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# SMOKE SIGNALS

UMPQUA · MOLALLA · ROGUE RIVER · KALAPUYA · CHASTA

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

## Lineal descent constitutional amendment passes

By Danielle Harrison

Smoke Signals editor

It took several attempts over many years, but the Grand Ronde Tribe has approved changing enrollment requirements to lineal descent.

The membership voted in favor of the constitutional amendment 765 to 380, just above the two-thirds margin required.

A total of 1,146 out of 1,380 registered voters cast ballots, which far surpassed the required two-thirds. One of those ballots was deemed spoiled, so it wasn't included in the

*“The amendment passed and it was close there, but it did pass. The work for the council, our staff and member services begins.”*

~ Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy



Cheryle A. Kennedy said during a Tuesday, Dec. 10, Legislative Action Committee meeting. “The work for the council, our staff and member services begins.”

Tribal Council Chief of Staff Stacia Hernandez asked for patience while everything is finalized.

It's great news that the amendment passed, but now the work begins to have the language finalized by BIA and also for us to finalize all the things we need to do to get ready

vote count.

Results were posted at the Tribal Community Center the evening of Monday, Dec. 9. Most reactions to the news on various social media pages have overall been positive,

with descriptions such as “so happy for our Tribe,” “elated” and “best day ever.”

“The amendment passed and it was close there, but it did pass,” Tribal Council Chairwoman

See AMENDMENT  
continued on page 9

## Rally for the falls!



Photos by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal Council member Kathleen George speaks during a rally for Willamette Falls held in Lowndale Square in Portland on Wednesday, Dec. 4.



Tribal Council Secretary Jon A. George is interviewed by local media during a rally for Willamette Falls held in Lowndale Square.

A contingent from the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde gathered in Lowndale Square in Portland for a rally for Willamette Falls on Wednesday, Dec. 4.

The rally was held in opposition to Portland General Electric's attempt to condemn 5 acres of public land at Willamette Falls located between Oregon City and West Linn.

“We are here today to stand up for our river,” Tribal Council member Kathleen George said. “We are here today on behalf of the Grand



TO SEE MORE PHOTOS AND VIDEO

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Ronde people, on behalf of the Oregon people, who love Willamette Falls. Grand Ronde people have been here and at the base of the falls since time immemorial.”

Condemning the land would prevent public access, which would interfere with the Tribe from being able to use the land to fish and gather lamprey.

The Tribe received approval for a waterway structure from the Department of State Lands in 2018 to harvest 15 ceremonial fish per year. The removable platform allows Tribal members to take fish at the culturally appropriate time of year instead of later in the season when water levels are lower and rocks are exposed.

“PGE is attempting to take an Oregon trea-

See FALLS  
continued on page 8

## Celebrating \$100 million in giving to nonprofits, Tribes

By Danielle Harrison

Smoke Signals editor

The Spirit Mountain Community Fund marked a significant milestone when it celebrated \$100 million in grants given to area nonprofits.

The occasion was feted with a lunch at the Spirit Mountain Casino Event Center on Friday, Dec. 6, with more than 200 people in attendance to celebrate that as well as the fourth-quarter check presentation to nonprofits.

“It really fills my heart to see everyone with us here today,” Community Fund Executive Director Angie Sears said. “We're honored and blessed for the partnerships that we've created together and we're so thankful for you all. We're especially thankful for our nonprofit partners who work tirelessly to provide much-needed support and services for our most vulnerable communities. You are the reason our Tribal leaders created the Community Fund 27 years ago.”

See FUND  
continued on page 10



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Store to Door Executive Director Mark Fulop shakes hands with Spirit Mountain Community Fund Executive Director Angie Sears as he receives a check during the Community Fund's \$100 Million in Giving celebration held at Spirit Mountain Casino's Event Center on Friday, Dec. 6. The nonprofit was awarded \$5,000 by SMCF.

**General Council meeting**  
**11 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 5**  
**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. 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](mailto: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](mailto: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:
Wednesday, Dec. 19 .....	Jan. 1	Indigenous Journalists Association
Monday, Jan. 6 .....	Jan. 15	Oregon Newspaper Publishers Assoc.
Tuesday, Jan. 21 .....	Feb. 1	2022 IJA General Excellence
Monday, Feb. 3 .....	Feb. 15	2023 IJA General Excellence

### EDITORIAL POLICY

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

Our editorial policy is intended to encourage input from Tribal members and readers about stories printed in the Tribal newspaper. However, all letters received must be signed by the author, an address must be given and a phone number or email address must be included for verification purposes. Full addresses and phone numbers will not be published unless requested. Letters must be 400 words or less.

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

## 2024-25 TRIBAL COUNCIL

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# IN THE FUTURE



(k<sup>h</sup>apa atqi)

**taʔlam-pi-wakwst-mun (December)**

- Wednesday, Dec. 18 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom. 800-422-0232.
- **UPDATED:** Friday, Dec. 20 – Elders Christmas party, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Elder Activity Center.
- 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](http://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](http://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.

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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](mailto:Shayla.myrick-meyer@grandronde.org) - 503-879-1364 or 1-800-422-0232 Ext. 1364

Hayu masi!

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.

## 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](mailto:memberservices@grandronde.org) or 503-879-2116.

If you are an employee, contact Human Resources at [compensation\\_HRIS@grandronde.org](mailto: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. ■

## Find us on



**OFFICIAL TRIBAL FACEBOOK PAGES**

**Smoke Signals:**  
[facebook.com/SmokeSignalsCTGR](https://facebook.com/SmokeSignalsCTGR)

**The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde:**  
[facebook.com/CTGRgov](https://facebook.com/CTGRgov)

**Grand Ronde Health & Wellness:**  
[facebook.com/GRHWC](https://facebook.com/GRHWC)

**Grand Ronde Children & Family Services:**  
[facebook.com/CTGRCFCS](https://facebook.com/CTGRCFCS)

**Grand Ronde Royalty:**  
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**Grand Ronde Education Programs:**  
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**Grand Ronde Youth Council:**  
[facebook.com/CTGRYouthCouncil](https://facebook.com/CTGRYouthCouncil)

**Grand Ronde Station:**  
[facebook.com/GrandRondeStation](https://facebook.com/GrandRondeStation)

**Grand Ronde Social Services Department:**  
[facebook.com/CTGRSocialservices](https://facebook.com/CTGRSocialservices)

**Grand Ronde Food Bank:**  
[facebook.com/GrandRondeFoodBank](https://facebook.com/GrandRondeFoodBank)

**Spirit Mountain Community Fund:**  
[facebook.com/SpiritMountainCommunityFund](https://facebook.com/SpiritMountainCommunityFund)

**Grand Ronde Cultural Education:**  
[facebook.com/Grand-Ronde-Cultural-Education](https://facebook.com/Grand-Ronde-Cultural-Education)


**Grand Ronde Community Garden:**  
[facebook.com/GrandRondeCommunityGarden](https://facebook.com/GrandRondeCommunityGarden)

**Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department:**  
[facebook.com/Grand-Ronde-Tribal-Police-Department](https://facebook.com/Grand-Ronde-Tribal-Police-Department)

**Grand Ronde Employment Services**  
[Facebook.com/EmploymentServices](https://facebook.com/EmploymentServices)



Ad by Samuel Briggs III



## CTGR Member Services

### Requests for Descendancy Options

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

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**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.

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**To request an application or if you have any questions, contact the following:**  
[Memberservices@grandronde.org](mailto:Memberservices@grandronde.org)

**Enrollment staff:**  
Tristin Armstrong 503-879-1619, [Tristin.armstrong@grandronde.org](mailto:Tristin.armstrong@grandronde.org)  
Nick Labonte 503-879-2490, [Nick.labonte@grandronde.org](mailto: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 məkʰmæk haws* – is operated by Marion-Polk Food Share, which has been leading the fight to end hunger since 1987 because no one should be hungry.

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

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

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

The 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](mailto: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 məkʰmæk haws*, 9675 Grand Ronde Road. Chair: Francene Ambrose.
- **Editorial Board** meets monthly. Contact Chair Mia Prickett at [Editorial.Board@grandronde.org](mailto:Editorial.Board@grandronde.org) for more information regarding January’s meeting. Chair Mia Prickett.
- **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](mailto:danielle.harrison@grandronde.org).

