

**NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings**

DATE	TIME
Wednesday, June 13.....	5 p.m.
Wednesday, June 27.....	5 p.m.

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

## Letters

**Dear Smoke Signals:**

The family of Vanessa Chavez would like to thank everyone who attended the service and showed their love and support. Personally, we would like to thank Bobby Mercier and his crew for singing and drumming at the service; Claudia Leno and her help for the wonderful meal following the service; the cemetery staff and the Tribe for everything they helped with.

Please know that your kindness during this difficult time has meant a lot to our family. We apologize if we have forgotten anyone.

The Chavez Family

**Dear Smoke Signals:**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Alton Butler for all of his hard work and dedication over the past two years as our Tribal Recreation Coordinator.

My department and I would like to wish him the best of luck with his retirement and other future endeavors. The Tribe has recently hired a new Recreation Coordinator, and moved that program under the Education Department, but prior to that Alton worked under me and the Facilities Department, fulfilling the duties of the Recreation Coordinator.

Although Alton was the only person on the Recreation staff, he and his predecessors accomplished a lot with very limited resources and budget. Alton would always schedule, take care of and continually set up for all the events at the Tribal gym. He worked with the Tribal Elders, Youth Prevention, Housing, Culture and the Education departments to provide activities for the Tribe and our community.

As a Tribal Elder, Alton set a great example; working with our different fitness programs, participating in the "Hood to Coast" run, helping with community youth sports, basketball refereeing and being a baseball umpire, and always making himself available for those after-hour events and activities.

We really do appreciate everything that you've contributed. Thanks again, Alton.

**Curtis Rentsch**

Custodial Maintenance Supervisor  
Facilities and Public Works Department

## Changes to your Skookum Health Plan

For Tribal members residing in the counties of Washington, Multnomah, Tillamook, Yamhill, Polk and Marion, you will soon be receiving a new Skookum card with changes to your health plan ID number. This does NOT affect Tribal employees with the Shasta employee plan. We are making a few changes to your health plan group identifier, which means that you will need a new ID card.

- The first three letters of your current ID number will be changing from GRT to GRC.
    - o Your current ID number looks like: GRT123456.
    - o Your new ID number will look like: GRC123456.
  - Your ID number affects how your claims are paid, so to ensure your claims are paid correctly, please THROW OUT your old card and KEEP the new card starting with the GRC ID number
    - o When you go to a doctor, dentist, pharmacy or eye doctor, make sure you give the provider your new ID card so the bill will be processed for payment correctly.
  - The final change relates to your Explanation of Benefits (EOB). Going forward you will only receive an EOB if you owe the provider a portion of the claim costs or if the claim has been denied.
  - If you have any questions on the above changes, please call Shasta Administrative Services' Customer Service at 1-800-880-5877 or Contract Health Services at 1-800-775-0095.
- Again, these changes only affect Tribal members residing in Washington, Multnomah, Tillamook, Yamhill, Polk and Marion counties! This does not affect Tribal employees. ■

**Correction** — In the May 15, 2012, issue, we incorrectly reported that Walter Echo-Hawk had tried 90 cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. In fact, the Native American Rights Fund, for which he worked from 1973-2009, participated in about 90 cases before the Supreme Court. Echo-Hawk appeared twice before the Supreme Court in the 1990 Employment Division v. Smith case, as part of the oral argument team, and he filed some miscellaneous pleadings in the Supreme Court in a few other cases. He had "a fairly limited involvement on that level," he said, "and focused more in the lower courts."

Smoke Signals regrets the error.

## General Council meeting

Sunday, June 24 — 11 a.m.

Tribal Community Center

Tribal Council nominations

## 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](http://www.grandronde.org/news)

E-mail: [news@grandronde.org](mailto:news@grandronde.org)

Twitter: [CTGRgov](https://twitter.com/CTGRgov)

Facebook: [Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde](https://www.facebook.com/ConfederatedTribesofGrandRonde)

**SIOBHAN TAYLOR**  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
DIRECTOR  
503-879-1920  
[siobhan.taylor@grandronde.org](mailto:siobhan.taylor@grandronde.org)

**KRISTEN RAVIA**  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
SECRETARY  
503-879-1418  
[kristen.ravia@grandronde.org](mailto:kristen.ravia@grandronde.org)

**DEAN RHODES**  
PUBLICATIONS  
COORDINATOR  
503-879-1463  
[dean.rhodes@grandronde.org](mailto:dean.rhodes@grandronde.org)

**SCARLETT HOLTZ**  
PUBLICATIONS  
SECRETARY  
503-879-1453  
[scarlett.holtz@grandronde.org](mailto:scarlett.holtz@grandronde.org)

**JUSTIN PHILLIPS**  
PAGE DESIGNER  
503-879-2190  
[justin.phillips@grandronde.org](mailto:justin.phillips@grandronde.org)

**RON KARTEN**  
STAFF WRITER  
503-879-4663  
[ron.karten@grandronde.org](mailto:ron.karten@grandronde.org)

**GEORGE VALDEZ**  
GRAPHIC DESIGN  
SPECIALIST  
503-879-1416  
[george.valdez@grandronde.org](mailto:george.valdez@grandronde.org)

**MICHELLE ALAIMO**  
PHOTOJOURNALIST  
503-879-1961  
[michelle.alaimo@grandronde.org](mailto:michelle.alaimo@grandronde.org)

**CARLA MAY**  
CENTRAL PHONES  
503-879-1447  
[carla.roberts@grandronde.org](mailto:carla.roberts@grandronde.org)

**VALERIE COX**  
CENTRAL PHONES  
503-879-1447  
[valerie.cox@grandronde.org](mailto:valerie.cox@grandronde.org)

DEADLINE DATE	ISSUE DATE
Tuesday, June 5 .....	June 15
Wednesday, June 20 .....	July 1
Friday, July 6 .....	July 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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## 2012 Tribal Council

1-800-422-0232 — [council@grandronde.org](mailto:council@grandronde.org)

■ **Cheryle A. Kennedy**

Tribal Chairwoman  
— ext. 2352  
[cheryle.kennedy@grandronde.org](mailto:cheryle.kennedy@grandronde.org)

■ **Reyn Leno**

Tribal Vice Chair  
— ext. 2399  
[reyn.leno@grandronde.org](mailto:reyn.leno@grandronde.org)

■ **Jack Giffen Jr.**

Tribal Secretary  
— ext. 2300  
[jack.giffen@grandronde.org](mailto:jack.giffen@grandronde.org)

■ **Steve Bobb Sr.**

— ext. 2353  
[steve.bobb@grandronde.org](mailto:steve.bobb@grandronde.org)

■ **Chris Mercier**

— ext. 2305  
[chris.mercier@grandronde.org](mailto:chris.mercier@grandronde.org)

■ **June Sherer**

— ext. 1444  
[june.sherer@grandronde.org](mailto:june.sherer@grandronde.org)

■ **Toby McClary**

— ext. 4555  
[toby.mcclary@grandronde.org](mailto:toby.mcclary@grandronde.org)

■ **Kathleen Tom**

— ext. 1777  
[kathleen.tom@grandronde.org](mailto:kathleen.tom@grandronde.org)

■ **Valorie Sheker**

— ext. 2355  
[val.sheker@grandronde.org](mailto:val.sheker@grandronde.org)