



2010 – A projected shortfall in expected revenue in the Willamina School District meant the possible end of a school in Grand Ronde. Cuts on the order of \$450,000 were needed to keep the district solvent and Superintendent Mark Jeffery proposed closing the middle school in Grand Ronde and transporting students to the Oaken Hills campus in Willamina.

2005 – Tribal Elder Beryle Contreras was reunited with Wilma Mankiller, who she met when they both participated in the Native American occupation of Alcatraz Island in San Francisco Bay in late 1969. Contreras lived three months on the island, going back and forth to take care of her business.



File photo

2000 – The Tribe's first attorney, Don Wharton, returned to Grand Ronde to visit with fellow Restoration figures Kathryn Harrison and Jackie Whisler. "It's nice to know that people remember you from the days when you worked together and the work that you did together," he said. "There is a certain kind of bond that comes out of people who share struggles."

1995 – Francis Somday (Colville) was hired as the Tribe's new chief executive officer. Former CEO Jim Willis worked for the Tribe for more than 10 years.

1990 – Tribal Council voted to hold future General Council meetings before eating lunch because there had been problems with children making a mess while the adults were meeting in the school gym. "Tribal Council asks for parents to keep their children under control while they are in the cafeteria," *Smoke Signals* stated. "We need to be aware that the school district has the discretion to prohibit the Tribe's use of the school facilities if any major damage is done."

1985 – The annual Christmas Party was set for Dec. 14 in the cafeteria at St. Michael's Catholic Church. The potluck dinner was also seeking donations of door prizes, as well as volunteers to help with decorations and kitchen duty.

Yesteryears is a look back at Tribal history in five-year increments through the pages of Smoke Signals.

Tribe hosts dinner



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal Council member Jon A. George, left, welcomes Carlton City Manager Chad Olsen as he arrives at the Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments Yamhill City/County Dinner held in the Tribal gym on Thursday, Dec. 3. About 80 area governmental representatives attended the dinner hosted by the Tribe and guests were gifted handmade tree ornaments and candy as they arrived. George is the Tribe's representative on the Council of Governments.

Need something notarized?

Tribal Court staff is available for notaries 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday with the exception of noon to 1 p.m. at no charge.

Please be sure to bring a photo ID with you.

If you have any questions, contact the court at 503-879-2303. ■

Name changes in Tribal Court

Tribal Court provides both minor and adult name changes to enrolled members for a filing fee of only \$30. If you have any questions or would like to request a packet, please contact Devin Larsen at 503-879-2303 or devin.larsen@grandronde.org. ■

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

Attention Tribal members on SSI or SSD programs:

It's getting to be that time of year again. Time to remember to send us a copy of your current 2016 benefit statement from the Social Security Administration so that we can update your file. **This is a requirement for members between the age of 18-54 who are wanting to re-qualify for this supplemental program.** 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. Your current benefit statement **must** reach our office by Jan. 31, 2016, to avoid any future delays in your benefits.

For Elders age 55 and up, **it is a requirement that we have an updated Social Security Administration letter of eligibility once every two years.** We will need a copy of that document (SSA award letter) to update your file.

Please mail copies of your benefit statement and the application to:

CTGR Member Services
Attn: Jolanda Catabay
9615 Grand Ronde Road
Grand Ronde, OR 97347
Fax: 1-503-879-2480
E-mail: 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 1-800-422-0232, ext. 2253.

Respectfully,

Jolanda Catabay

Enrollment Member Services Specialist
Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

Construction Workers Needed!

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO) is seeking construction workers who are CTGR Tribal members and enrolled members of federally recognized Indian Tribes to participate in a workforce that is being prepared for deployment on construction projects. Projects are located on the Grand Ronde Reservation and on ODOT projects in various locations in northwestern Oregon.

TERO is looking for workers in the following job classifications:

**Carpenter
Laborer
Equipment Operator
Cement Mason
Truck Drivers
Loggers
Painters
Asphalt workers
Flagger**



For an application to be considered for these opportunities or for information, go to www.grandronde.org/departments/tero email at tero@grandronde.org or call Keri Kimsey at 503-879-2188.