

NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings
DATE **TIME**
 Wednesday, Dec. 8.....4 p.m.
 Wednesday, Dec. 22.....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:

The family of Edward W. "Bill" Giffen would like to thank our family and friends for the help, thoughts, cards, food, flowers and prayers we received during his illness and after his passing.

We thank the staff of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde that helped coordinate his services and burial. A special thanks to Lennis Mercier, Harold Dean Mercier, Gene LaChance and the Honor Guard for the salute honoring Bill's service to his country.

- Diane Giffen
Roll #180
- Deborah Marrington
Roll #181
- Sean O'Leary
Roll #4456

Gobbled up



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal Elder Gene LaBonte, left, receives a turkey from Tribal member Jack Ham during the employee turkey distribution in the Community Center parking lot on Tuesday, Nov. 16. LaBonte is a part-time cemetery groundskeeper for the Tribe and Ham is a temporary employee who helped with the distribution. Almost 350 turkeys were distributed to Tribal employees.

Tribe starts annual food drive

Tribal employees are holding their annual Food Bank drive that will last through Friday, Dec. 17.

Collection barrels are located in the Tribal Governance Center, Health Clinic, Education Building, Social Services Building, Natural Resources Building and the Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Authority office.

Cost for a food basket, minus the turkey, is about \$20. There will be a drawing for a Sioux Star Robe Pendleton Blanket for anyone who donates \$20 for a food basket.

Useful food donations include stuffing, mashed potatoes, au gratin potatoes, gravy, vegetables, fruit and desserts. Additional food donations could include macaroni and cheese, ramen, soup, canned beans, tuna, canned pork or chicken, boxed cereals, oatmeal, tomato products, dry beans and any non-perishable food item.

Any donations of five food items or \$5 will earn a ticket for the prize drawings.

Prizes that have been donated for drawings include two tickets to the Portland Taiko 2011 fall concert, general admission tickets to the Oregon Zoo and family passes to the Portland Children's Museum.

Spirit Mountain Community Fund is coordinating the donations and all food donations are welcome. ■

Tribal Office Closures

Tribal offices will be closing on Thursday, Dec. 23, at noon and closed on Friday, Dec. 24, in observance of Christmas. Offices also will be closing on Thursday, Dec. 30, at noon and closed on Friday, Dec. 31, in observance of New Year's Day.

General Council meeting
Sunday, Dec. 5 — 10:30 a.m.
Tribal Community Center
Tribal Council-sponsored Christmas Party and meal to follow in gym.

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

Now on Twitter: **CTGRgov**

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

DEADLINE DATE **ISSUE DATE**
 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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2010-11 Tribal Council
 1-800-422-0232 — council@grandronde.org

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

■ **Chris Mercler**
 — ext. 2305
chris.mercler@grandronde.org

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

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

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

■ **Toby McClary**
 — ext. 4555
toby.mcclary@grandronde.org

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

■ **Jack Giffen Jr.**
 — ext. 2300
jack.giffen@grandronde.org

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