### GRAND RONDE HOUSING DEPARTMENT

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

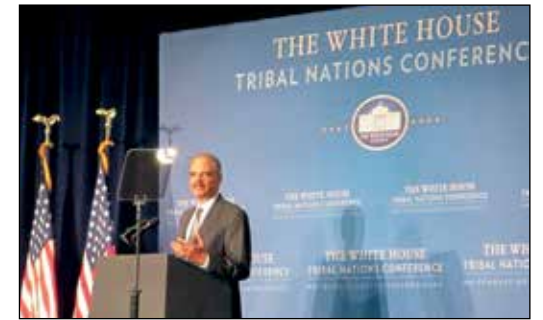
**ATTENTION ALL HOUSING TENANTS AND GUEST**  
**PLEASE SLOW DOWN IN ELDER HOUSING**

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



**2019** – The number of Native American students graduating from Willamina and Sheridan school districts within 4 years increased significantly, according to the Oregon Department of Education annual school report card. The Willamina School District, where approximately 40% of students identify as Native American or Alaska Native, saw an 11% increase, from 71% in 2018 to 82% in 2019. In the Sheridan School District, in which about 5% of students identify as Native American or Alaska Native, rates increased from 60% in 2018 to 75% in 2019.

**2014** – Tribal Council member Chris Mercier attended the annual White House Tribal Nations Conference, where more than 300 representatives of 566 federally recognized Native nations met with President Barack Obama, Cabinet officials and the White House Council on Native American Affairs to discuss issues facing Tribes. Mercier urged them to increase funding for development of Tribal law enforcement.



2014

File photo

**2009** – The lead cooks for Spirit Mountain Casino’s Cedar Plank Buffet, Carl Hoover (Cahvilla descendant) and Tribal member Ray Nelson, won the inaugural Rez Kitchen award.

Nelson prepared a bacon-wrapped salmon roulade, while Hoover made a pumpkin seed and hazelnut-crusting elk tenderloin.

**2004** – The Tribe was a major sponsor, along with the Cow Creek Band, of an awards ceremony by the Portland-based Oregon Business Association, during which former U.S. Sen. Mark O. Hatfield was named Statesman of the Year.

**1999** – The Natural Resources Department was preparing a new 10-year management plan to run through 2010, for Tribally-owned timberland. It focused on preserving the most ancient trees and emphasized culturally valuable plants and habitat restoration, as well as on harvestable timber.

**1994** – The Tribe adopted a memorandum that officially set its strategic plan in motion, providing planning guidance for staff managers and supervisors.

**1989** – No December edition was available

**1984** – The Bureau of Indian Affairs approved a contract between the Native American Program of Oregon Legal Services and the Tribe, set to begin in 1985, to enable NAPOLS to better serve the Tribe. It included the possibility of hiring a dedicated attorney stationed in Grand Ronde.

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

## Forest Service seeks input on land management amendment

PORTLAND – The USDA Forest Service is seeking public input on a proposed amendment to the land management plans guiding national forests within the Northwest Forest Plan area, which span Northern California, Oregon, and Washington. Part of the amendment focuses on the Forest Service’s trust responsibilities to Tribal governments and communities.

The 120-day comment period began Friday, Nov. 15, and will provide an opportunity for the public to share input on forest land management.

The draft amendment focuses on balancing economic needs, ecological health, and community safety across the Northwest Forest Plan area. Themes addressed in the proposal include fire resilience, economic opportunities, improved forest stewardship, climate adaptation and Tribal responsibilities.

“We want to work together to steward our public lands for social, economic and ecological sustainability,” Pacific Southwest Regional Forester Jennifer Eberlien said. “Input from Tribes, the public and the federal advisory committee has been invaluable in reaching this stage, and now we need to hear from as many voices as possible during the comment period.”

Comments can be submitted at [cara.fs2c.usda.gov/Public/CommentInput?Project=64745](https://cara.fs2c.usda.gov/Public/CommentInput?Project=64745). The Forest Service will review and incorporate feedback to develop a final environmental impact statement, set for 2025. ■

## 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. ■

# Casino warns customers not to fall for fake app

By Nicole Montesano

*Smoke Signals staff writer*

Social media advertisements claiming that Spirit Mountain Casino is now offering online betting options through a downloadable app is a scam, Spirit Mountain Casino CEO Camille Mercier said.

She warned that customers should not download any app purporting to be from Spirit Mountain Casino and should report such ads as fraudulent.

The online ads show actual pictures of the casino's logo and tickets, but have no connection to Spirit Mountain, Mercier confirmed in an email. At least some of them appear to be originating in other countries.

Casino Marketing Director Eric Larsen said in an email that scams targeting individuals online are becoming increasingly sophisticated and fake app promotions are one of the most prevalent tactics used by cybercriminals.

"Unfortunately, Spirit Mountain Casino has not been immune to these schemes, with scammers attempting to exploit the casino's trusted reputation to lure unsuspecting victims into downloading fake apps," he said. "These fraudulent apps often promise rewards, jackpots or special offers

but instead compromise personal information or financial security."

Spirit Mountain Casino does offer a BetMGM Sports Spirit Mountain app, however, customers must be physically on the property to place a bet.

Spirit Mountain has been reporting scam advertisements to Meta, which owns Facebook and Instagram, Larsen said, and has enlisted known and trusted advertising partners to monitor for suspicious activity, and to report fraudulent ads to the appropriate platforms.

"The most powerful tool against online scams is community vigilance," he said. "Spirit Mountain Casino has posted multiple times online so that its followers can report any suspicious ads or activities they encounter. Reporting fraudulent content on social media platforms is a simple but effective way to disrupt scams and prevent others from falling victim."

Larsen advised people to be skeptical of anything that sounds too good to be true and encouraged them to visit Spirit Mountain's official website or social media pages to double check whether a promotion is real, and to report any suspicious activity to both the platform and the casino. ■

# Tribal Council approves self-governance funding agreement

By Danielle Harrison and Nicole Montesano

*Smoke Signals staff*

The Wednesday, Dec. 4, Tribal Council meeting included a light agenda, with only four action items. This was due to a hearing that was scheduled in Portland that afternoon.

Council approved a 10-year Department of Interior self-governance funding agreement, which will run through 2034. The first one, a 5-year agreement, was approved in 2020.

Tribal Lands and Self-Governance Manager Jan Michael Reibach said the 10-year agreement will help reduce staff time spent on renewing agreements more frequently.

"Most Tribes have an annual agreement but when you have this, it requires extra processing and you have to renegotiate it every year," Reibach said at a Tuesday, Dec. 3, Legislative Action Committee meeting. "By entering into the multi-year agreement, it streamlines the process and enables us to get our funding in a more expedited manner. ... This year coming up, we'll be reaching out to all the departments and programs that relate to self-governance... We're doing well, but we want to do better and elevate our self-governance."

The Tribe will receive a total of \$3.66 million for self-governance in 2025, which is an increase of \$8,003 over 2024.

The Tribe receives the funding for the purpose of carrying out Tribal self-governance programs such as government, education, human services, health care, public safety, community infrastructure, economic development, and lands and resource

management.

In other action, Tribal Council:
 

- Approved a timber distribution period of Jan. 1- Dec. 31, 2024, and declared Friday, Dec. 13, 2024, as the payment date.

- Approved enrolling one infant into the Tribe because they meet the enrollment requirements and denied enrolling one infant, because they did not meet the enrollment requirements in the Tribal Constitution.

In other news, Tribal Council Secretary Jon A. George read aloud a statement of the council's opposition to Portland General Electric's attempt to condemn the land at Willamette Falls where the Tribe received approval from the state to erect a removable fishing platform in 2018.

"Grand Ronde is actively opposing PGE's condemnation efforts in federal court, challenging the company's claims of authority and its unfounded safety concerns," he said. "The Tribe has filed a claim for summary judgement in the case. This action (condemnation) jeopardizes the Tribe's state-authorized cultural fishery and denies the public their right to access and enjoy this unique Oregon treasure."

In 2023, the Oregon Department of State Lands extended the Grand Ronde Tribe's permit to have a removable fishing platform at Willamette Falls through August 2028. The permit continues the Tribe's ability to harvest up to 15 salmon annually for ceremonial purposes.

To watch the entire meeting, visit the Tribal government's website at [www.grandronde.org](http://www.grandronde.org) and click on the Videos tab. ■

# Construction zone

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

The road surrounding the old powwow grounds will have restricted access to allow the contractor adequate space to access the site, as well as store materials and equipment.

For more information, contact 503-879-2404 or [Ryan.Webb@grandronde.org](mailto:Ryan.Webb@grandronde.org). ■

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ACUPUNCTURE • NATURAL REMEDIES

# Signal of approval for Medford casino raises concerns

By Nicole Montesano

Smoke Signals staff writer

A signal by the Bureau of Indian Affairs that it intends to allow the Coquille Indian Tribe in Medford to build a second, off-reservation casino, is raising concerns in Grand Ronde. The decision could make it easier for the Confederated Tribes of Siletz to obtain approval to open a second casino of its own in Salem.

There are 10 casinos in Oregon, operated by eight of the state's nine federally recognized Tribes, but some Tribes have been seeking for years to increase that number. Of the 10, all but two are larger Class III casinos. The other two are Class II, which offer bingo-based electronic games, according to the state Legislative Policy and Research Office. They are owned by the two Tribes — Warm Springs and Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw — that operate two casinos each.

