



2012 – The Oregon Board of Education voted 5-1 to ban Native American-themed mascots by 2017 or offending school districts will risk losing their state funding. However, Grand Ronde Tribal Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy argued that mascots are supposed to be inspirational and, therefore, it is a compliment that schools would pick a Native American mascot to represent it.

2007 – The Tribe broke ground on the new Elders Activity Center. Tribal Elder Dakota Whitecloud blessed the ground and Tribal Elder Robert Watson spoke about the necessity of an Elders Activity Center in Grand Ronde.



2007 File photo

2002 – Tribal member Peter Wakeland took over as manager of the Natural Resources Department. “It presents a professional challenge and opportunity that I haven’t had yet,” he said.

1997 – Oregon Gov. John Kitzhaber issued a proclamation declaring American Indian Week in Oregon at a special signing ceremony at the State Capitol in Salem on May 22. The ceremony was followed by a day of Native American activities, food and traditional dancing.

1992 – The candidate lineup for the Sept. 12 election was set with 12 Tribal members seeking three seats: Joseph Brisbois, Wilmadene Butler, Valarene Grout, Kathryn Harrison, Andrew Jenness, Earl F. LaBonte, Eugene R. LaBonte, Edward Larsen Jr., Reynold Leno, Patricia Martin, Robert Mercier and Michael Reibach.

1987 – The state System for Higher Education voted to waive tuition fees for 146 minority students who attend one of the eight state colleges or universities. The plan waives tuition and other fees for Native Americans, African Americans and those of Hispanic heritage. The awards averaged about \$1,500 annually.

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

Elders’ Fishing Trip set for June 1

The first Elders’ Fishing Trip of 2017 will be held Thursday, June 1, with a journey to Hebo Lake.

The free event, sponsored by the Natural Resources Department’s Parks and Recreation Program and hosted by the Fish and Wildlife Committee, will be held rain or shine with transportation, fishing gear and a meal provided.

The trip is limited to the first 25 Tribal Elders and spouses who sign up at the Elders Activity Center or by calling 503-879-2233.

Vans will leave at 8 a.m. If you need a Tribal fishing license, contact the Natural Resources Department at 503-879-2424. ■

Vocational Rehabilitation Jam Making Day

Portland Office
4445 SW Barbur Blvd. #101
Monday, June 19
9 a.m.-2 p.m.
503-879-1881



Ad created by George Valdez

Mother’s Day tea



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Rachel Clark and her daughter, Ashley Leno, 4, decorate a cookie during the Mother’s Day Tea Party held in the Tribal Community Center on Friday, May 12. The party was hosted by the Tribe’s Community Health Program.

Grand Ronde Housing Department



Housing Board seeks community input

The Grand Ronde Housing Board is inviting Tribal members and Tribal housing residents to provide input to assist its members in carrying out its advisory role to the Housing Department and Tribal Council regarding policy guidance. The Housing Board meets at 3 p.m. the third Thursday of each month in the Housing Department conference room, 28450 Tyee Road. Its chair is Matt Thomas. For more information, contact the Housing Department at 503-879-2401. ■

Public Hearing:

Tribal Priorities and Budgeting
Sunday, June 4, 2017
11 a.m. to conclusion
Tribal gymnasium

*Tribal members and their guests are invited to attend the public hearing. Tribal members will be allowed to testify in person or submit written testimony on what they see as the Tribe’s priorities and provide input on the Tribal budget and budgeting process.

Please submit written testimony to
Stacia Hernandez at
Stacia.Martin@grandronde.org



Ad created by George Valdez