis Call, chat or text 988
Reach out to this national network of crisis call centers to speak to a local crisis counselor.

Crisis Text Line Text 741741
Connect with crisis counselors working with Native youth and communities.

Trevor Project Call 1-866-488-7386 or text START to 678678
Talk with crisis counselors who understand LGBTQ2S needs.

Trans Lifeline Call 877-565-8860
Speak with specialists offering support for the trans community.

Protect yourself and your loved ones:

Connect those at-risk to behavioral or mental health services

Engage with your loved ones and community

Talk to others about hopes and dreams

Maintain good physical and emotional health

Seek spirituality

Identify and participate in tribal culture

Take advantage of water, air, and light to help with healing

You don't have to go through hard things alone. Reach out for support.

For longer term support, make an appointment with a mental or behavioral health provider below.

Grand Ronde Behavioral Health - PH: 503.879.2026



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

Wrap- Up 2024!

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

Former longtime Tribal employee elected Willamina mayor

By Nicole Montesano
Smoke Signals staff writer

Former longtime Tribal employee Vickie Hernandez has been elected city of Willamina mayor.

Hernandez, who retired from Human Resources in 2022 after 25 years, said she is enjoying working with city staff and fellow councilors, as well as “showing my grandkids you can go out and do all kinds of things even when you’re old.”

“They think it’s very cool,” she said.

Hernandez said she loved working for the Tribe. Her husband, son, son-in-law and daughter are all employed with the Tribe as well, she said, and her children are Tribal members.

By 2022, Hernandez was ready to retire and enjoy a new phase of her life.

“It’s been wonderful,” she said.

Her retirement years involved spending time with her grandchildren and pursuing various interests. A couple of years ago, that expanded to include filling a vacancy on the Willamina City Council.

“My friend is the city manager, and they had a vacancy needed to appoint to city council, and she said, ‘Just do it,’” Hernandez said.

The appointment was only for a few months but once she was on board, the manager and her fellow councilors convinced her to run for election, according to Hernandez.

Hernandez said she has thoroughly enjoyed her experience serving on council.

“It’s a great group of people on the council; they don’t fight and everybody’s on there for the right reason,” she said. “And what a great



Vickie Hernandez

group of staff. If it wasn’t for them, I’d have run the other way.”

Last year, then-Mayor Ila Skyberg decided she was ready to

retire from the job and Hernandez was appointed as interim mayor through December, and then will be sworn in to serve her elected term of office.

“I think our biggest focus right now is revitalizing some of our town,” Hernandez said. “Re-engaging with our citizens, getting people excited to call Willamina home, not just, ‘Oh, it’s just Willamina.’ City staff is very excited about that.”

It’s also a goal of the city council to expand community involvement.

“Community engagement, I guess that’s the buzzword,” she said. “We want the townfolk to know we’re on their side; we’re not the big, scary city council that makes decisions without them. We’re just people who live here, just like them.”

A recent community engagement process has provided feedback for the council to start working on 5 and 10-year plans with goals for housing affordability, working closely with local schools and other aspirations, Hernandez said.

Meanwhile, the city has also been working to make sure its water and sewer infrastructure is up to date.

“Of course, it all comes back to money,” Hernandez said. “We have a great city staff that’s amazing at finding grants and resources.” ■

First food planting



Photos by Kamiah Koch

Tribal Natural Resources Department Native Plant Nursery Supervisor Jeremy Ojua, right, and volunteer Kathy Chambliss plant traditional first foods at Champoeg State Heritage Area on Saturday, Nov. 9, as part of Champoeg Volunteer Day. Volunteers with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and the Institute for Applied Ecology are working to restore native plants such as camas, brodiaea and yampa to the area.



Tribal member Joseph Ham clears some of the grass thicket before planting native plants as part of the Champoeg Volunteer Day at Champoeg State Heritage Area

on Saturday, Nov. 9. Ham and other volunteers with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and the Institute for Applied Ecology are working to restore the first food populations of that area. According to the event flyer, the word “champoeg” translates to “the place of the yampa.”

SEE MORE OF THIS STORY
Visit YouTube
@SmokeSignalsCTGR

Attention All Artisans

Now accepting bids for our Little Miss crown.

Submit full design that includes:

- The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde logo including feathers.
- Court Year 2025–26.
- Title: Little Miss Grand Ronde.
- Crowns must be completed and delivered by July 31, 2025.

Must submit photos of progress when requested.

Bid deadline is Monday, Dec. 9, 2024. (deadline is firm and no bids will be accepted after 5 p.m.)