Tribal casino building began after the federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act was passed in 1988, providing Tribes nationwide with a means for economic recovery. In Oregon, privately-owned casinos are barred, and despite its two exceptions, the state has long maintained a policy of one casino per Tribe, to be operated on reservation land. Gov. Tina Kotek has said she supports maintaining that policy.

But in late November of this year, the Bureau of Indian Affairs approved an environmental impact statement to allow a proposal by the Coquille Tribe to build a Class II casino in Medford, something the Coquille Tribe has been seeking for more than a decade.

The Environmental Protection Agency published a notice about the impact statement in the federal register on Friday, Nov. 22. The public now has until Monday, Dec.

23 to submit comments before the BIA makes a final decision.

Comments may be submitted by email to Tobiah Mogavero, NEPA Coordinator, Bureau of Indian Affairs, at tobiah.mogavero@bia.gov, using "FEIS Comments, Coquille Indian Tribe Fee-to-Trust and Casino Project," in the subject line.

They may be mailed or hand delivered to Rudy Peone, Acting Northwest Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Northwest Region, 911 N.E. 11th Ave. Portland, OR 97232. Comments should include the commenter's name, return address, and "FEIS Comments, Coquille Indian Tribe Fee-to-Trust and Casino Project," on the first page of the comments.

The approval raised shock waves across the state, in part because the Confederated Tribes of Siletz is also seeking to build a second casino, this one in north Salem. Like its Chinook Winds Casino in Lincoln City, the north Salem operation would be a Class III casino. Unlike the Coquille's project, however, the Siletz proposal requires state, as well as federal, approval.

The Siletz proposal could have a direct effect on Spirit Mountain Casino, as Grand Ronde fears it could draw away both customers and staff to the Salem location. The proposal also raises fears of an explosion of new casinos through-

*"Grand Ronde remains steadfast in our belief that the one casino per Tribe on reservation remains the best policy and path forward for Oregon. Our hope is that the state of Oregon recognizes that as well."*

~ Communications Director Sara Thompson

out the state and of significantly worsened traffic.

Both the Siletz and Coquille Tribes have said they reject the "one Tribe, one casino" policy. They argue that the policy disadvantages Tribes in more remote areas that draw less tourism traffic.

In 2022, Siletz Tribal Attorney Craig Dorsay alleged in a memorandum to the Oregon Legislature's Joint Committee on Gaming Regulation that the policy "was created by the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon ... to oppose other Tribes' gaming proposals and to protect the Grand Ronde Tribe's competitive position as the closest Tribal casino to the Portland and Salem markets."

Dorsay wrote that "The Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians ... adopted this alleged policy as a means of opposing the Coquille Tribe's proposal to locate a Class II gaming operation in Medford." He argued that "The Oregon Legislature should not get involved in inter-Tribal disputes about protecting one Tribe's market share vis-à-vis other Oregon Tribes."

Tribal Council Member Kathleen George told members during the weekly Legislative Action Committee on Tuesday, Dec. 3, "We want you to know that Tribal Council continues to work with our legal team and our government-to-government experts and our gaming group to explore how it is that Spirit Mountain is going to maintain and expand our business wherever we can. We remain in close communication with the governor's office about these developments and we hope that before too long we'll have more information to share about that, but we want to just assure everyone that we are very closely monitoring things as they happen, both in Washington, D.C. and here in Oregon, and it's kind of a day-by-day situation right now."

Oregon's U.S. senators have joined Kotek in opposing the BIA's decision and called on Oregonians to express their opposition to the Biden administration.

"This appears to set Oregon up on a path where decisionmakers 3,000 miles away spawn a gambling arms race, changing our state forever and thoughtlessly toss out

the longstanding agreement come to in Oregon by Oregonians that all Tribes should share an equal opportunity at success rather than an endless effort of one-up-manship," Sen. Ron Wyden said in an email. "This recklessly risky route would lead to real harm, and I encourage everybody to weigh in during this comment period so Oregon and Tribes can maintain the historic and balanced approach that's fair for all."

Sen. Jeff Merkley concurred.

"I am disappointed by the Biden administration's decision to move the Coquille Indian Tribe's Medford casino application forward in the approval process," Merkley said in an email. "Senator Wyden and I have opposed the application for years out of deep concern for the new and likely damaging gaming precedent it would set in the state. I also remain concerned about the opposition voiced about this application by several of Oregon's federally recognized Tribes. During the 30-day comment period, I encourage everyone to share their views."

Oregon bans privately-owned casinos but relies on income from state-sanctioned Oregon Lottery machines. Expanded Tribal gaming could threaten the state's income from the Oregon Lottery, which, according to the 2023 lottery financial report, brings \$1.7 billion in revenue to the state per fiscal year.

The Siletz Tribe says that it plans to share the proceeds from its new casino with both the state and other Tribes, and to invest millions of dollars in improving roads and public transportation in the area. However, Grand Ronde Tribal Council members have said previously that the promised share would not come close to making up for damage caused to the Tribe's economy by the increased competition.

Grand Ronde does have a back-up plan in place should the Siletz Tribe win approval for a Salem casino. The Tribe owns land in Wood Village, just east of Portland at the site of the former Multnomah Greyhound Park site.

If the Salem casino is approved, the Tribe has said it plans to seek approval to build a second casino at the Wood Village site, to offset expected losses to Spirit Mountain Casino.

However, Communications Director Sara Thompson said that the Tribe is committed to the current policy.

"Grand Ronde remains steadfast in our belief that the one casino per Tribe on reservation remains the best policy and path forward for Oregon," she said. "Our hope is that the state of Oregon recognizes that as well." ■

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## 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. ■

# Bird strike



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

**Tribal Applications Specialist Adam Jordan bowls his way to a first place win in the men’s division during the 20th annual Turkey Bowling event held at the Youth Education building’s covered area on Wednesday, Dec. 11. Also in the men’s division, Tribal Maintenance Technician Brent Bruckner took second, and Tribal Help Desk Technician Evan Leno took third. In the women’s division, Tribal Enrollment Officer Tristin Armstrong won first place, Tribal Enrichment Coordinator Anna Jeffers took second and Tribal K-5 Academic Coach Cherie Trujillo Nash took third place. Each winner won a cash prize. Thirty-one employees participated in the event.**

# General Council hears Smoke Signals presentation

By Nicole Montesano

Smoke Signals staff writer

Tribal Elders nominated 11 people for the Elders Committee during the Sunday, Dec. 1, General Council meeting.

Voting will be in-person at the Elders Christmas Party at the Elder Activity Center from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 20, and at the next General Council meeting on Sunday, Jan. 5.

There are four open seats on the committee. Nominations were as follows: Darlene Aaron was nominated by Reyn Leno. Ida Paterson was nominated by Claudia Leno. Claudia Leno was nominated by Ida Paterson. Jennifer VanAtta was nominated by Penny DeLoe. DeLoe was nominated by Jennifer VanAtta. Melody Wright was nominated by Kimberly Contreras. Contreras was nominated by Wright. Shannon Lafferty was nominated by Tammy Garrison. Garrison was nominated by Lafferty. Pamala Warren-Chase was nominated by Linda Warren. Tammy Chavez was nominated by Collette Abdie.

During the presentation portion, Smoke Signals Editor Danielle Harrison and staff members in attendance introduced themselves, then Harrison presented a six-minute video by Social Media/Digital Journalist Kamiah Koch, which included an introduction to staff and their roles with the paper, as well as accomplishments in the past year.

Publications Secretary/Advertising Representative Katherine Warren told the council that Smoke Signals prints roughly 7,000 copies of the newspaper every two weeks and has another 500 e-subscriptions. It is considering increasing its print run due to high demand, she added.

Editorial Board Chair Mia Prickett, Vice Chair Shelley Hanson and Secretary Tracy Moreland introduced themselves and presented a slide show about the Independent Tribal Press Ordinance passed by the Tribal Council in 2017.

They shared that Smoke Signals is one of just five independent newspapers among the 562 federally recognized Tribes in the United States.

“So that’s something to be proud of, that we recognize the First Amendment and think it should apply to our Tribe as well,” Prickett said.

The ordinance “means that Smoke Signals, like any other media outlet, gets access to Tribal events, news, and ... really allows us to function as quality news outlet, which is what we believe our membership deserves,” Prickett said.

Hanson quoted from the Indigenous Journalists Association, saying, “An independent Tribal media is an essential part of a thriving, transparent Tribal government. As Tribal governments grow, it becomes more important that Tribal media grow to inform Tribal citizens how these rapid changes affect their families and communities. Tribal governments must foster an environment (where) Tribal media can develop policies, journalistic excellence, editorial freedom and independence from undue government influence.”

