

NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings

DATE	TIME
Wednesday, March 19.....	4 p.m.

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

Letters

Dear Smoke Signals:

The Native American population of inmates at Santiam Correctional Institution is requesting aid in the form of donations for this year's powwow on June 7.

Every year we struggle to gather enough resources for this ceremony, which is a time for us to be with our families and loved ones, to take part in one of the ceremonies of our culture, to offer food and to pray with our families in both song and dance.

Powwow in prison holds a special meaning and medicine for us as it offers us a chance to restore some of the damage caused to our families and community by our actions. It helps restore to us our sense of identification, of belonging.

These are just a few of the many reasons why this ceremony is important to us, and why we humbly ask you to help us through donations in whatever way you can.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Dr. Richard Roy

Lead Chaplain

503-378-2144, ext. 423

Dear Smoke Signals:

I do not understand why we at Grand Ronde do not claim the ancestral lands of all the Chinook villages along the Columbia River from the mouth of the great river to Cascade Locks. The area includes the cities of Portland and Vancouver, where the Multnomah Tribes lived as well as other Tribes.

Before the territory became a state, Natives lived free from any boundaries. The Columbia River, flowing from Columbia Lake in Canada, was a water road with villages on both sides of the river. The United States government made the boundaries of Canada, Oregon, Idaho and Washington states. The ancestral use by Natives has been abandoned by law. No local Tribes of Indians have rights to commercially fish in western Oregon, yet there are many rivers which drain into the ocean and bring spawning salmon to the rivers on the western side of the Cascade Range of mountains. The Tribes in eastern Oregon, Washington and Idaho are allowed to fish. We at Grand Ronde get our yearly fish handout from a fish hatchery after the spawning take.

The Snake River, flowing from the heights of the Grand Tetons of the Rocky Mountains in Wyoming westward, joins the Columbia River to flow into the ocean. All of this topography has dictated what lands the various Tribes have ceded for what they now have use of and what their rights are on the land. The United States owns all the land within its borders. Ceded land means to yield or surrender. It does not mean the land was given away. It does mean the government made promises to the Tribes by treaties for taking the land and has not kept those promises. This is what has led to the trail of broken promises of treaties complaints by Tribes in the United States.

It has not been that long ago that we had the freedom to fish and hunt as our subsistence. Now we must wait for our per capita to buy the necessary subsistence and pay taxes for it.

Claudette Parazoo

Roll #2923

See page 15 for more letters.

Cover Oregon assister at Portland office

A Cover Oregon certified application assister will be at the Tribe's Portland satellite office, 4445 S.W. Barbur Blvd., from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, March 19.

Contact Loretta Meneley at 503-879-1359 or 800-775-0095 for an appointment to apply for or discuss Cover Oregon. Days will be increased at the Portland office if necessary to accommodate Tribal member demand.

Meneley also will be at the St. Patrick's Day potluck at the Portland office from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, March 17. ■

St. Michael's offers weekly brunch

St. Michael's Catholic Church offers an open house brunch every Sunday following Mass. The brunch is free to the community.

Brunch begins at about 11:30 a.m. following the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Mass attendance is not required for brunch attendance. For more information, contact Janelle Justen at 503-550-0923. ■

General Council meeting

Sunday, April 6 — 11 a.m.
Tribal Community Center

Smoke Signals

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DEADLINE DATE	ISSUE DATE
Friday, March 21	April 1
Monday, April 7	April 15
Monday, April 21	May 1

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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2014 Tribal Council

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