Mail bids and designs to:
CTGR Royalty c/o Shannon Simi
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

It's never too late to heal from addiction.

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

Prepared by iBS International, Inc., under Contract No. 1702690-0151 for the U.S. DHHS, SAMHSA, CSAT

Grand Ronde toxics reduction project

The Confederated Tribe of Grand Ronde has received funding from the Environmental Protection Agency to develop priority strategies and take concrete actions to reduce toxic pollution in the Grand Ronde community. The Tribal Natural Resources Department is leading the project with support from partners and other organizations.

The Natural Resources Department intends to develop a toxics reduction plan and implement near-term actions focused on four priorities: Eliminating or reducing pollution, cleaning up contaminated sites, reducing runoff and promoting citizen engagement. This project will benefit the health and well-being of Tribal members, water quality, and fish and wildlife.

To develop the plan, we are assessing the community priorities through a survey to help prioritize concerns. Make your voice heard by scanning the QR code below and completing the questionnaire by Dec. 31, 2024. This survey is for Grand Ronde Tribal members and Grand Ronde community members only. If you would like to be entered into a raffle for a \$50 gift card, include your name and phone number. The raffle will be held on Jan. 10, 2025, and will randomly select four participants who will each receive one \$50 Visa Card.

For more information, contact Lindsay McClary at 503-879-2387 or lindsay.mcclary@grandronde.org. ■



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. ■

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
Social Security Disability
Insurance Benefit Advocate
Request for Proposal

The Request for Proposals is being conducted by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Social Service Department for the purpose of obtaining a contractor who has experience in SSI/SSD advocacy/benefit determination and the qualifications to advocate for Tribal members who are seeking assistance in the application process. Qualified applicants shall possess the ability to:

- Provide general information to Tribal members and assist in referrals regarding SSI/SSD.
- Screen Tribal members who claim their disability does not allow them to work to determine potential for an SSI/SSD application.
- Assist Tribal members in applying for SSI/SSD.
- Refer members to appropriate physical and/or mental health evaluations related to SSI/SSD application.
- Assist Tribal members with completing paperwork to file for appeals for denial of SSI/SSD.
- Refer Tribal members to Tribal member benefits to apply for the Tribal SSI/SSD program.
- Serve as a resource to employees when working with clients that may benefit from SSI/SSD.
- Assist Tribal members in preparation for retirement to understand Social Security benefits.
- Provide assistance to Tribal members 1-2 days per week, contract rate negotiable.

Preference will be given to members of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and or Indian-owned business registered with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde TERO office.

Successful candidates must provide the following insurance:

- Commercial general liability insurance limits not less than: \$500,000 general aggregate limit, \$500,000 personal injury, \$500,000 each occurrence limit.

Submit your proposal to Tammy Garrison via U.S. mail or email.

Tammy Garrison, Social Service Department

9615 Grand Ronde Road

Grand Ronde, OR 97347

Tammy.garrison@grandronde.org

503-879-2077

SURF, STREAM, & SAVE!

Get Wireless Internet in Grand Ronde for as low as \$43.⁹⁵ per month!*

FREE INSTALLATION • FREE ROUTER
NO HIDDEN FEES • NO OVERAGE FEES
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* = DEPENDENT ON SEVERAL FACTORS & LINE OF SIGHT.
MINIMUM SPEED UP TO 50/10 MBPS.



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Paid ad



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 (open to all community members)

Tribal Member Review Board (must be an enrolled CTGR Tribal member)

If you would like to volunteer:

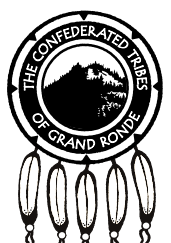
1. Indicate which program you are interested in (mark one of the boxes above).
2. Fill out the form below with your contact information.
3. Mail, drop-off or email the completed form to Tribal Court Programs Coordinator.

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

Road 690 gates closed

The Natural Resources Department will be conducting commercial thinning operations through its logging contractor along Road 690 in the Reservation forest. For protection of public safety, Tribal resources and contractor equipment, the gates at the upper and lower ends of the Road 690 crossover route will be temporarily closed and locked for the duration of operations. The roads will remain open to non-motorized uses, although visitors are advised to stay safely away from commercial thinning units and equipment. ■

Happy birthday,
Deven Eson!

Happy 19th Birthday to Jeffers descendant Deven Eson, son of Tribal member Brenda Smith. Sending lots of love your way for your special day and always. May our ancestors continue to watch over you and may your angels and guides always be near to you.



UNLOCK YOUR FUTURE WITH A CAREER AT THE STATE OF OREGON!