Prickett responded to 21 questions and comments. She urged people who have concerns or suggestions to attend the monthly Editorial Board meetings to discuss those. The meeting times and dates are listed in every edition of Smoke Signals.

The council held a raffle with three \$100 prizes and five \$50 prizes.

The \$100 prizes went to Hanson, Prickett and Todd Shandy.

The \$50 prizes went to Contreras, Pamela Patrick-White, Ken Robertson, Erin Castro and Katherine Warren.

Tribal Council member Kathleen George gave the invocation.

Tribal Council Secretary Jon A. George led the Youth Council in drumming and singing to open the meeting and gave the invocation for the noon meal.

The next General Council meeting is scheduled for 11 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 5, with a report from the Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Department.

The meeting can be viewed by visiting the Tribal government’s website at [www.grandronde.org](http://www.grandronde.org) and clicking on the Government tab and then Videos. ■

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

## YOUTH EMPOWERMENT & PREVENTION

### JANUARY – MARCH 2025 EVENTS

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
<b>Chinuk Winter Gathering</b> Dates: TBD <b>Round Dance Gift Making</b> Dates: 1/8 - 3:30-6:30 1/15 - 11:30-1:30 1/22 - 3:30-6:30 1/29 - 11:30-1:30 Location: Community Center <b>Stick Game</b> Dates: 1/16 - 3:30-5:15 1/30 - 3:30-5:15 Location: Youth Ed. Building J	<b>Love Rocks</b> Date: 2/14 - 11am-2pm Location: Community Center <b>Unity Conference</b> Date: 2/6-2/9 Location: Arizona <b>Youth Native Wellness Day</b> Date: 2/28 9am - 4pm Location: Tribal Gym <b>Agency Creek Round Dance</b> Date: 2/28 starting at 5pm Location: Tribal Gym <b>Stick Game</b> Dates: 2/11 - 3:30-5:15 2/27 - 3:30-5:15 Location: Youth Ed. Building J	<b>Agency Creek Round Dance</b> Date: 3/1 starting at 6pm Location: Tribal Gym <b>9 Tribes Youth Prevention Camp</b> Date: 3/24-3/28 Location: TBD <b>Canoe Journey Prep</b> Dates: TBD <b>Stick Game</b> Dates: 3/13 - 3:30-5:15 Location: Youth Ed. Building J

\*All events are subject to change, please look out for our official fliers on the Youth Empowerment & Prevention Facebook page.

# PGE, Tribe make oral arguments in federal court

By Danielle Harrison

*Smoke Signals editor*

PORTLAND — The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and Portland General Electric attorneys appeared before U.S. District Court Judge Michael H. Simon in a summary judgement hearing at the Mark O. Hatfield U.S. Courthouse on Wednesday, Dec. 4.

Both the Tribe and PGE filed claims for summary judgement, a pretrial motion intended to resolve legal actions where the parties have no issues with any material fact. The judge rules for one party against the opposing party without having to go to trial.

The key issue in the case is PGE's efforts to take state-owned land at Willamette Falls through the condemnation process, which seeks to make it private. Although the case was initially filed against the Department of State Lands, Simon earlier recognized the Tribe's legal standing by granting a motion for it to intervene in the case in 2022.

PGE is arguing that it needs to take the land at the falls into private ownership due to safety concerns with Tribal members fishing at the falls.

The Tribe is claiming these concerns are unfounded, as it had previously approved Tribal safety plans at the falls and that the company's actions are driven by its business interests with another Tribe that opposes Grand Ronde's removable fishing platform.

There is a long and contentious history between the Tribe and PGE regarding the fishing platform.

The Tribe applied for and received approval for a waterway structure from the Department of State Lands in 2018 to harvest 15 ceremonial fish per year. The platform allows Tribal members to take fish at the culturally appropriate time of year instead of later in the season when water levels are lower and rocks are exposed.

The removable fishing platform was completed later that year after PGE revoked permission allowing Grand Ronde Tribal members and employees to use its land to access

and build the platform from the safer West Linn side of the Willamette River.

Tribal Natural Resources Department employees were then forced to ferry supplies across the Willamette River from the Oregon City side of the falls to the West Linn side.

PGE then filed an appeal with the state Land Use Board regarding the Tribe's fishing platform site because the city of West Linn did not regulate the structure, but the Land Use Board dismissed the appeal in April 2019.

On July 28, 2021, PGE's Board of Directors approved a resolution that the company would pursue acquiring all of the state's rights, title and interest in the contested property.

PGE then filed a lawsuit in U.S. District Court in April 2022 to condemn the 5-acre strip of property in and around its Federal Energy Regulatory Commission boundary at Willamette Falls. The lawsuit seeks to use PGE's condemnation authority under the Federal Power Act to acquire the Oregon Department of State Land's interest in the property. According to the lawsuit, PGE offered the state \$150,000 for its claimed right to the property, but the state did not accept the offer.

Assistant Tribal Attorney Kim D'Aquila told Simon that PGE's primary goal is to protect its business interests with the Warm Springs Tribe by way of stopping Grand Ronde from using its fishing platform at Willamette Falls.

"Warm Springs has been very vocal about challenging the Grand Ronde platform," she said. "It doesn't see Grand Ronde as having a true treaty right to exercise its cultural practices at the falls. They have called Grand Ronde a non-treaty Tribe. Grand Ronde is a restored Tribe so we are treated differently...The ultimate goal is to stop Grand Ronde from using a fishing platform as there is no guarantee the Tribe would be able to use one under a perpetual cultural easement as it requires consulta-

tion with other Tribes."

Simon said the crux of the matter is whether PGE is trying to do "what is right," trying to appease a business partner or is genuinely concerned the Tribal conflict would ultimately affect their operations at the falls. Currently, the company produces power for approximately 11,000 homes.

The state of Oregon did not argue their side of the case during the hearing, but instead referred to legal paperwork it had already filed.

Erick J. Haynie, a real estate attorney for Perkins Coie, served as PGE's counsel.

Simon told him that this, "is the strangest dispute I have seen between PGE and the state," and asked if the PGE board's decision to pursue condemnation was made because of business interests with Warm Springs.

"No, there is no evidence of PGE trying to appease a business partner and I'm not aware that went into any of the decision-making process," Haynie said.

Simon then told him that PGE

has good evidence and that the state does as well, and that he wasn't certain that summary judgement was "the right vehicle."

"I may need to hear from witnesses and apply the right standard, which is clear and convincing evidence," he said. "If I get you what you want now, I will be reversed (on appeal) if there is any factual evidence, which I think there is."

Simon told all parties involved in the case that he expects to issue a decision by the end of the month, and that if a trial were to be held, it would likely be set for April 2025.

Tribal Council member Kathleen George attended the hearing and spoke about it during the Tuesday, Dec. 10, Legislative Action Committee meeting.

"The judge had clearly done a great deal of work and understood all the arguments being made to a very deep degree and asked some very pointed and direct questions of pretty much everyone involved," she said. "I think that at least, we felt heard by the judge and that was reassuring." ■

## 'This has happened without any public process'

FALLS continued  
from front page

sure, an Oregon trust resource, part of the Willamette River and Willamette Falls, into private property ownership status," George said. "This has happened without any public process. It is particularly important to Grand Ronde people because Willamette Falls is one of the only places we where can harvest Pacific lamprey for our Tribal people. We have an agreement with the state of Oregon to harvest ceremonial salmon and steelhead every spring. The falls is the only place the Tribe can do this."

