

NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings

DATE	TIME
Wednesday, Dec. 17	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 31 (tentative).....	4 p.m.

Please note that these times and dates are subject to change if needed. Call Dakota Whitecloud, Tribal Council Relations Coordinator, at 503-879-1309 to confirm.

Tribal Committee and Special Event Board vacancies

Culture Committee	1 vacancy
Education Committee	2 vacancies
Fish & Wildlife Committee	2 vacancies
Powwow SEB	2 vacancies
Rodeo SEB	4 vacancies
Veterans SEB	2 vacancies
Social Services Committee	1 vacancy

Letters

Dear Tribal Members:

I recently received an e-mail notifying me that in the month of November, employees at the Tribe will have six (6) administrative days off. These are paid days without reporting to work.

In the past I have joked, laughed and taken it light-heartedly, not to mention a bit of jealousy as well.

This year, I find myself not taking it quite so light-heartedly. In these difficult times, dealing with budgets (at both the Tribe and the casino), people concerned about cutbacks, layoffs, health insurance and the economy as a whole, I am left with the question as to how this could be allowed.

I took a moment to figure that if all 395 Tribal employees made an annual salary of \$40,000, the total paid to those employees for the six administrative days would be more than \$250,000. This figure only includes the month of November. However, administrative leave is granted periodically throughout the entire year.

Obviously, not everyone makes \$40,000 a year; some make much less, some much more.

This concerns me. It should concern all Tribal members. Is this really a good business decision?

This letter was written strictly to voice my concern and I apologize to anyone who may have taken offense.

Joann Mercier
Roll #546

Dear Smoke Signals:

I want to congratulate the *Smoke Signals* staff for the excellent 25th Restoration Commemorative Issue you published for the anniversary.

The extensive history it contains is fascinating and invaluable, and hopefully Tribal members will save copies for their children and grandchildren. A job well done!

Chuck Williams
Roll #1799

Tribal Office Closures

Tribal offices will be closing on Wednesday, Dec 24, at noon and closed on Thursday, Dec. 25, and Friday, Dec. 26, in observance of Christmas.



Available Now!
\$5.00
Available at the reception desk in the Governance Building
9615 Grand Ronde Road
Grande Ronde, OR 97117
503-879-5211 1-800-422-0232

Ad created by George Valdez

General Council meeting

Sunday, Jan. 4, 2009

Monarch Hotel & Conference Center,
12566 S.E. 93rd Ave., Clackamas, OR 97015
Exit 14 — Sunnyside Rd./Sunnybrook Blvd., off of I-205
NOTE START TIME IS 10 A.M.

Smoke Signals

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DEADLINE DATE	ISSUE DATE
Friday, Dec. 19	JAN 1, 2009
Monday, Jan. 5	JAN. 15

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 e-mail 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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2008-09 Tribal Council

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