Are you seeking a career offering stability, excellent benefits, and the opportunity to make a real difference? The State of Oregon is looking for Tribal candidates to join the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS). Your unique cultural perspective is highly valued, and we encourage you to explore various roles that offer retirement benefits, paid leave, work-life balance, and career development.

Whether you're interested in remote or in-person roles, we provide mentorship and guidance throughout the application process.

Our CTGR Vocational Rehabilitation / 477 Program, in partnership with ODHS Tribal Recruitment, offers assistance with job searches, resume and cover letter development, interview preparation, and more.

Take the first step toward a rewarding career today. Reach out, and let us help you turn your skills and passion into a fulfilling future! For more information, contact:

Michael Herrin at Michael.Herrin@grandronde.org
 Tiny Gibbons at Tiny.Gibbons@grandronde.org
 Trinity Sherwood at Trinity.Sherwood@grandronde.org or 503-879-2165

Paid ad

November 21, 2024

CTGR EMPLOYMENT

Position Title	Grade	Min. Start Wage	Max Start Wage	Closing Date
Academic Coach 6-12	10	\$29.76/hr.	\$38.39/hr.	Until Filled
Administrative Assistant – Chinuk Wawa Education	8	\$24.60/hr.	\$31.84/hr.	11/25/24
CFS Investigator	12	\$74,901.04/yr.	\$96,316.53/yr.	Until Filled
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Therapist	12	\$74,901.04/yr.	\$96,316.53/yr.	Until Filled
Client Registration Specialist – Portland – Great Circle Recovery	8	\$24.60/hr.	\$31.84/hr.	12/02/24
Community Transition Case Manager	13	\$39.61/hr.	\$50.87/hr.	Until Filled
Compliance Manager – Gaming Commission	16	\$107,644.28/yr.	\$146,433.67/yr.	11/25/24
Enrichment Coordinator Aide – Part-Time	5	\$18.86/hr.	\$24.07/hr.	11/25/24
Enrichment Coordinator Supervisor K-5	10	\$29.76/hr.	\$38.39/hr.	12/02/24
Forester	12	\$74,901.04/yr.	\$96,316.53/yr.	Until Filled
Health Promotion Specialist – Community Health	7	\$22.36/hr.	\$29.00/hr.	Until Filled
Help Desk Technician	10	\$29.76/hr.	\$38.39/hr.	Until Filled
IT Auditor	14	\$90,630.26/yr.	\$116,255.21/yr.	Until Filled
Mental Health Therapist – Behavioral Health	12	\$74,901.04/yr.	\$96,316.53/yr.	Until Filled
Mental Health Counselor – Sheridan – Great Circle Recovery	12	\$74,901.04/yr.	\$96,316.53/yr.	12/02/24
Milieu Safety Technician – Sheridan – Great Circle Recovery	6	\$20.75/hr.	\$26.42/hr.	12/02/24
Peer Support Specialist – Community Transition	9	\$27.05/hr.	\$34.95/hr.	Until Filled
Peer Support Specialist – Social Services	9	\$27.05/hr.	\$34.95/hr.	Until Filled
Police Officer	11	\$32.74/hr.	\$42.16/hr.	Until Filled
Preschool Teacher	10	\$29.76/hr.	\$38.39/hr.	12/02/24
Recovery House Program Manager	14	\$90,630.26/yr.	\$116,255.21/yr.	Until Filled
Social Emotional Learning Coach	10	\$61,901.69/yr.	\$79,848.88/yr.	Until Filled
Staff Pharmacist – On-Call	19	\$66.30/hr.	\$89.72/hr.	Until Filled
Substance Use Disorder Therapist – Portland – Great Circle Recovery	10	\$61,901.69/yr.	\$79,848.88/yr.	Until Filled
Substance Use Disorder Therapist – Sheridan – Great Circle Recovery	10	\$61,901.69/yr.	\$79,848.88/yr.	12/02/24
Temporary Pool	2	\$16.00/hr.	\$16.00/hr.	12/31/2024

We have transitioned to a new applicant portal system. Returning applicants will need to create a new profile in UKG. Previous log-in credentials with Acquire are no longer valid.

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

YOUTH STICK GAME

Join us and learn stick game, stick game songs and practice some of our cultural teachings!

What to Expect:

- ✓ Snacks Provided
- ✓ Stick Game Songs

Details:
All Middle School and High School youth are welcome. Transportation home will be provided for the local area at 5:35pm.