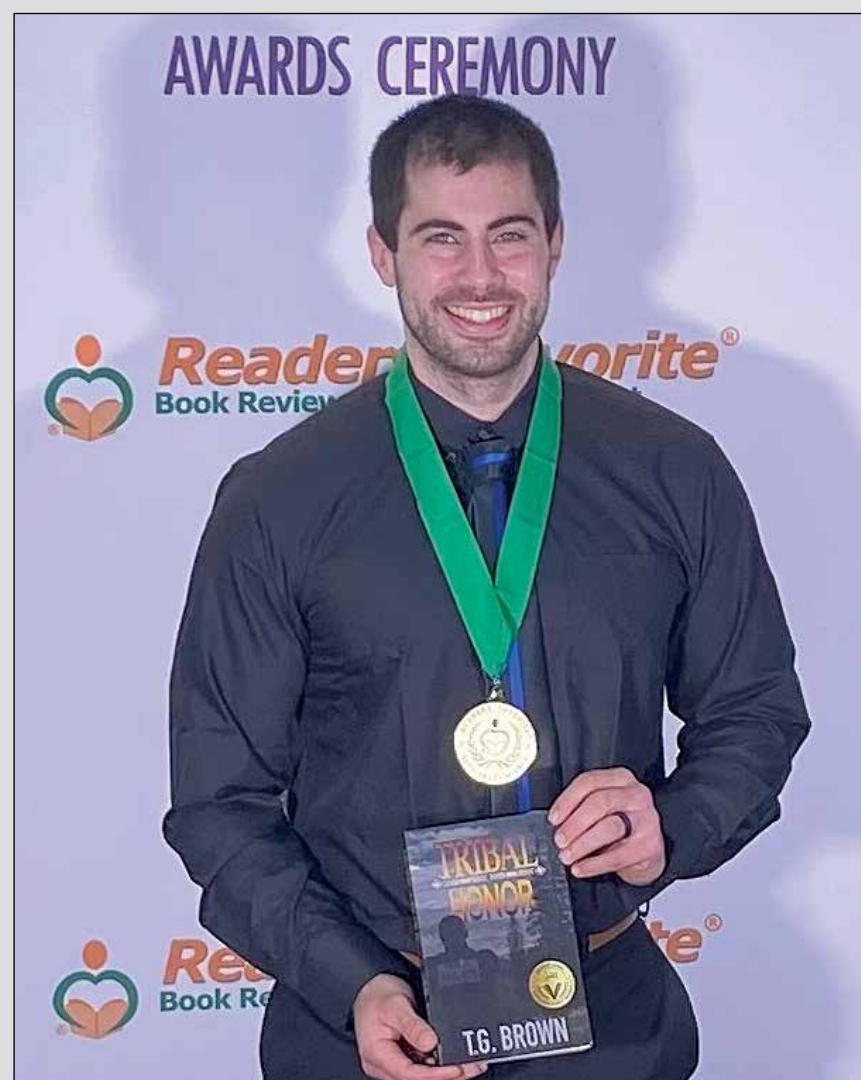
A press release issued by the Tribe's Public Affairs Department said that if successful, the con-

demnation would privatize public land and make is inaccessible to Oregonians.

"Many Oregonians recreate at Willamette Falls and if the land is brought under corporate control, they would no longer be allowed to do that," the release stated. "It is in the best interest of Oregonians for the state to oppose this lang grab by PGE, instead of willingly handing over public land."

During the rally there was drumming, singing and prayers. After the rally, Tribal representatives made oral arguments against PGE's condemnation efforts during a hearing in the Mark O. Hatfield U.S. Courthouse located across from the square. See related story above for more information. ■

## Book award



Contributed photo

**Tribal member and Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department Cpl. Tyler Brown, whose pen name is T.G. Brown, traveled to Miami, Fla., to accept a top book award for his debut novel "Tribal Honor" on Saturday, Nov. 23. "Tribal Honor" was the gold medal winner in the fiction-action category of the Readers' Favorite International Book Award Contest. "Tribal Honor" is a psychological thriller that is inspired by Brown's real life experiences as a detective. Readers' Favorite is one of the largest book review and award contest sites on the internet. The annual contest features thousands of contestants from more than 12 countries, ranging from new independent authors to New York Times bestsellers and celebrities. The contest receives submissions from independent authors, small publishers, and publishing giants such as Random House, HarperCollins and Simon & Schuster. In August, Brown published "Jericho Burning," a sequel to "Tribal Honor," which he is planning to submit to this and other contests in 2025. Both books are available for purchase on Amazon.**



# Holiday ready



Tribal Elder Faye Smith looks at a pair of earrings at Tribal member Melissa Palanuk's, right, booth at the Elder Committee Holiday Bazaar at the Chachalu Tribal Museum & Cultural Center gym on Friday, Dec. 6. Handmade jewelry, Christmas wreaths, jams and candles were a few of the items for sale at the annual event.

Photos by Michelle Alaimo



Grand Ronde Emergency Services Department Resilience Officer and Firefighter/Emergency Medical Technician Kaylene Barry, left, hands Milo Murphy, 3, a bag of goodies during the Christmas Light Parade on Friday, Dec. 6. With Milo are his dad, Matthew Murphy, second from right, and his brother Timothy Murphy, 13. The department hosted this year's parade that traveled through the Tribal campus, Tribal Elder Housing and Tribal Housing.



Parade participants wave during the Christmas Light Parade on Friday, Dec. 6.

# Eighth time enrollment was put to a vote

## AMENDMENT continued from front page

to accept applications," Hernandez said. "So please bear with us and be patient. We'll be updating our application to reflect the new criteria and working on finalizing the process."

Hernandez added that there would be an update provided to the membership in the next few weeks.

According to Tribal Senior Staff Attorney Holly Partridge, the amendment is not effective until the Bureau of Indian Affairs authorized official provides the certified results and approval. The BIA has 45 days from the election date to do this.

The approved amendment will change enrollment from a 1/16 blood quantum requirement to requiring the applicant possess Grand Ronde Indian blood and be a descendant of a Grand Ronde parent or grandparent, provided that the ancestor was not enrolled in error. Additionally, the 1999 enrollment amendment requirements will be removed, including the requirements to be born to a Tribal member and have a parent enrolled at the time of application.

Additionally, an annual limit of 150 people will be accepted per year. This can be raised to 200 if Tribal Council adopts a resolution to do so. The limit will not apply to minors under 6 months old or those who are the subject of pending juvenile dependency hearings.

The Tribe decided to keep the definition of "Indian blood," as an enrollment requirement after it became aware of a few Tribal members who are enrolled and do not have any Grand Ronde blood. They

were adopted by Tribal members and enrolled as biological children, which occurred prior to DNA requirements. This provision will ensure their descendants will not be enrolled.

Tribal Council is working separately on an updated enrollment ordinance, which is available on the Tribe's website, [www.grandronde.org](http://www.grandronde.org), and details the proposed changes.

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

This was the 8th time the issue of enrollment was put to a vote by the Tribal membership, including the 1999 amendment. Additionally, there were two discontinued elections in 2007 and 2014.

Until the lineal descent amendment was approved, Tribal members had only agreed in sufficient numbers to three other proposals: The 1999 amendment, in 2008 when they increased the relinquishment period from one to five years and in 2022 when they agreed to ban disenrollment actions unless fraud or dual enrollment can be proven.

The Grand Ronde Constitution requires two-thirds of those who register for and cast ballots in a BIA-supervised election must approve any proposal for it to change

the Tribe's governing document. An effort to remove the federal government from Tribal constitutional amendment elections was rejected by voters in 2014. ■

## RESULTS OF THE VOTE

### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ELECTION

There have been eight attempts to change enrollment since 1983. Only four amendments have passed.

These are:

**1999:** Required parent on the roll at time of birth/application.

**2008:** Increased relinquishment period from 1 to 5 years.

**2022:** Banned disenrollment except for proven fraud/dual enrollment.

**2024:** Changed enrollment requirements to lineal descent.

More information available at: [WWW.GRANDRONDE.ORG](http://WWW.GRANDRONDE.ORG)



# 3,394 grants awarded since 1997

## FUND continued from front page

The Community Fund receives 6 percent of proceeds from Spirit Mountain Casino and awards that money to nonprofits in 11 northwest Oregon counties to fund efforts in the areas of arts and culture, environmental preservation, education, health, historic preservation and public safety, and to the nine federally recognized Tribes in Oregon under the fund's Tribal Grants program.

As of the fourth quarter of 2024, the Grand Ronde Tribe's philanthropic giving has surpassed \$100 million with 3,394 grants awarded since 1997.

The Community Fund was created as part of the Tribe's gaming compact with the state of Oregon. It is supervised by an eight-member Board of Trustees that includes Tribal Council members Denise Harvey and Brenda Tuomi, who serves as board chair.

The event began with an invocation by Tribal Council Secretary Jon A. George and a welcome song by the Grand Ronde Canoe Family.

Sears then introduced Tribal Council members, Board of Trustees members and the Community Fund employees.

Tribal Council members in attendance included Jon A. George, Kathleen George, Matthew Haller, Tuomi and Harvey.

Community Fund staff are Program Coordinator Angela Schlappie, Grants Coordinator Jesse Knight and Administrative Assistant Pamala Warren-Chase, who also acted as event emcee.

Following the introductions, attendees were shown a video that had been created for the event, featuring six past grant recipients.

Kathleen George, a past Community Fund Executive Director, gave the keynote address. She talked about the long road of the Tribe being terminated to celebrating where it is today, and all the work that went into that effort.

"We're here today to celebrate \$100 million of potlach (giving)," she said. "This is a time of coming together and giving thanks... We are blessed to come from Elders who had the vision, the courage and the determination to right a terrible wrong, to do this long, hard work, step-by-step of restoring our Tribe... And in time, we were able to open a successful business that we're all sitting in today. Our Elders thought this was good and wanted to share the blessing with others. That blessing is to share that in potlach with our neighbors and our friends. It became a way to empower that same spirit of perseverance that led and inspired our ancestors to see that same spirit in our neighbors... to create communities that lifted one another up, that shared the blessing and that is in the work that our nonprofit partners and our local government partners do."

