

NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings
DATE **TIME**
 Wednesday, Jan. 14 4 p.m.
 Wednesday, Jan. 28 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.

Marce Norwest Tribute set for Jan. 10

A tribute to Northwest Indian Veterans Association member and Grand Ronde Tribal Elder Marce Norwest will be held 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 10, in the Tribal gymnasium.

The event will include guest speakers and traditional Tribal songs and dancing.

A potluck dinner, with spaghetti provided, will follow at the Community Center.

For more information or to volunteer to help with the meal, call Mark Weippert at 971-241-7710. ■

Important Tribal member health plan change

We are pleased to announce that the Tribal Member Health Plan will be moving our claims administration and customer service to Shasta Administrators effective Jan. 1, 2009. Shasta Administrators, based in Bend, Ore., will be the new claims administrator as of Jan. 1 and will take over all customer service and claims processing functions for the health plan.

What does this change mean? Basically, Tribal members should not see any changes to their benefits (i.e. co-pays, co-insurance, out-of-pocket maximums). But, it does mean that Tribal members will be receiving a new ID card. Please be sure to keep this new ID card and present it when you receive medical services or purchase prescriptions on or after Jan. 1.

Provider Network — The medical network will be changing from the current United Healthcare Network to a new provider network; depending on where you live will determine your network. You will be receiving more information via mail on the provider network. Your prescription drug coverage will remain with Express Scripts and your dental network will remain PPOUSA.

ID cards have been mailed out. Please remember to allow ample mailing time as mail is slower during the holiday season.

Should you fail to receive your new ID card, Shasta Administrators customer service can be reached at 1-800-880-5877 from 6:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m., Pacific Standard Time. This also will be the same contact number for Shasta Customer Service beginning Jan. 1, 2009.

Should you have any questions regarding this change, contact Barbara Steere at 503-879-2487 or Jim Holmes at 503-879-2221. ■

Tribal Office Closures

Tribal offices closed on Monday, Jan. 19, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.



Available Now!
\$5.00
 Available at the reception desk in the Governance Building
 9615 Grand Ronde Road
 Grande Ronde, OR 97117
 503-879-5911

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 |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Monday, Jan. 5..... | JAN. 15 |
| Tuesday, Jan. 20..... | FEB. 1 |

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.

Members of: ■ Native American Journalists Association
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2009 Tribal Council

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