Location:
9615 Grand Ronde Rd, Grand Ronde, OR 97396
Youth Education Building "J"

Time & Dates:
12/05/24- 4:15-5:15pm
12/17/24- 4:15-5:15pm

SPIRIT MOUNTAIN CASINO CAREERS

POSTING TITLE	CLOSE DATE	WAGE/SALARY
Executive Chef	12/5/2024	DOE
Guest Services Cashier (*Part-Time)	12/5/2024	\$18.02/hr. DOE
Slot Floor Supervisor	12/5/2024	\$23.24/hr. DOE
Amore Waitstaff (*Part-Time)	Until Filled	\$14.70/hr. DOE + Tips
Assistant Banquet Manager	Until Filled	\$48,329.22/yr. DOE
Banquet Server (*Part-Time)	Until Filled	\$14.70/hr. DOE + Tips
Casino Beverage Waitstaff (Full-Time & *Part-Time)	Until Filled	\$14.70/hr. DOE + Tips
Cook	Until Filled	\$18.29/hr. DOE
Events Coordinator	Until Filled	\$21.22/hr. DOE
Executive Steward	Until Filled	\$63,586.43/yr. DOE
Guest Safety Specialist I	Until Filled	\$18.29/hr. DOE
Guest Safety Specialist II	Until Filled	\$18.55/hr. DOE
Hospitality Attendant (*Part-Time)	Until Filled	\$18.02/hr. DOE
Mountain View Sports Bar Waitstaff (*Part-Time)	Until Filled	\$14.70/hr. DOE + Tips
Prep Cook	Until Filled	\$18.02/hr. DOE
Surveillance Agent I	Until Filled	\$18.55/hr. DOE
Surveillance Agent II	Until Filled	\$18.82/hr. DOE
Surveillance Agent III	Until Filled	\$21.22/hr. DOE
Table Games Dealer (Full-Time & *Part-Time)	Until Filled	\$14.70/hr. DOE + Tips

\$1,000 Hire-On Bonus All Positions

\$500 Referral Bonus SMC & CTGR Employees

NOTICE

We have transitioned to a new applicant portal system. Returning applicants will need to create a new account on UKG. Previous log-in credentials will not be valid.

**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.

FILED *KL*
NOV 14 2024
TRIBAL COURT

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

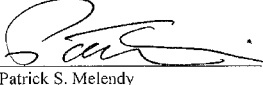
In The Matter of:) Case No.: 24C0019
JORDYN LYNN HUDSON,)
a Minor,) **ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE HEARING**
by) **MINOR NAME CHANGE**
CHELSEA MARIE PETERS,)
Parent/Petitioner.)

On October 24, 2024, a Petition for Name Change was filed in this Court on behalf of the above-referenced Minor. The Petitioner seeks an order changing the name of the Minor to Jordyn Lynn Peters-Hudson.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. A hearing in this matter is set for January 15, 2025 at 2:30 p.m.
2. Any parent, guardian, or relative in the first degree interested in the matter shall appear for the hearing to show cause, if any there be, why the Court should not enter an order granting the proposed change of name.
3. Any parent, guardian, or relative in the first degree may file a written objection to the proposed name change with this Court within 14 days of publication.
4. Petitioner and the Minor shall appear at the hearing.
5. If the parents are deceased, or have not consented to the Change of Name, Petitioner shall cause a copy of this Order to be published in the Tribal Newsletter, *Smoke Signals*, prior to the hearing date.

DATED THIS 14th day of November, 2024


Patrick S. Melendy
Chief Judge

FILED *KL*
NOV 14 2024
TRIBAL COURT

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

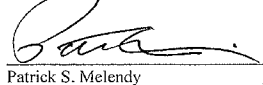
In The Matter of:) Case No.: 24C0020
JACKSON JIMMIELEE HUDSON,)
a Minor,) **ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE HEARING**
by) **MINOR NAME CHANGE**
CHELSEA MARIE PETERS,)
Parent/Petitioner.)

On October 24, 2024, a Petition for Name Change was filed in this Court on behalf of the above-referenced Minor. The Petitioner seeks an order changing the name of the Minor to Jackson Jimmielee Peters-Hudson.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. A hearing in this matter is set for January 15, 2025 at 2:30 p.m.
2. Any parent, guardian, or relative in the first degree interested in the matter shall appear for the hearing to show cause, if any there be, why the Court should not enter an order granting the proposed change of name.
3. Any parent, guardian, or relative in the first degree may file a written objection to the proposed name change with this Court within 14 days of publication.
4. Petitioner and the Minor shall appear at the hearing.
5. If the parents are deceased, or have not consented to the Change of Name, Petitioner shall cause a copy of this Order to be published in the Tribal Newsletter, *Smoke Signals*, prior to the hearing date.

