

**NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings**

DATE	TIME
Wednesday, Nov. 23.....	10 a.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 7.....	5 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 21.....	5 p.m.

*Please note that these times and dates are subject to change if needed.*

**Letters**

**Dear Smoke Signals:**

I am writing a letter in great concern for our Tribal members who work at the casino. In the past few years, I've noticed that a lot of our Tribal members are getting treated poorly and not being hired full-time.

My son, who went through the blackjack class successfully, had to wait over six months to be hired, and then only part-time because he never knew all the games.

The casino was created to help all Tribal members to better themselves, but working part-time they cannot even pay bills and rent, much less improve their lives.

I would like to know why these things are happening. It's very discouraging to all Tribal members because they also lose out on the casino's benefits (medical, PTO time-off).

**Victor Cureton**  
Roll #104

**Dear Smoke Signals:**

I would like to thank the Sheridan Correctional Facility and its staff for the Nov. 9 "Tribute to Our Veterans" event.

Thank you to Warden Jeff Thomas and the rest of his staff for honoring local veterans in the West Valley since 1999.

**Gene LaBonte**  
Roll #348  
**Carl Lambert**

**Dear Smoke Signals:**

To the many, many people who helped, who were there for us during our time of loss: We cannot thank you enough. There are not enough words to convey our appreciation for all of the special touches added to the celebration of Nora Kimsey's life.

We thank you each and every individual person for all of the beautiful flowers and all of your special thoughts and prayers.

Foremost, we thank our Tribal Council for respectfully honoring Nora Kimsey and her 102 years of loving and caring for our Tribe and the vast growth we continually lived through since relocation. From dirt roads, to plank roads, to graveled roads, to paved roads, even a highway and now sidewalks. From the small trailer located on the cemetery grounds, our original land base, to every building and every piece of land in our holdings today.

Lots of special thanks go to Kristi DeLoe and the cooks and kitchen help. Also, Bonnie Tom and the Wellness staff and servers. Thank you to the Elders and Culture committees and to everyone who helped set up and take down tables and chairs and those who helped clean up.

Thank you to the singers, the speakers, the drummers and the several hundreds of people who celebrated Nora Kimsey's life.

**Margaret Provost**  
and all of Nora's family  
Roll #645

**Tribal Office Closures**

Tribal offices will be closed on Tuesday, Nov. 22, in observance of Restoration Day. Offices also will be closing on Wednesday, Nov. 24, at noon and closed on Thursday, Nov. 25, and Friday, Nov. 26, in observance of Thanksgiving.

**Health & Wellness Center to request patient photo ID**

The registration staff at the Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Center will begin requesting patient photo ID when patients present to the clinic beginning Nov. 15, 2011. This is in an effort to reduce the risk of identity theft and fraud. Staff will scan the ID and attach it electronically to the patient's account. It will be referenced on future visits to ensure that services are being provided to the proper individuals. Patients should be prepared to present their ID when they come to their next clinic visit. Acceptable photo ID includes driver's license, Tribal ID or employee ID. Acceptable alternatives include Social Security card, certified birth certificate or voter registration card. If the patient is a minor, the patient's parent/legal guardian is to bring the information listed above. ■

**General Council meeting**

**Sunday, Dec. 4 — 11 a.m.**

Tribal Community Center

**Smoke Signals**

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DEADLINE DATE	ISSUE DATE
Friday, Nov. 18 .....	Dec. 1
Friday, Dec. 2 .....	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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**2011-12 Tribal Council**

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