Then, she gave the blessing for the meal. While everyone ate their lunch, Tribal Elder and musician Jan Michael Looking Wolf and Rob-



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

**Tribal Council member and Spirit Mountain Community Fund Board of Trustees Secretary/Treasurer Denise Harvey, left, and Tribal Council member and SMCF Board of Trustees Chair Brenda Tuomi, right, hug former SMCF executive director Michael Cherry after presenting her with a Pendleton saddle blanket during the Community Fund's \$100 Million in Giving celebration held at Spirit Mountain Casino's Event Center on Friday, Dec. 6.**

in Gentle Wolf performed Native American flute music.

After lunch concluded, Sears gifted a Pendleton saddle blanket designed by Tribal member and Multimedia Specialist Matthew Williams for the celebration to former Community Fund Executive Director and past Tribal Council member Michael Cherry.

"I just want to say it's been an honor and a privilege to work with Michael over the past 7 years," Sears said. "She has such passion and heart for this work and it's always been one of her favorite things to do. Thank you for your service and dedication to our Tribe, the Community Fund and our nonprofit partners."

Cherry said it was an "incredible surprise," to be honored with the blanket.

"Thank you to everyone that is in this room," she said. "My mom, Candy Robertson, was on the first Tribal Council and she was not able to join us today because she's been sick and she extends all of her gratitude... As I was driving out here and thinking about our previous visionaries, we would not be here without them... My mom was the one to pass the resolution to have a casino here for an economic development venture and just to think about where we are at right now: Celebrating \$100 million of giving is just astonishing and also to the non-profits who share that collective vision... we couldn't do this work without you. My hands are raised to you."

Spirit Mountain Casino Chief Executive Officer Camille Mercier told attendees about her journey from being a young mom working at the casino to becoming its leader. She also shared that she is the granddaughter of key Restoration leader Margaret Provost, whose likeness is encapsulated in a life-sized bronze sculpture in front of the Tribal Governance Center.

"Despite all of the challenges and those expensive diaper and

daycare years, I really did remain undeterred and thought of it as an investment in my future and my career," she said. "Being a part of the casino from its early days has been such a meaningful experience for me and one that certainly surpassed anything that I could have ever imagined 30 years ago... The casino was an idea that was brought to the membership and it was really about a vision of creating a sustainable future for our Tribe. That vision extended beyond our community and it was aimed to provide resources

that would benefit not only the Tribe but also our surrounding communities."

During the check distribution portion, the Community Fund awarded 10 small grants worth \$62,805, 13 large grants worth \$555,000, and eight Tribal grants worth \$800,000. Additionally, the six organizations featured in the celebration video – Adelante Mujeres, Bridgeworks Oregon, Elakha Alliance, KBOO Foundation, Liberty House and Oregon Justice Resource Center – each received \$5,000 grants.

Knight announced the small grant recipients and Schlappie announced the large grant and Tribal grant recipients. All grant recipients were given a commemorative Pendleton saddle blanket.

### Small grant recipients were:

- City of Independence, \$7,500, for its youth coding league;
- Confluence of Polk County, \$7,500, for its Voice of the River story gathering of Grand Ronde Tribal members;
- Mary's River Gleaners Association of Benton County, \$3,000, for its gleaners site safety and food security program;
- On-the-Move Community Integration of Multnomah County, \$7,000, for community integration for adults with developmental disabilities;
- Radical Rest of Multnomah County, \$7,491, for its Good Grief Project;
- Siletz Fire District Volunteer Firefighters Association of Lincoln County, \$7,314, for its extrication innovation and training program;
- Social Venture Partners Portland, \$7,500, for helping underserved children access quality early childhood education;
- Store to Door of Multnomah County, \$5,000, for expanding resource referrals for low-income, homebound seniors;
- We Belong PDX of Multnomah County, \$7,500, for nurturing

connections for children;

- Western Oregon Center for Pediatric Therapeutic Lifestyle Change of Yamhill County, \$3,000, for nutrition education for kids.

### Large grant recipients were:

- ABC House Inc. of Linn County, \$50,000, for vital care for children impacted by trauma and abuse;
  - Arbor House Portland of Multnomah County, \$50,000, for empowering women in recovery;
  - CASA of Clackamas County, \$20,000, for its family treatment court;
  - CASA Voice for Children of Lincoln County, \$50,000, for its Overcoming ACEs: Empowering youth who have experienced abuse and neglect;
  - Daisy C.H.A.I.N. of Lane County, \$50,000, for equitable health programs for pregnant and parenting individuals;
  - HomePlate Youth Services of Washington County, \$30,000, for unhoused youth accessing education to break the cycle of homelessness;
  - Peace in Schools of Multnomah County, \$50,000, for its mental health in high school program;
  - Pink Lemonade Project of Multnomah County, \$50,000, for community health worker cancer education project;
  - Responder Life of Clackamas County, \$50,000, for improving the mental health of first responders through peer support;
  - Salem Free Clinics, \$50,000, for improving community mental and behavioral health by increasing access;
  - Shadow Project of Multnomah County, \$35,000, for reading mentors;
  - Sheridan Rural Fire Protection District, \$20,000, for personal protective equipment for cancer prevention;
  - SMART Reading of Multnomah County, \$50,000, for building excited, confident and skilled pre-k readers;
- ### Tribal grant recipients:
- Burns-Paiute Tribe, \$100,000, for general operating support;
  - Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw; \$100,000, for native language revitalization;
  - Confederated Tribes of Siletz, \$100,000, for Tribal arts and heritage operational costs;
  - Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, \$100,000, for its Chachalu Tribal Museum & Cultural Center arbor project;
  - Confederated Tribes of Umatilla, \$100,000, for thriving wealth creation ecosystem;
  - Coquille Tribe, \$100,000, for cultural, education and language services;
  - Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, \$100,000 operations support for The Museum at Warm Springs;
  - Klamath Tribes, \$100,000, for Tribal Council water preservation.
- "Thanks for the wonderful work you are doing in your communities," Sears said. "We are all grateful to be a part of this." ■



**Watchlist: ‘Salmon return to historic habitat after largest dam removal project in the US’**

*(Editor’s note: It is estimated that there are approximately 149 billion videos on YouTube, and the number continues to grow. Grand Ronde Tribal member and Social Media/Digital Journalist Kamiah Koch sifts through those videos twice a month to recommend a worthwhile Indigenous video to watch. Follow her bimonthly recommendations and enjoy!)*

**By Kamiah Koch**

*Social media/digital journalist*

The largest dam removal project in United States history has allowed Chinook salmon to spawn in the tributaries of the Klamath River for the first time in 60 years.

The Associated Press shared a video on YouTube in November 2024 about the historic return of fall Chinook salmon to the Klamath River.

The video shared footage from the demolition of a dam on the Klamath River in January 2024. An explosion is heard and then water begins to flow through the walls of the dam.

“Fish started showing up in these streams just a week after the final dam was removed,” Yurok Tribal Fisheries Director Barry McCovet Jr. said. “It was a bit surprising to everyone how fast the fish started recolonizing this area.”

McCovet Jr. explained that only nine months ago, these streams were submerged under the dam’s reservoir. Although the streams the fish are returning to now are not perfect spawning ground for them, he has hope that after some restoration work they can restore the habitat to make it better.

“The fish right now that are in the river are helping us understand what’s needed,” McCovet Jr. said. “They are showing us where the good habitat is, they are showing us where (there) is a lack of good habitat.”

McCovet Jr. said they will not only monitor the fish coming into the river to spawn, but also monitor the offspring as they leave the river.

The video shows footage of salmon fins poking out of the shallow tributaries and streams as they wiggle their bodies quickly to lay eggs and fertilize them.

McCovet Jr. said this milestone gives him hope for the future.

You can watch the entire video on YouTube at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=ArMzI8q7uRk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ArMzI8q7uRk) or find it linked in our “Watchlist” playlist on the Smoke Signals YouTube channel. ■

**Tribe offering support to incarcerated members**

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

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

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

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

**Baker Technical Institute**  
**Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde**  
**Heavy Equipment Operator Training**

This course is for participants who want to train on Dozers, Wheel Loaders, Excavators, and more. Students will learn both in our high-tech CAT Simulator mobile classroom and in the field, running equipment side by side with our experienced instructors. This training will prepare you for a great career!

- 3-week course - some type of construction experience is preferred
- Must be 18 years of age and enrolled in the TERO skills pool
- Must sign a contractual agreement that you will complete the course
- A valid driver’s license is required

**Simulated Training - Tribal Campus:** February 24 - March 7, 2025

**Land Lab Training - Albany:** March 10-14, 2025

Register for training by calling 503-879-2146 or email [tero@grandronde.org](mailto:tero@grandronde.org)

**GRAND RONDE COMMUNITY CLOTHES CLOSET**

**OPEN TO ALL FRIDAYS 9 AM - 12 PM**

Clothes, blankets, diapers, toilet paper, emergency hygiene kits, camping supplies (tents, tarps, wood), small appliances, toys and free dog and cat food.