DATED THIS 14th day of November, 2024.


Patrick S. Melendy
Chief Judge

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




whatbin.com
Partner's answer to what goes in what bin



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

Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Tribal Court Survey


The Tribal Court is receiving a Tribal Court Assessment, and the team wants to hear from you!



Tribal Court Assessments are intended to evaluate tribal court needs, provide recommendations for court improvement and to receive dedicated tribal court funding.

Please take this brief survey!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GrandRondeTCA>



Questions? Contact:
TCAcoordinator@whitenergroup.biz
or 360-688-1004

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 2025–26.
- Title: Junior Miss Grand Ronde.
- Crowns must be completed and delivered by July 31, 2025.

Must submit photos of progress when requested.

Bid deadline is Monday, Dec. 9, 2024. (deadline is firm and no bids will be accepted after 5 p.m.)

Mail bids and designs to:
CTGR Royalty c/o Shannon Simi
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.



Big Buck Campground update

Starting Sunday, Dec. 1, Big Buck Campground will be moving to an online reservation system. To make a reservation, visit: <https://app.fireflyreservations.com/kiosk/property/bigbuck> or scan the QR code:



With the new system, there will be a \$7 per night fee and a \$3.50 reservation fee for non-Tribal members. Tribal members making a reservation will need to check the Tribal member box on the website and provide proof of enrollment. Call 503-879-2424 for assistance.

The following rules still apply.

1. Camping is allowed in The Big Buck Campground only.
2. Campsite may be occupied for 7 consecutive days. Campers wishing to stay more than seven days must leave for 7 days and then request another stay. No camper may exceed more than 30 days in a calendar year.
3. Registered campers will be held responsible for the campsite and any visitors.
4. Open fires are permitted in the provided campfire rings only. Never leave a campfire unattended. Never move a campfire ring.
5. Keep camping area clean at all times.
6. No trash or items are to be left behind. Clean up will be billed to last registered camper if left unkempt. A \$150 fine will be issued to permittees that leave any solid waste or trash in their campsite upon leaving.
7. Vehicles may park in designated parking areas only. All vehicles must be listed on permit and may not block any access roads.
8. Registered recreation vehicle or accompanying vehicle must have current registration, license or valid trip permit. All appropriate identifying licensure is to be displayed in plain view. A copy of the appropriate licensure will be required prior to receiving permit.
9. A vehicle capable of towing the recreational vehicle or other camping structure (i.e. tent, tarp, etc.) must be available when campsite is occupied.
10. Quiet hours are 10 p.m. to 9 a.m.
11. Do not feed wildlife. It is a violation of the law.

12. Reserved signs will be provided at your campsite upon arrival or will be provided to you with your permit. Leave signs on the picnic table upon departure. In the event you will be away from your campsite, post at camp entrance. This will inform other campers that this site is currently occupied.
13. Do not cut, chop or carve into live/standing trees.
14. No fireworks within the campground.
15. No firearms are to be discharged within 100 yards of Big Buck Campground.
16. Violations of the above policies could result in trespass from Big-Buck Campground.
A \$150 fine will be issued to permittees that leave any solid waste or trash in their campsite upon leaving.
As a common courtesy to your fellow campers, have all campsites vacated by 2 p.m. the day of departure.

Fire season:

Generally July-September, the following additional rules will apply:

1. Shovel, axe and fire extinguisher will be required at each campsite.
2. Depending upon the season severity, campground may be closed to all fires.
3. Open flame, of any kind, may be prohibited. This would include smoking and the use of briquettes.
4. The campground may be closed to all camping. CAMPER SHALL PROVIDE A SHOVEL, AXE AND AN APPROVED FIRE EXTINGUISHER RATED 4-BC WHILE CAMPING ON RESERVATION LAND. THE USE OF POWER EQUIPMENT IS PROHIBITED DURING FIRE SEASON, UNLESS SPECIFICALLY AUTHORIZED. FOR THE PURPOSE OF FIRE PRECAUTION A PERSON MUST ALWAYS HAVE THE ABILITY TO REMOVE ALL ITEMS AND IMMEDIATELY VACATE AS SOON AS DIRECTED. UNDER NO UNCERTAIN TERMS IS A RECREATIONAL VEHICLE TO BE LEFT WITHOUT THE ABILITY TO BE INSTANTLY MOVED UPON NOTIFICATION. OBEY ALL FEDERAL, TRIBAL AND STATE LAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS.

