

NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings

DATE	TIME
Wednesday, Feb. 8.....	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 22.....	4 p.m.

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

Letters

Dear Smoke Signals:

I would like to thank everyone who helped at the service for my husband, Ray Gilliam, and at the Elders' Activity Center for the meal afterward.

I also want to give a huge thank you to my brother, Mike, who helped me so much in taking care of all of the details at Grand Ronde. Also, thank you to all the kind people from Salem Heights Church and Grace Community Church in Dallas for preparing all of the food and serving everyone so graciously.

Ray was the best husband, dad and papa. He loved his family beyond measure, and his passing has been a tremendous loss for us. He had a beautiful smile, beautiful hair, beautiful eyes and, most importantly, a beautiful heart. He truly was our hero and best friend, and he will stay forever in our hearts.

So, again, our heartfelt thanks to all of you who helped us in any way. Thank you for the cards, flowers and condolences. Your time and effort is appreciated more than words can express.

Susie Gilliam and family
Roll #418

Dear Smoke Signals:

I would like to thank the Tribal Council members who worked so hard over the years to correct the split family issue. I also want to thank all the members who voted "yes" to change the Constitution.

Although it did not pass, it is comforting to me to know that there are Tribal members who care about each other and are willing to share the benefits that could help so many of them have better lives.

It breaks my heart to think that many of the children who have mothers, fathers, aunts, uncles, cousins, sisters and brothers as members, but they will not have that privilege nor feel the pride of belonging to a Tribe. They must feel so hurt and left out.

How sad to think that their own people would not accept them. It makes me ashamed to think that we would do that to each other.

There are all kinds of reasons and justifications that people tell themselves about why they voted "no," but it still does not take away the fact that they have hurt so many other families. There have not been many times that I can say that I can feel the tears deep down inside of my soul, but this is one of those times.

May God bless all of you who tried to make a difference.

Diana Norton
Roll #2599

Board seeks applicants

The Tribal Cultural Trust Board is beginning its 2012 grant-making round. Grants ranging from \$250 to a maximum of \$1,000 are available for Tribal members to use for cultural projects or activities that support the understanding, practice and preservation of traditional Tribal heritage and culture.

The grant-making round opened Jan. 15 and lasts through Wednesday, Feb. 29.

Interested Tribal members can pick up a 10-page application packet at the front desk of the Tribal Governance Center or call Cultural Trust Board Chair Perri McDaniel at 503-879-1313 or 503-435-8118 to have an application packet mailed.

Completed applications must be received by Feb. 29.

The project is supported in part by a grant from the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and funded by the Oregon Cultural Trust, which invests in Oregon's arts, humanities and heritage. ■

Need scholarship help?

Are you looking for scholarships and don't know where to start? Do you need assistance with your scholarship applications and/or personal statements? If so, contact the Tribal Scholarship Office at 1-800-422-0232, ext. 1345, or e-mail luhui.whitebear@grandronde.org. ■

Tribal calendar correction — The 2012 Tribal calendar contains incorrect dates for the Marcellus Norwest Memorial Veterans Powwow in July. The correct dates are July 6-8. Publications regrets the error.

Tribal Office Closures

Tribal offices will be closed on Monday, Feb. 20, in observance of Tribal Chiefs' Day.

General Council meeting

Sunday, Feb. 12 — 11 a.m.

Tribal Community Center

Smoke Signals

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DEADLINE DATE	ISSUE DATE
Friday, Feb. 3	Feb. 15
Friday, Feb. 18	March 1
Friday, March 4	March 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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