

NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings

DATE	TIME
Wednesday, April 10	5 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24	5 p.m.

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

Letters

Dear Mr. Chairman and Tribal Council members:

Thank you for all you do to manage our Tribal affairs and the fine work done to help the members of our Tribe have a better and more enjoyable life.

Since the humble beginnings after Restoration to our current state of affairs, we have all been blessed in so many ways. I am proud to say that possibly some seeds planted in the mid-1980s during our Tribal Council travels and meetings with state divisions, such as Fish and Wildlife, other Tribal government representatives and county and city managers have come to fruition and been a part of our Tribe's recovery.

I have been following our Tribe's journey through this with the help of our online video link and archives. At this time I do not envy you the turn of events that seem to be causing quite a bit of turmoil at recent meetings. I suspect that things may get a little more complicated before it all plays out. I pray that all of the council will have the strength and fortitude to see this through and once again be able to get on with the everyday business of our Tribe without all the distractions.

Being a member of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Indians has been a wonderful part of my life. I was a young adult when my grandmother, Cecil Rose Russell Porter, told all of us that she was a Native American, descended from the Norwest family. Her grandmother was Frank Norwest's sister.

The journey of my life certainly has been blessed in so many ways because of her heritage. I was honored to have been one of the early council members serving with Eula Petite, Merle Leno, Russ Leno, Dorothy Green, Mark Mercier, Candy George and Katherine and Frank Harrison. I was a longtime member of the Veteran's Honor Guard, served on the Veteran's Special Events Committee, served on the Veteran's Memorial Committee and appointed to the Ethics Ordinance Committee.

I would like to say that even if it turned out that, due to issues working their way through proper channels at this time, my family members and I might lose our Tribal affiliation, I am very grateful for all my Tribe has done for me, my family and relatives. Yes, I would still be a Native American, descended from the Norwest family. Sure, my life would change in ways I can't even imagine at this time. I would lose my roll number and no longer have a card in my pocket showing my membership to our Tribe, but still be proud that my ancestors were Native people. I would still be able to come to Grand Ronde for visits and feel proud to have once been a part, no matter how small, of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Indians.

Thank you for listening to my thoughts and best of luck in all your future work. May God bless all of you and guide you in your endeavors.

Sincerely,

Bradley Kowing
Roll #1816

See page 11 for more letters.

Sacred Hoop Ceremony set for May 11

The Tribe's Behavioral Health Program is hosting a Sacred Hoop Ceremony at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 11, in the Tribal gym.

The four gifts of the Sacred Hoop are the power to forgive the unforgivable, healing, hope and unity.

The hoop brings healing for all recovering from different traumas and it is also helps strengthen sobriety or wellbriety in the community.

The ceremony is open to all people.

For more information, contact Karan Scharf at 503-879-2029. ■

Official Tribal Facebook pages

- Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde:
www.facebook.com/CTGRgov
- Grand Ronde Tribal Council:
www.facebook.com/TheConfederatedTribesOfGrandRondeTribalCouncil
- Tribal Library:
www.facebook.com/CTGRLibrary
- Grand Ronde Higher Education:
www.facebook.com/grand.r.ed
- Grand Ronde Youth Education:
www.facebook.com/CTGRYouthEducation
- Spirit Mountain Community Fund:
www.facebook.com/SpiritMountainCommunityFund
- Grand Ronde Station:
www.facebook.com/GrandRondeStation
- Grand Ronde Royalty:
www.facebook.com/TheConfederatedTribesofGrandRondeRoyalty

General Council meeting

Sunday, April 7 — 11 a.m.

Tribal Community Center

Smoke Signals

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DEADLINE DATE ISSUE DATE

Friday, April 5 April 15

Monday, April 22 May 1

Monday, May 6 May 15

Editorial Policy

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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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2013 Tribal Council

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