Big Buck Campground is the only approved camping area within the reservation boundaries. Recreational camping permits, which are valid for up to a 7-day stay, are required. Camping permits can be obtained from our online reservation site picked up from the Tribe's Natural Resources Department. By obtaining a camping permit, you agree to follow campground rules. Camping at the Big Buck Campground is a privilege and service will be refused to those who abuse those rules. Residential camping is prohibited and will be considered trespassing. No form of dispersed camping is allowed. Big Buck Campground is patrolled by security and law enforcement.

THE PERMIT HOLDER AND THOSE ACCOMPANYING HIM OR HER SHALL IDEMNIFY AND HOLD THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF GRAND RONDE HARMLESS FROM ANY CLAIMS, LOSS, INJURY, EXPENSES, DAMAGES, OR LIABILITY CAUSED BY, OR ARISING OUT OF, THE EXERCISE OF THIS PERMIT. ■

CTGR Clothes Closet Christmas Shop Event

Signups for the Grand Ronde Clothes Closet Christmas Shop will be open November 1 and close November 22.

This is for kids 1 to 17-years-old.

Parents will be able to shop on December 19th from 9 to 1.

Kids will be able to shop on December 20th from 9 to 11.

You must be signed up to shop. This is by appointment only so please make sure your here at your appointment time.

The clothes closet will also be closed for public shopping during the morning on December 20th for the kids to shop but will open up from 12 to 2 for everyone.

For more information, please call/text Lori Walker-Hernandez at 559-847-7565.

The Elder Committee invites you to attend

Holiday Bazaar

Friday, December 6th 9-6pm

Indian Tacos \$10.00

Chachalu Gym
8720 Grand Ronde Road

For vendor space contact
Tammy.Cook@grandronde.org

Walking On...

Vernon Shake Spear Kennedy

April 15, 1948 – Nov. 15, 2024

Tribal spouse Vernon Shake Spear Kennedy passed away on Friday, Nov. 15, at the age of 76 at Elk Lodge in Grand Ronde.

Vernon was born on April 15, 1948, in McDermitt, Nevada, the son of Lester and Doris Governor Kennedy.

Vernon attended elementary school in Burns, Oregon, and attended Anadarko High School in Anadarko, Oklahoma. Vernon received his GED and continued his schooling at Central Oregon Community College, receiving his paramedic certificate and license. He was a paramedic and firefighter for the Warm Springs Tribe and served in the U. S. Marine Corps.

Vernon married Cheryle Ann Allen on July 28, 1968, in Warm Springs and the couple celebrated 56 years of marriage.

Vernon also worked with his father, who was an excellent mechanic and taught those skills to Vernon. He later studied to become a mechanic in Portland at ITT. He was a member of the Burns-Paiute Tribe and served as the Tribal chair for two terms starting in 1980.

The family came to Salem in 1984 and settled in Dallas, Oregon, in 1985. Vernon attended woodworking school in Seattle and later attended Chemeketa Community College, becoming a certified prevention counselor working in Grand Ronde.

He was a teacher and an accomplished guitar player. He taught many how to play the flute, guitar and drums. He was an artist and loved free-style drawing and painting.

Vernon also enjoyed hunting, fishing, singing, drumming and was a traditional dancer. In 2006, he was in the movie "The Legend of Tillamook's Gold" along with his granddaughter.

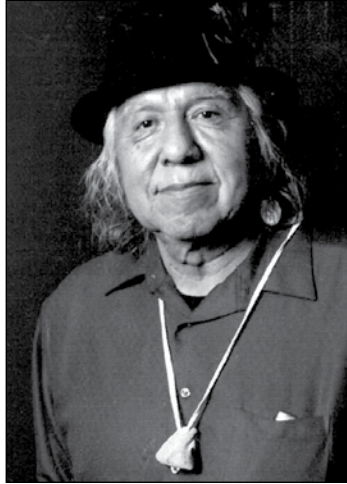
He was also athletic and liked playing softball and basketball. He enjoyed making Native regalia. Paiute was his first language and English was second.

Vernon was well-known for his storytelling. He was always joking, laughing and joyful. He was the leader of All Nations Drum. Vernon loved people and served in many capacities, including going to prisons to conduct sweats and drum.

He is survived by his wife, Cheryle; son, Marcel Allen; daughter, Tamara Kennedy; and grandchildren, Orin-John, Leah, Synon, Marcel, Kaleb, Grace, Bella, Laityn and Germaine. He was preceded in death by his son Avery Kennedy on Oct. 2, 1970.

A viewing was held on Wednesday, Nov. 20, and funeral services were held Thursday, Nov. 21, at the Tribal gym followed by a gravesite service at the Tribal Cemetery and a meal at the Community Center.

Bollman's Tribute Center assisted the family.



