



2012 – Approximately 250 federal and Tribal leaders and staff members attended the Environmental Protection Agency’s Region 10 Tribal Leaders’ Summit held April 30 through May 4 at Spirit Mountain Casino. It was the first EPA summit hosted by the Grand Ronde Tribe.

2007 – A marathon community meeting held at the Embassy Suites Hotel at the Portland Airport discussed Tribal efforts to amend enrollment requirements. The meeting lasted so long that hotel employees shut off the lights in the conference room to remind Tribal members that their rental time had expired.

2002 – Chief Justice Don Owen Costello, Robert Miller and David Thompson comprised the new Tribal Court of Appeals that was established by Tribal Council in June 2001. “With more cases, with more laws, it’s important to know we’re making the right decisions,” Tribal Court Administrator Angela Fasana said. “It’s important to have more than one person solidifying those laws and setting precedents.”

1997 – Spirit Mountain Casino was advertising to hire a hotel general manager who would be “directly involved in the planning, design and development of a 100-room hotel to be completed by fall 1997.”

1992 – The grand opening of the Tribal Community Center held on April 15 was hailed as a “fine example of leadership” by Oregon Sen. Mark Hatfield. About 150 people helped celebrate and bless the new Tribal facility. Since its opening, it has been booked for classes, Tribal and public meetings, church services and exercise classes.

1987 – Tribal General Manager Jim Willis said that creation of the proposed Grand Ronde Reservation would generate \$1.2 million annually in timber revenues and create many jobs in the West Valley area of Sheridan, Willamina and Grand Ronde. He added that the estimated Tribal revenue would actually have a \$2.4 million effect on the local economy.



File photo

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

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde recently implemented a process that will allow all Tribal members who reside in the state of Oregon the option of requesting Oregon income tax withholdings from their per capita and Elders benefit payments. Information regarding this option was mailed to all Oregon resident Tribal members the week of March 6.

While recognizing we have Tribal members who currently reside throughout the 50 states, we will not be offering the state income tax withholding option to Tribal members who reside outside of Oregon at this time. The administrative time, costs and reporting requirements to implement the option in all states would be very expensive. This is the main contributing factor in our decision not to offer the option outside of Oregon.

There are a couple of options for Tribal members who wish to set aside money to cover any potential year-end state tax liability:

- Tribal members aged 18 and older can defer a portion of their per capita payments to their adult savings plan. That money would be available to withdraw from your savings plan as needed. Please note – this option is not available for Elders payments. Money cannot be deferred to the adult savings plan from Elders payments.
- Open a regular savings account at a bank or credit union and set aside money throughout the year for your use as needed.
- Check with your state’s taxing authority to determine if you are able to pay “estimated” taxes throughout the year, which could reduce the amount you are required to pay at year-end.

We encourage you to seek advice from your tax accountant or CPA should you have any questions about your specific state tax liability. ■

Groups form Helping Hands, set May 10 meeting

iskam mək’hək haws, The Clothes Closet, Empowerment Outreach Ministries, Lighthouse Church, the Women’s Transitional House and A Cause For Paws have joined forces in an effort to support local families.

The group, named Grand Ronde Helping Hands, seeks to bring together those who are supporting families in Grand Ronde to share services and resources, and create a resource guide.

Helping Hands’ next meeting will be 9 a.m. Wednesday, May 10, at iskam mək’hək haws, 9675 Grand Ronde Road. If you provide any type of services to families in the community, consider attending. The group is looking for meal site calendars, food box sites, clothes closets, showers and laundry services. There also will be a collection day at iskam mək’hək haws from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 13. Donations are being sought of personal care items, men’s clothing, school supplies, toilet paper, dish soap, HE laundry detergent and pet items, as well as tents, sleeping bags, pillows, warm blankets, rain gear and heavy jackets to restock the shelves.

Helping Hands continues to seek a volunteer with graphic arts skills to create a logo that represents all of the organizations. The logo would be used on business cards, a banner and possibly a website, and the artist possibly would receive a small honorarium.

For more information, contact Food Bank Coordinator Francene Ambrose at 503-879-3663 or by e-mail at fambrose@marionpolkfoodshare.org. ■

Do you want to have some say of what goes in **Smoke Signals**?

Editorial Board Members wanted

(1) An Editorial Board is hereby created and shall consist of at least three (3), but no more than five (5), individuals. A majority of the Board shall be Tribal members.

(2) Current Tribal employees and employees of Tribal enterprises including Spirit Mountain Casino may serve on the Editorial Board but a majority of the Board shall be comprised of non-employees.

(3) The term of office for an Editorial Board member shall be for three (3) years, except the terms of initial Editorial Board members may be staggered between one (1) and three (3) years.

(4) To be eligible to serve as an Editorial Board member a person must:

(A) Be at least 18 years old;

(B) Have qualified experience in management and/or publication;

(C) Be of good character and integrity; and

(D) Certify he or she will adhere to the standards of accepted ethics of journalism as defined by the Society of Professional Journalists and endorsed by the Native American Journalists Association.

*The powers and duties of the editorial board can be found in Section F of the Independent Tribal Press Ordinance.

To apply contact: Stacia Hernandez 503-879-2304 or stacia.martinez@grandronde.org

Ad created by George Valdez

Elders' Honor Day Monday, July 10 2017

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