

**NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings**  
 DATE TIME  
 Wednesday, Dec. 3.....4 p.m.  
*Please note that these times and dates are subject to change if needed.*

## NOTICE TO ALL TRIBAL MEMBERS ON THE SSI/SSD SUPPLEMENTAL INCOME PROGRAM

Attention Tribal members;

It's getting to be that time of year again. Time to remember to send us a copy of your current (2014-15 preferably) benefit statement from the Social Security Administration so that we can update your file. If you do not receive your current benefit statement, you may order one by calling the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213 or go online at [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov). Your current benefit statement must reach our office by Jan. 31, 2015, to avoid any future delays in your benefits. For Elders age 55 and up, if you have been qualified under the SSA department as SSI (Social Security Supplemental Income) or SSD (Social Security Disability) eligible, your pension checks may qualify as non-taxable. We will need a copy of that document (SSA award letter) on file in order for this to take effect.

We have updated our SSI/SSD application form and it will be required that all Tribal members in the SSI/SSD Supplemental Program have a new updated application form in their file. This application form will be mailed to all current members of this program within the next 30 days. Please complete and return the form at your earliest convenience. If you are a new member to this program (within the last 60 days), you have already submitted the updated application and do not need to complete another, but you will need to submit your new award letter for the year 2015.

Please mail copies of your benefit statement to:

CTGR Member Services  
 Attn: Jolanda Catabay  
 9615 Grand Ronde Road  
 Grand Ronde, OR 97347

You may also e-mail or fax a copy to the following: Fax: 1-800-879-2480 or e-mail: [Jolanda.catabay@grandronde.org](mailto:Jolanda.catabay@grandronde.org).

**Note: It is the responsibility of the Tribal member to notify the Tribe of any changes in your benefits from the Social Security Administration SSI/SSD program. Failure to notify the Tribe may result in an obligation to repay ineligible benefits received, interrupt or delay your Tribal Supplemental Security Income and Disability payments.**

Please feel free to contact me if you have further questions or concerns. My contact numbers are 503-879-2253 or toll-free 1-800-422-0232, ext. 2253.

Respectfully,  
 Jolanda Catabay  
 Enrollment Member Services Specialist  
 Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

## West Valley district seeking Fire Explorers

The West Valley Fire District, which covers Grand Ronde, Willamina and Sheridan, is seeking youths for its Fire Explorer Program.

Young men and women age 14 to 20 will become familiar with career opportunities in the fire service through classroom instruction, hands-on training and volunteer work. The program encourages and promotes accountability, safety, communication, teamwork, fitness and leadership.

Participants must attend weekly drills from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Saturdays, adhere to dress and conduct codes, perform weekly physical fitness and training specific to firefighting skills, and demonstrate a willingness to make improvements and show self-motivation.

For more information, contact Fire Explorer Post 908 adviser Seth Bellarts at 503-437-2046. ■

**Correction** — An out-of-date Save Our Skookum survey and article were accidentally printed in the Nov. 15 issue of *Smoke Signals*. Tribal members do not need to respond to the survey or the article. *Smoke Signals* regrets the error.

### Tribal Office Closures

Tribal offices will be closing on Wednesday, Dec. 24, at noon and closed on Thursday, Dec. 25, in observance of Christmas. Offices will also be closing on Wednesday, Dec. 31, at noon and closed on Thursday, Jan. 1, 2015, in observance of New Years.

## General Council meeting

Sunday, Dec. 7 — 10 a.m.  
 Tribal Community Center

## 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)

**CHELSEA CLARK**  
 PUBLIC AFFAIRS/  
 PUBLICATIONS  
 SECRETARY  
 503-879-1418  
[chelsea.clark@grandronde.org](mailto:chelsea.clark@grandronde.org)

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

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

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

**VALERIE COX**  
 CENTRAL PHONES  
 503-879-1446  
[valerie.cox@grandronde.org](mailto:valerie.cox@grandronde.org)

**SCARLETT HOLTZ**  
 CENTRAL PHONES  
 503-879-1447  
[scarlett.holtz@grandronde.org](mailto:scarlett.holtz@grandronde.org)

#### DEADLINE DATE

#### ISSUE DATE

Friday, Dec. 5.....Dec. 15

Friday, Dec. 19.....Jan. 1, 2015

## 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.



Members of: ■ Native American Journalists Association  
 ■ The Associated Press  
 ■ Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association

## 2014-15 Tribal Council

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

■ **Reyn Leno**  
 Tribal Chairman  
 — ext. 2399  
[reyn.leno@grandronde.org](mailto:reyn.leno@grandronde.org)

■ **Jack Giffen Jr.**  
 Tribal Vice Chair  
 — ext. 2300  
[jack.giffen@grandronde.org](mailto:jack.giffen@grandronde.org)

■ **Toby McClary**  
 Tribal Secretary  
 — ext. 4555  
[toby.mcclary@grandronde.org](mailto:toby.mcclary@grandronde.org)

■ **Ed Pearsall**  
 — ext. 2305  
[ed.pearsall@grandronde.org](mailto:ed.pearsall@grandronde.org)

■ **Denise Harvey**  
 — ext. 2353  
[denise.harvey@grandronde.org](mailto:denise.harvey@grandronde.org)

■ **Chris Mercier**  
 — ext. 1444  
[chris.mercier@grandronde.org](mailto:chris.mercier@grandronde.org)

■ **Cheryle A. Kennedy**  
 — ext. 2352  
[cheryle.kennedy@grandronde.org](mailto:cheryle.kennedy@grandronde.org)

■ **Tonya Gleason-Shepek**  
 — ext. 1777  
[tonya.gleason-shepek@grandronde.org](mailto:tonya.gleason-shepek@grandronde.org)

■ **Jon A. George**  
 — ext. 2355  
[jon.george@grandronde.org](mailto:jon.george@grandronde.org)