Happy birthday
Joanne Lynch!

Happy 45th birthday to our sister, Joanne Lynch, daughter of Tribal Elder Larry Lynch, descendant of Jeffers. May our ancestors continue to watch over you! May your day be special with many blessings! We love ya lil sista.



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

**ANGEL OCASIO
CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE**

5:30 PM

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11TH
TRIBAL GYM**

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



A TAKE-HOME MEAL
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!



TISTILAL VILLAGE



Call or email to request a Pre-Application

Amenities:

- Beautiful outdoor space with Native plantings and an ample play area
- Generous community and private spaces for culturally specific supportive services
- Two elevators, and high efficiency air conditioning in units and common areas

Rents – Utilities Included*

Studio	\$930
1 BR	\$990
2 BR	\$1,200
3 BR	\$1,380

*Phone, cable and internet not included. Minimum monthly income is 1.5x rent amount unless household has voucher/rent assistance.

50% Income Limits, 2024

Household Size:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Income Limit:	\$41,300	\$47,200	\$53,100	\$59,000	\$63,750	\$68,450	\$73,200

971-352-0436

tistilalleasing@nayapdx.org

https://tistilal.nwrecc.org/

Paid ad



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

Open Positions

- Many Nations Academy Principal** \$110-125K/yr
- Many Nations Academy Substitute Teachers** \$150-175/day
- Health Equity Program Manager** \$68-72K/yr
- Home Repair Coordinator** \$60-64K/yr
- Financial Wellness Coordinator** \$60-65K/yr
- Early Childhood Family First Advocate** \$50-54K/yr
- Wapas Nah Nee Shaku Garden Specialist** \$30/hr
- Alcohol and Drug Specialist** \$25-27/hr
- Family Parenting Support Advocate** \$24/hr
- Foster Care Support Specialist** \$22/hr



All jobs are located in Portland or Vancouver.

Visit nayapdx.org/about/jobs to learn more.

11/14/24

Paid ad



HEALTH & WELLNESS NEWS

Attention to Tribal members with Medicare

Previously, Shasta had a contract with Medicare to automatically roll over outstanding balances once Medicare paid. At this point in time, Forest County does not have that in place, but they are working on it. It's a contract, so it's going to take some time. Be sure to take your new cards with you to give to your providers.

If you are receiving bills from your providers after Medicare processes, you can drop them off here at the clinic (patient check-in) or you can call FCP at 715-478-4610 to provide the information or you can email them if that is an option at FCPInsurance@fcp-nsn.gov.

We know this transition has been rocky and we are right in the thick of it with you. We appreciate your patience! Hopefully we'll start seeing the light at the end of the tunnel.

hayu masi,
HWC Admin

International Day of Persons with Disabilities

Each year on Dec. 3, the world comes together to observe the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, a day dedicated to promoting the rights and well-being of individuals with disabilities globally. Established by the United Nations in 1992, this day serves as a prevailing reminder of the importance of fostering inclusivity, breaking down societal barriers and creating a world where everyone, regardless of ability, can participate fully.



An estimated 1 billion people worldwide live with a disability, making up around 15% of the global population. Disabilities range widely, including physical, sensory, cognitive and mental health conditions. The impact of these disabilities varies greatly, yet people with disabilities often face similar challenges, including limited access to adequate healthcare, education and employment. These barriers lead to disproportionately higher rates of poverty and poorer health outcomes.

Accessibility and health equity

Creating accessible healthcare environments is one of the most urgent needs for people with disabilities. From accessible medical facilities to inclusive health policies, the goal is to reduce barriers that prevent disabled people from receiving quality care. Mental health and emotional well-being are equally important aspects of health that require attention. Many disabled individuals face social isolation, stigma, and discrimination, which can worsen mental health issues. On this day, mental health organizations worldwide emphasize the need for mental health services that are accessible and inclusive, recognizing that everyone deserves support.

Technology and inclusive health care

Recent advancements in technology are helping bridge some of these gaps. Telehealth services, for example, have become a significant benefit for those who might face transportation challenges or live in remote areas. Assistive technologies such as voice-activated devices, visual aid apps and advanced prosthetics are increasingly aiding disabled individuals in leading independent lives.

Breaking down barriers through advocacy

The International Day of Persons with Disabilities is also an opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of people with disabilities who, despite challenges, have broken barriers and contributed significantly to society. From world-class athletes and activists to artists and entrepreneurs, their achievements serve as an inspiration for others.

Building a healthier, more inclusive future

As we observe the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, it is essential to consider the steps we can each take to foster a more inclusive world.

