

NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings

DATE	TIME
Wednesday, Sept. 8.....	5 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 22.....	5 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 6.....	5 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 Tribal members:

I'm concerned and I hope you are, too.

See, I'm concerned because most of our voting-age Tribal members don't vote.

Last year, we had a record low turnout among eligible voters. Only 30 percent of eligible voters bothered to vote. That's less than state, local or federal elections. It's embarrassing and we must act. I would ask that you talk with family members about registering to vote. Registering is simple and we've made it easier.

Tribal members can get a copy of the voter registration form at this Web site: www.grandrondepac.org. Simply print out a copy, fill it out, attach a photocopy of your Tribal ID, send it in. Then, and most importantly, vote! Regardless of who we support, we should all agree that it is important our fellow Tribal members participate in our Tribal Council elections.

I'm optimistic that we can increase the turnout this year. Please lend a hand and talk with your family.

Bryan Mercier
Roll # 1357

Dear Smoke Signals:

I want to say thank you many times over to my tihxum for listening and helping me to get my first letter printed in the *Smoke Signals*. I also want to thank those who called me to share their stories as well. I appreciate learning that my close relatives have not been alone in this public persecution and humiliation.

I spoke with the head of security for our casino, the same one that the *Smoke Signals* representatives referred me to, and he told me that the reason they were harassed was because they were violating the dress code.

I called back to the casino after I spoke to him and pretended to be a patron and asked what the dress code is, and the lady who I spoke with said there is no dress code except in the nightclub.

I asked him if he was there when this incident happened and he said, "No, but I reviewed the tapes." He stated that the person whose car was being broke into didn't want to press charges. When I told him that wasn't true because that person was my son, the supervisor had nothing to say.

I want people to be honest. I'm not out to embarrass him or anyone at the Tribe because we are all related, but sometimes people get caught up in the monetary world and lose focus.

I appreciate everyone and hope we can get back on track. If someone isn't doing their job correctly, then step down and let someone else do it. There is a lot going on and we might lose our casino because we're not in charge.

Barbara Gibbons
Roll # 1116

See page 8 for more letters.

Tribal Office Closures

Tribal offices will be closing at noon Friday, Sept. 3, and be closed on Monday, Sept. 6, in observance of Labor Day. Tribal offices also will be closed on Friday, Sept. 24, in observance of National Indian Day.



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9615 Grand Ronde Road
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Ad created by George Valdez

General Council meeting
Sunday, Sept. 12 — 11 a.m.
Tribal Community Center

Smoke Signals

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DEADLINE DATE	ISSUE DATE
Friday, Sept. 3	Sept. 15
Monday, Sept. 20	Oct. 1
Tuesday, Oct. 5	Oct. 15
Wednesday, Oct. 20	Nov. 1
Friday, Nov. 5	Nov. 15
Friday, Nov. 19	Dec. 1
Friday, Dec. 3	Dec. 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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