The Grand Ronde Clothes Closet is located on the Tribal Campus near the Elders Activity Center at the end of Blacktail Drive.

For more information or emergency clothes, please contact Lori Walker-Hernandez at (559) 847-7565.

**MONDAY MEET UP**

UNDER THE COVERED AREA IN Tribal Housing 6th-12th Grade

MONDAY MORNINGS 9:50AM - 10:20AM  
**FREE BREAKFAST FOR YOUTH**

# TERO Worker of the Month November 2024

**Name:** Ree Quenelle  
**Employer:** Kiewit Bridge & Marine  
**Position:** Journeywoman laborer  
 Ree Quenelle first joined the TERO program back in 2019 and has been a great asset to the program and all the projects that she has worked on. When first applying with TERO, Ree was already a member of the Laborers Union and had been flourishing in her skill sets throughout all the projects she had been on. Currently, she is dispatched to the seismic upgrade and widening of the I-205 Abernethy Bridge project in Oregon City.



Ree Quenelle

Ree has many skills under her belt that she has learned through the years with various trainings, not only through TERO but through her current employer, Kiewit. Her skills range from heavy equipment operating, rigging and signaling, flagging, OSHA, CPR, first aid, confined space and fall protection. Ree is also a member of the CIVS Safety Committee that oversees safety throughout the whole project.

We asked Ree what she liked about working through the TERO program and she says that TERO has helped her on so many levels to achieve goals she never thought possible. TERO has put her through trainings and supported her continued journey amongst her company and has resources to help her succeed in a fast-paced trade. Ree also said that she appreciates the support TERO provides for all federally recognized Tribal members.

TERO is proud to announce Ree as our November 2024 Worker of the Month. Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication, Ree!

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

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. ramirez 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

### CRISIS SUPPORT

## Hope and action can restore balance and save lives.

**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

# Clothes Closet open

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

The Clothes Closet accepts clothing, small appliances and pieces of furniture, electronics and household goods that are clean and in good condition. It does not accept books, large TVs or furniture, but there is a community board where people can post those items.

For more information or emergency clothes, contact Lori Walker-Hernandez at 559-847-7565. ■

## 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

### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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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network

— GRAND RONDE —

[www.nativenetwork.com/grandronde](http://www.nativenetwork.com/grandronde) | 833.880.9965

Paid ad



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

503-879-4623  
[CourtPrograms@grandronde.org](mailto: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:

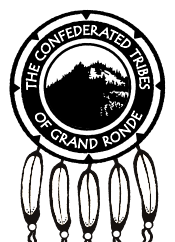
1. Indicate which program you are interested in (mark one of the boxes above).
2. Fill out the form below with your contact information.
3. Mail, drop-off or email the completed form to Tribal Court Programs Coordinator.

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/](http://grandronde.org/government/tribal-court/court-programs/)



FILED *KL*  
NOV 14 2024  
TRIBAL COURT

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

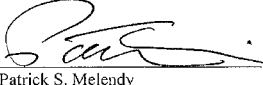
In The Matter of: ) Case No.: 24C0019  
JORDYN LYNN HUDSON, )  
a Minor, ) **ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE HEARING**  
by ) **MINOR NAME CHANGE**  
CHELSEA MARIE PETERS, )  
Parent/Petitioner. )

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

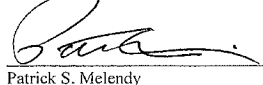
In The Matter of: ) Case No.: 24C0020  
JACKSON JIMMIELEE HUDSON, )  
a Minor, ) **ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE HEARING**  
by ) **MINOR NAME CHANGE**  
CHELSEA MARIE PETERS, )  
Parent/Petitioner. )

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




**MARRIAGES IN TRIBAL COURT**

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

**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@whitnergroupp.biz  
or 360-688-1004




Presented by  
**NNACOE**  
NORTHWEST NATIVE AMERICAN  
CENTER OF EXCELLENCE  
School of  
MEDICINE  
OHSU

Applications Close  
January 20th, 2025

 **TRIBAL HEALTH SCHOLARS**

Tribal Health Scholars (THS) is a paid externship program that supports and inspires AI/AN high school students to envision themselves as healthcare professionals and to pursue education required for a career in healthcare.

Learn more at [nnacoe.org/tribal-health-scholars](http://nnacoe.org/tribal-health-scholars)

For more information or to request an application please contact:  
Katie at [murpkati@ohsu.edu](mailto:murpkati@ohsu.edu) or  
Isaac at [butleris@ohsu.edu](mailto:butleris@ohsu.edu)



**Congratulations!**

Congratulations to Orrin Reid and Hunter Mendenhall, both Tribal youth who hunted and filled their Tribal spike tags.

Thank you to the Tribe and Tribal members who have fought over the years to keep our hunting and fishing rights!



# Reading volunteers needed

Children’s literacy nonprofit SMART Reading is seeking volunteers to read with students weekly at Grand Ronde Head Start. Reading is an essential skill for kids, helping them start and stay on a path to success in school and beyond, according to a press release from the organization.

“Volunteering with SMART Reading is a fun, meaningful way to impact kids right here in our community,” Michael Finlay, Interim Program Manager for SMART’s northwest area, said. “I regularly have volunteers tell me that the hour they spend at SMART is the best part of their week.”

The time commitment is one hour per week. To learn more, contact 971-634-1628 or visit [www.SMARTReading.org](http://www.SMARTReading.org). ■



Position Title	Grade	Min. Start Wage	Max Start Wage	Closing Date
Academic Coach 6-12	10	\$29.76/hr.	\$38.39/hr.	Until Filled
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.	Until Filled
Community Transition Case Manager	13	\$39.61/hr.	\$50.87/hr.	Until Filled
Compliance Manager – Gaming Commission	16	\$107,644.28/yr.	\$140,433.67/yr.	Until Filled
Enrichment Coordinator Aide – Part-Time	5	\$18.86/hr.	\$24.07/hr.	Until Filled
Enrichment Coordinator Supervisor K-5	10	\$29.76/hr.	\$38.39/hr.	Until Filled
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
Housekeeper – Swing Shift	5	\$18.86/hr.	\$24.07/hr.	12/16/24
IT Auditor	14	\$90,630.26/yr.	\$116,255.21/yr.	Until Filled
Licensed Practical Nurse – Adult Foster Care	12	\$36.01/hr.	\$46.31/hr.	12/16/24
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.	Until Filled
Police Officer	11	\$32.74/hr.	\$42.16/hr.	Until Filled
Preschool Teacher	10	\$29.76/hr.	\$38.39/hr.	Until Filled
Recovery House Program Manager	14	\$90,630.26/yr.	\$116,255.21/yr.	Until Filled
Secretary – Public Health	6	\$20.75/hr.	\$26.42/hr.	12/16/24
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.	Until Filled
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](http://www.grandronde.org)

## 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](mailto:Michael.Herrin@grandronde.org)  
 Tiny Gibbons at [Tiny.Gibbons@grandronde.org](mailto:Tiny.Gibbons@grandronde.org)  
 Trinity Sherwood at [Trinity.Sherwood@grandronde.org](mailto:Trinity.Sherwood@grandronde.org) or 503-879-2165

Paid ad

## TABLE GAMES DEALER SCHOOL

(One class offered, maximum of 16 students)

### Learn to deal Blackjack and several other games!

- Deadline to apply is **Thursday, January 9<sup>th</sup>** at 5pm
- 8 week training begins on **Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup>**
- Dealer school ends on **Friday, March 14<sup>th</sup>**
- **Class Times Monday-Friday:** Class times will be decided based on availability of applicants, between the hours of 8am and 5pm
- **Location:** Table Games Training Room at Spirit Mountain Casino

**Weekly gas cards and \$1,500 completion bonus for students!**

Fill out an Online Application at:  
[SpiritMountain.com/careers](http://SpiritMountain.com/careers)

For more information or assistance, please email  
[employmentteam@spiritmtn.com](mailto:employmentteam@spiritmtn.com)  
 or call 503-879-3737

POSTING TITLE	CLOSE DATE	WAGE/SALARY
Dealer School Student	1/9/2025	
Assistant Food and Beverage Manager	12/12/2024	\$48,329.22/yr. DOE
Kitchen Steward (*Part-Time)	12/12/2024	\$18.02/hr. DOE
Pastry Sous Chef	12/12/2024	\$48,329.22/yr. DOE
Amore Waitstaff (*Part-Time)	Until Filled	\$14.70/hr. DOE + Tips
Assistant Banquet Manager	Until Filled	\$48,329.22/yr. DOE
Casino Beverage Waitstaff (Full-Time & *Part-Time)	Until Filled	\$14.70/hr. DOE + Tips
Cook	Until Filled	\$18.29/hr. DOE
Executive Chef	Until Filled	DOE
Executive Steward	Until Filled	\$63,586.43/yr. DOE
Slot Floor Supervisor	Until Filled	\$23.24/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](mailto:employmentteam@spiritmtn.com) <https://www.spiritmountain.com/careers>  
 Call (503) 879-3737 for application assistance.

