

## Attention Tribal Members:

NOTE THAT ALL GENERAL COUNCIL MEETINGS START AT 11 A.M.

### 2005 GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

October 9 ..... Grand Ronde — (Second Sunday — Hunting)  
 November 6 ..... Grand Ronde  
 December 4 ..... Grand Ronde

## Attention: Tribal Committees & Special Event Boards

Any committee or special event board member whose appointment ends on December 31, 2005 must re-apply.

New application forms may be picked up at the Governance Center; please do not use the old forms.

Send completed applications to Dakota Whitecloud, TCRC at the address printed on the new application form:

**Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde**  
**Attn: Dakota Whitecloud**  
**9615 Grand Ronde Road**  
**Grand Ronde, OR 97347**

## NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Meetings

DATE	TIME
October 12 .....	5 p.m.
October 26 .....	5 p.m.

Please call 1-800-422-0232 ext. 1309 and verify the time 24 hours in advance.

## Letters

Dearest family and friends,  
 It has been a very challenging several months since my mother, Laura Gleason, was diagnosed with breast cancer in March of this year. It might be hard to believe that this kind of news can be accompanied or even followed by many BLESSINGS. My mother and I have been reminded; that in desperation you can find all the love and support you forgot you've always had.  
 I would like to first thank my grandmother, Phyllis (Haller) Cureton. Although she passed many years ago, she has been a great inspiration and steadfast support through this very difficult time for both my mother and me. She herself died of Cancer when she was the very young age of 43. She was a very STRONG, PROUD, LOVING and GIVING woman. She was poor, uneducated and a struggling "Indian" woman with cancer. In "those times" the latter stereotypes made her fight with this disease more difficult than someone with my modern Grand Ronde Native American experiences could ever possibly empathize or relate with. My mother is STRONG in ways she is only beginning to discover. My mother is PROUD of where she came from, where she is, and where she is going. She shares her stories with all who will listen. We have found that fascination has taken the place of the discrimination her mother encountered. My mother LOVES all people without hesitation. My mother has GIVEN the shirt off her back to someone in need. Even during her current time of need she has continued to put others above herself. We are BLESSED that Phyllis gave her family all that she was. We are BLESSED that she continues, through all that we are!! Her memory has not only been a comfort, but also a reminder of our many BLESSINGS. With more gratitude and thanks than can ever be expressed, I thank my grandmother and those like her for laying the foundation on which our (Tribal) family have since built our lives.

The following Thank You's will be shorter than the first mentioned. Not because they deserve any less recognition, only because I am writing a letter not a book. Whole heart filled appreciation goes out to everyone, starting with:

- The CTGR for the blessing of offering excellent medical coverage, which allowed my mother to concentrate on her physical and emotional fight to survive this disease, not financial obligations. (A special thanks to the pharmacy and staff).
- Dr. James for the blessing of his determination to convince (not an easy task) my mother to have her mammogram. This early detection has significantly increased her chances of becoming cancer free.
- Family and friends for the blessings of many prayers and offerings of support. (A special thanks to Victor, Corean, Kenny, Sandy and The Lighthouse Church).
- My employer and co-workers at The Saline County Dialysis Unit for the blessing of their support and flexibility in allowing me to go to Oregon and be with my mother for her first battle in this fight. Then, after bringing my mother home with me to Kansas, allowing me to be with her for every battle along the way.

My mother has survived almost 6 months of procedures, surgeries, hospitalizations, chemotherapies, radiation treatments, multiple oral medications and all the horrific side effects that go along with these things. She is now a survivor of cancer. She will return home to Grand Ronde on September 9. Although I will miss her greatly, I know I am blessed to still have her. Thank you "Lord" for the greatest BLESSING of all, the faith in you and your love, proven in many ways, including the way you have blessed us by surrounding us with all the great people in our lives.

**Tonya Gleason-Shepek**  
 Roll #1282

## Smoke Signals

### PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

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DEADLINE DATE	ISSUE DATE
Wed., Oct. 5 .....	OCT. 15
Fri., Oct. 21 .....	NOV. 1
Fri., Nov. 4 .....	NOV. 15
Fri., Nov. 18 .....	DEC. 1
Fri., Dec. 2 .....	DEC. 15
Fri., Dec. 16 .....	JAN. 1, 2006

Please note that we receive numerous Letters To The Editor and Tribal life (birthday announcements, etc.) each month. Due to space issues, sometimes we do not have enough room to put them in the issue you may have requested. They will be put in as soon as space is made available in upcoming issues. Thank you for your understanding.

## 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.

**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**, Tribal staff, Tribal administration or Tribal Council.



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 ■ The Associated Press

## 2005-06 TRIBAL COUNCIL

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