The day serves as a call for unity and respect, reminding us that true health equity is achieved only when we all have an equal opportunity to live healthy, fulfilling lives. ■

Attention Tribal members:

This is an update on ID cards, past due bills and how to contact FCP.

Great news! We were informed that ALL cards are in the mail, so you should be seeing yours soon.

For those of our members who may be receiving past due bills, or have bills with dates of service prior to the TPA switch on July 1, 2024, contact FCPID at the information provided below:

Forest County Potawatomi Insurance Department (FCPID)

FCPID Customer Service: 715-478-4610

Fax number: 715-478-4799

Email address: fcpinsurance@fcp-nsn.gov

OR log into their portal:

<https://services.hi-techhealth.com/FP1/pages/signon.shtml>

If you haven't logged into the FCP Portal before, your username is GRC0100XXXX (if you live in the seven county service area) and GRT0100XXXX if you live outside of the service area. The XXXX will be your Tribal ID number, just like it was with Shasta.

Password is the Tribal members DOB: (mmddyyyy) no dashes or slashes. You will be asked to reset your password. It should be 11 characters: GRC(or T)0100XXXX (X = Tribal ID)

If you don't see your claims in the portal, use the email above or call FCP to talk with Customer Service.

We know frustration is high. We are in it with you and we thank everyone for their patience. Our hope is that things smooth out quickly.

hayu masi,
Your skookum Team

National Influenza Vaccination Week to be held Dec. 2-6

As the winter season approaches, so does the annual flu season. To raise awareness about the importance of flu vaccination, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) designates the first full week of December as National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW).

While many people might assume flu season peaks in the fall, flu activity often continues well into the winter and even early spring.

Why flu vaccination matters:

The flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that can lead to mild to severe illness, hospitalization and even death. Each year, millions of people in the U.S. contract the flu, resulting in hundreds of thousands of hospitalizations and tens of thousands of deaths. Vaccination remains the most effective tool to prevent influenza and its potentially severe complications.

Key reasons to get vaccinated:

- **Protecting high-risk individuals:** Older adults, young children, pregnant women and people with chronic conditions like asthma or diabetes are at higher risk for flu-related complications.

- **Preventing the spread of flu:** The flu vaccine not only protects individuals but also helps curb community transmission. Widespread vaccination can help protect vulnerable populations who may not respond as well to the vaccine.

Common myths about flu vaccination: Despite the clear benefits of flu vaccination, some myths persist. Here are a few common misconceptions:

- **Myth 1: The flu vaccine gives you the flu.**

Fact: The flu vaccine cannot cause the flu. It contains inactivated (killed) viruses or proteins from the virus, which are not capable of causing infection.

- **Myth 2: I don't need the flu vaccine if I'm healthy.**

Fact: Even healthy individuals can contract and spread the flu. Vaccination helps protect you and those around you, especially vulnerable groups.

- **Myth 3: The flu vaccine isn't effective.**

Fact: While flu vaccine effectiveness can vary, it still significantly reduces the risk of severe illness, hospitalization, and death. Even if you contract the flu after vaccination, the severity of the illness is usually milder.

Stay informed, stay safe, and make flu vaccination a priority this season. Together, we can reduce the impact of flu in our communities. It's never too late to get vaccinated.

Please contact your health care provider to schedule your flu vaccine today! ■

It's National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW)!



THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF GRAND RONDE'S TRIBAL YOUTH EMPOWERMENT & PREVENTION TEAM INVITES YOU TO OUR 14TH ANNUAL



2024 NEW YEAR'S EVE SOBRIETY EVENT

WHERE: Regal Santiam Stadium 11, Salem Or.

WHEN to sign up: Sign-ups are open now until filled.

YEP will be providing roundtrip transportation from Grand Ronde community center, 110seats available.

Time: First movie starts at 1pm. Doors open at 11:45am. Lunch will be from 12pm-12:50pm.

3 MOVIES TO SELECT FROM
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG 3 (PG)
THE FIRE INSIDE (PG-13)
MOANA 2 (PG)



Lunch,
Popcorn &
soda!

Family
Door
Prizes

YOUNGSTERS
GET READY
TO WIN SOME
EPIC PRIZES!

Remember you have to sign up, seats are limited for each movie. This is open to Tribal Member Families plus one guest per family.

THANK YOU FOR RESPECTING GRAND RONDE COMMUNITY & CULTURE BY NOT DISPLAYING GANG AFFILIATION AND BY NOT BRINGING DRUGS, ALCOHOL OR WEAPONS TO THIS EVENT.

if you have any questions please call Shannon Lafferty 971-901-1946