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



## 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.

**DHS** | Oregon Department of Human Services  
**SELF-SUFFICIENCY PROGRAMS**

**EVERY WEDNESDAY 9AM-4PM**

**Community Center - Building B**

**Services Available: SNAP, TANF, ERDC, OHP and more.**

**WALK-IN'S WELCOME**

**FOR QUESTIONS CALL 503-879-2034**

# Walking On...

## Veronica Eileen Gaston

March 11, 1969 – Dec. 4, 2024

Tribal Elder Veronica Eileen Gaston passed away on Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2024, at the age of 55.

Bollman's Tribute Center in Dallas is assisting the family.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, Dec. 16, at the Tribal gym, with a meal to follow at the Elder Activity Center.

In honor of Veronica's goal to run the Honolulu Marathon, which she had been training for during most of 2024, attendees are asked to dress in Hawaiian attire.

A graveside service will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 24, at the Tribal Cemetery.

A full obituary will be printed in a later edition of Smoke Signals.

## Rae Ann Mussell

Oct. 1, 1952 – Dec. 5, 2024

Tribal Elder Rae Ann Mussell passed away on Dec. 5, 2024, at the age of 72.

Woodlawn Mt. Cheam Funeral Home in Chilliwack, British Columbia, is assisting the family.

Funeral services details were unavailable before press time.

# Health & Wellness Center entrance

**Reminder:** The drive-through entrance at the Health & Wellness Center is for loading and unloading only. The entrance was built with our Elders and those with mobility issues and their ease of access in mind. If you are coming to the center to pick up prescriptions, please park in one of our regular parking spaces. ■

Support wherever and whenever you need it.

Text Native to 741741.

#WeNeedYouHere



Happy birthday, **Roxy Lynn!**

Happy birthday to Jeffers descendant Roxy Lynn, granddaughter of Tribal Elder Leatha Lynch. We love you Roxy! May our ancestors continue to watch over you.

## Resolution to rename post office after key Restoration figure passes House

The U.S. House of Representatives passed legislation on Wednesday, Dec. 4, to rename a Hillsboro post office after the late Rep. Elizabeth Furse. The legislation now moves to the U.S. Senate.

Oregon Rep. Suzanne Bonamici introduced the legislation earlier this year.


Furse represented Oregon's First Congressional District for three terms from 1993-1999 and established her legacy as a champion for human rights and social justice.

In the early 1980s, Furse joined with Don Wharton, founding director of Oregon Legal Service's Native American Program, to help the Grand Ronde Tribe regain federal recognition, which was taken away in 1954 by the Western Oregon Indian Termination Act. She is recognized as a key figure in Tribe's Restoration effort.

The post office at 125 South First Ave. in Hillsboro, located in the district Furse served, would be designated as the Elizabeth Furse Post Office Building.

"Elizabeth was a trailblazer and an inspiration to many, including me," Bonamici said on the House floor. "She dedicated her life to service, bolstering the lives of people in Northwest Oregon. I'm privileged to have been able to call her a mentor and a friend. Elizabeth lived many places before she came to Oregon in 1978, but she made our state her home, and she will always be remembered as one of the smart, courageous women who shaped the Oregon of today. When she faced adversity, she overcame it and opened doors for others to walk through. She pursued a non-traditional career path and she fought tirelessly for justice."

Furse was the first woman elected to represent Oregon's First District and helped secure funding to expand TriMet's MAX Blue Line into Hillsboro. Furse also served as Director of the Oregon Peace Institute and founded both the Institute for Tribal Government at Portland State University and nonprofit Clean Water Columbia. She died in 2021 at age 84. ■



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



**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/



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
Home Repair Coordinator	\$60-64K/yr
Financial Wellness Coordinator	\$60-65K/yr
Early Childhood Family First Advocate	\$50-54K/yr
Alcohol and Drug Specialist	\$25-27/hr
GED Success Coach	\$25/hr
Resident Services Coordinator	\$24-26/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](https://nayapdx.org/about/jobs) to learn more.



12/8/24



# 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](mailto: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

**DEMENTIA AND COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT**

- FORGETTING RECENT EVENTS, APPOINTMENTS, DATES, ETC
- CONFUSION ABOUT TIME AND PLACE
- SEEING OR HEARING THINGS THAT AREN'T THERE
- DIFFICULTY WITH FAMILIAR TASKS LIKE DRIVING, USING A PHONE OR REMOTE
- LOSING TRAIN OF THOUGHT MULTIPLE TIMES IN A CONVERSATION
- MISPLACING THINGS FREQUENTLY
- PERSONALITY OR BEHAVIORAL CHANGES (BEING SUSPICIOUS OR WITHDRAWN)
- EMOTIONAL CHANGES LIKE BEING MORE IRRITABLE, UPSET, AND AGITATED

IF YOU OR A FAMILY MEMBER HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT BRAIN HEALTH, CONTACT COMMUNITY HEALTH FOR SUPPORT (503)-879-2078

## Inclement weather alert!

Please be sure to call the Health & Wellness Center before traveling in to appointments at the clinic during inclement weather.

Health & Wellness Center staff will make every attempt to call patients during closures. Also, sign up for emergency notifications about Tribal campus closures on the Tribal website at [www.grandronde.org](http://www.grandronde.org) or follow the Tribe's primary page on Facebook. ■

## 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](mailto: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

### Cervical and Colorectal Cancer

## Join a conversation!

American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) people have higher rates of cervical and colon cancer compared to those of other cultures.

AI/AN people are less likely to be screened for these types of cancer and more likely to be diagnosed at later stages.

**The purpose of this study is to learn what factors promote or prevent cervical and colon cancer screening participation in AI/AN communities.**

**You may be eligible to participate if you self-identify as:**

- As an AI/AN individual
- You are between the ages of 45 and 65
- You do not have a history of cervical or colon cancer

**What is involved?**

Study participants will take part in a 4-5 person kitchen table conversation discussing their thoughts and opinions on cervical and colon cancer screening in their community. This will be a 2-hour session to give everyone a chance to participate. Some conversations will be in person in a nearby community location and others will be virtual, which would need access to either a smartphone, tablet, or computer with video capability.

PI: Dr. Amanda Bruegl (Citizen of Oneida Nation) IRB# 27710

**Compensation will be \$50 for attending the conversation and food will be served at the in-person sessions.**

**The study provides additional compensation for conversation host.**

To request reasonable accommodation or more information, and/or to find out if you qualify for this study, contact The Women's Health Research Unit at 503 494-3666 or [WHRU@ohsu.edu](mailto:WHRU@ohsu.edu).

ELDERS LIVING WITH

# LONELINESS

IN ADULT FOSTER CARE

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

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

THERE IS NO REPLACEMENT FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS!

IF YOU HAVE A FAMILY MEMBER OR A FRIEND IN ADULT FOSTER CARE, PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO SEE THEM. OUR TEAM IS HERE TO SUPPORT!



# SMOKE SIGNALS

UMPQUA · MOLALLA · ROGUE RIVER · KALAPUYA · CHASTA

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

## ALL ITEMS NOW RESTOCKED!



**T-SHIRTS • ZIP-UP HOODIES • PULL-OVER HOODIES • FLEXFIT CAPS  
BEANIES • PATCHES • STICKERS • FREE SHIPPING!**

Checks, cash or money orders only please: Make payable to Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. Memo: Editorial Board  
Please mail to: Smoke Signals Publications Dept., 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347

<b>FREE SHIPPING!</b>	SMALL	MEDIUM	LARGE	X-LARGE	2X-LARGE	3X-LARGE	4X-LARGE
PULL OVER HOODIE (BLACK) \$35							
ZIP-UP HOODIE (BLACK) \$35							Not Available
ZIP-UP HOODIE (GRAY) \$35							Not Available
ZIP-UP HOODIE (TEAL) \$35							Not Available
T-SHIRT (BLACK) <small>BACK GRAPHIC</small> \$15					Discontinued		
T-SHIRT (BLACK) <small>FRONT GRAPHIC</small> \$15							
T-SHIRT (GRAY) <small>FRONT GRAPHIC</small> \$15							
T-SHIRT (TEAL) <small>FRONT GRAPHIC</small> \$15							
T-SHIRT (CYAN) <small>FRONT GRAPHIC</small> \$15		Discontinued	Discontinued	Discontinued			

FLEXFIT CAPS \$15 SOLD OUT

BEANIES \$15  

PATCHES \$5  

STICKERS \$1  

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_