

NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings

DATE	TIME
Wednesday, Jan 14.....	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan 28.....	4 p.m.

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

Letters

Dear Smoke Signals:

Season greetings from our Grand Ronde Royalty. We wish everyone a prosperous New Year. We would like to thank everyone who has supported the Royalty Court throughout the year.

Our support from Tribal programs and also the girls' parents and sponsors, including Spirit Mountain Casino and our Tribal Council, Veterans Royalty, Dakota Whitecloud for her generous donations, Margaret Provost, Social Services, Prevention and so many more.

Many blessings to all of our Tribal members. Thank you and Happy Holidays.

Promise Rimer
Roll #4891

Dear Smoke Signals:

A big thank you to the community for coming together for the Tree Lighting. Jack Giffen Jr., who is such a trooper for being Santa, Lisa Leno, Dave Fullerton, Shannon Stanton, all Youth Prevention. Thank you, Youth Education – Kendra, Tiffany, Kevin Simmons for all you do!

The Culture Committee, a big thank you, too! Jon A. George and Denise Harvey, thank you also for helping with our vision of Christmas tree lights in Grand Ronde for the community.

If I missed anyone, thank you, too!

Merry Christmas.

Linda Brandon
Roll #42

Tribal Council OKs 2015 operating budget

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

Tribal Council approved the 2015 calendar year budget during its Wednesday, Dec. 17, meeting.

The preliminary budget was sent to Tribal members in the November *Tilixam Wawa* and the membership was briefed about its content during the Nov. 2 General Council meeting by Finance Officer Chris Leno.

Tribal members had until Dec. 7 to submit written comments on the proposed budget.

In other action, Tribal Council:

- Approved a purchase-and-sale agreement for acquisition of the Rattlesnake 3 property. The Tribe has entered into an agreement to pursue the acquisition of an additional 172 acres adjacent to the Rattlesnake Butte property, which is managed for conservation of wildlife in Lane County. If successful, the purchase would be 100 percent funded by the Willamette Mitigation Program operated by the Bonneville Power Administration and will bring the total to 269 acres of Tribal conservation land ownership near Eugene;
- Appointed David Harrelson as the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer;
- Amended the Tribe's Retirement Plan to only allow two pre-retirement in-service distributions from fully vested accounts for participants who have reached the age of 59.5 per calendar year;
- Approved an agreement not to exceed \$382,752 with Advanced Security for security services for the Tribal campus and Tribal Housing Authority in 2015;
- Adopted the amended Tribal Government Operations Trust Fund policy;
- And approved the enrollment of six people, including one infant, into the Tribe. ■

ATTENTION

If you are currently receiving or are in need of SNAP benefits, Social Services provides an Oregon Department of Human Services caseworker who comes to Grand Ronde twice monthly on Wednesdays. The caseworker may assist with applications, updates, child care, etc. If you are in need of services, call 503-879-2034 to schedule an appointment or you can reach Michelle Carmona at 503-879-4523. ■

General Council meeting

Sunday, Jan. 4 — 11 a.m.
Tribal Community Center

Smoke Signals

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DEADLINE DATE

ISSUE DATE

Monday, Jan. 6 Jan. 15

Tuesday, Jan. 21 Feb. 1

Thursday, Feb. 6 Feb. 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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