

NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings

DATE	TIME
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.

Letters**Dear Smoke Signals:**

I was honored to be allowed to participate in the making of the memorial stones for those members in my family who have passed on. For me, as well as some of the other members, it almost touched on the sadness of the time our loved ones departed. It made us realize how much we all deeply miss those who have passed on. People do get lonely especially when they are deprived of seeing someone they care about.

The goodness that came out of this was many of us started remembering what our loved ones were like in life. How they talked, joked, what colors they liked, their favorite food, how special they were to us.

Conversations were about mothers, fathers, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, husbands, wives, brothers and sisters, and sons and daughters. We went to Herculean extent to make these memorial stones special. And believe me when I say they were all very special. The most authentic thing about us is the capacity to create, to overcome and endure to be transformed and be greater than our sufferings.

Much thanks to volunteers Joanne Walkenshaw, Denna Diaz, Cindy Harper, Shirley Walkhoff, Brenna Stone, Chris Johnston, Brandy Leno, Dustin, Jon Stepnick (better known as Cutter Guy), Kerri Stepnick (know as Hey You), Cynthia Lopez (know as Wonder Woman; it was a pleasure to meet her!) and her daughter, Kaylynn Lopez (known as Little Wonders).

And last, but by all means not least, Denise Harvey who is primarily responsible for coordinating, orchestrating, pulling, tugging, pushing, maneuvering, coursing to see that this function went well. And it did! Thank you, Denise, for the opportunity to participate.

Adrainne N. Llana
Roll #1715

Dear Smoke Signals:

I share the sadness of other Tribal members over the unjust disenrollment of the 34 Tribal members. My 7-year-old nephew was included in that group and it is such a painful travesty. I feel ashamed of our Tribe's actions and especially the Tribal Council members who not only let this happen, but apparently wanted it to occur.

There are some Tribal Council members who are not representing all members of the Tribe (as is their job), only their small circle of relatives and friends. As I have stated before, the only reason I can think of for why we are not encircling our Tribal arms around all Tribal members and their children (up to 1/16th blood quantum) is greed. Because true Indians do not ever act this way toward their own.

There are many of us who are not going to give up on this issue. Ever. My 4-year-old son will join his cousins in being a member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde one day. I will work for reversing the balance on the Tribal Council so that there are enough pro-enrollment justice Tribal Council members to make a majority instead of the minority that we have had to endure and suffer from on our council for years.

This issue is alive and will stay alive until the right thing is done.

Lee Ann Huffman
Roll #2933

See page 10 for more letters.

Tribal Office Closures

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

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\$5.00

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9615 Grand Ronde Road
Grande Ronde, OR 97347

503-879-5911

Ad created by George Valdez

General Council meeting

Sunday, Feb. 8, 2009 — Grand Ronde

Door prizes that were intended for the Tribal Council's Christmas Party will be handed out during lunch.

NOTE START TIME IS 10 A.M.

Tribal Community Center

Smoke Signals**PUBLICATIONS OFFICE**

9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347

1-800-422-0232, FAX: 503-879-2173

Web site: www.grandronde.org/news

E-mail: news@grandronde.org

SIOBHAN TAYLOR
PUBLIC AFFAIRS
DIRECTOR
503-879-1920
siohan.taylor@grandronde.org

KRISTEN RAVIA
PUBLIC AFFAIRS
SECRETARY
503-879-1418
kristen.ravia@grandronde.org

DEAN RHODES
PUBLICATIONS
COORDINATOR
503-879-1463
dean.rhodes@grandronde.org

SCARLETT HOLTZ
PUBLICATIONS
SECRETARY
503-879-1453
scarlett.holtz@grandronde.org

JUSTIN PHILLIPS
PAGE DESIGNER
503-879-2190
justin.phillips@grandronde.org

RON KARTEN
STAFF WRITER
503-879-4663
ron.karten@grandronde.org

GEORGE VALDEZ
GRAPHIC DESIGN
SPECIALIST
503-879-1416
george.valdez@grandronde.org

MICHELLE ALAIMO
PHOTOJOURNALIST
503-879-1961
michelle.alaimo@grandronde.org

SHELLY KENT
CENTRAL PHONES
503-879-5211
shelly.kent@grandronde.org

CARLA ROBERTS
CENTRAL PHONES
503-879-1447
carla.roberts@grandronde.org

DEADLINE DATE	ISSUE DATE
Tuesday, Jan. 20	FEB. 1
Thursday, Feb. 5	FEB. 15

Editorial Policy

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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.

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2009 Tribal Council

1-800-422-0232 — council@grandronde.org

■ **Cheryle A. Kennedy**
Tribal Chairwoman
— ext. 2352
cheryle.kennedy@grandronde.org

■ **Chris Mercier**
— ext. 2305
chris.mercier@grandronde.org

■ **Reyn Leno**
Tribal Vice Chair
— ext. 2399
reyn.leno@grandronde.org

■ **Wink Soderberg**
— ext. 1444
wink.soderberg@grandronde.org

■ **Jack Giffen Jr.**
Tribal Secretary
— ext. 2306
jack.giffen@grandronde.org

■ **Kathleen Tom**
— ext. 1777
kathleen.tom@grandronde.org

■ **Steve Bobb Sr.**
— ext. 2353
steve.bobb@grandronde.org

■ **June Sell-Sherer**
— ext. 2300
june.sherer@grandronde.org

■ **Valorie Sheker**
— ext. 2355
val.sheker@grandronde.org