

General Council meeting

11 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 7
Tribal Community Center

NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings

DATE	TIME
Wednesday, Oct. 10.....	5 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 24.....	5 p.m.

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

Letters

Dear Smoke Signals:

I would like to thank all the individuals who have aided in the process to come to my rescue to provide a valued service in placing the marker for my beloved husband Wesley West.

I was devastated by the loss of my husband of many years and a well-known member of the Confederated Tribes. He served as a voice for the Tribe as a council member and retired Army veteran who tirelessly provided advice, care and support for all things to help this wonderful community.

After his passing, I was assured that the funeral home would take care of everything and I would be proud and not have to worry about anything. This quickly turned out not to be the case. It seemed to be the only motivation that the funeral service company was concerned with was to see how it could continue to accrue costs. As a veteran, his plaque was paid for and delivered by the Department of Veterans Affairs. I kept inquiring about this and was told by the funeral company that the VA was holding this up. After five months, I went to Salem, talked to the counselors at the VA and was informed that the funeral home had received the marker four months previously. I then contacted the funeral director again and he did confirm that they did receive it and that it would cost an additional \$1,000 to install. I had already paid (as well as the VA and the Tribe contributions) all costs for the burial. Now to incur additional cost was just devastating.

I inquired if the Tribe would help and was informed that they would take care of installing the marker for this honored individual and Tribal member. With some coordination to receive the marker, this process was quickly installed and now I can finally relax and reflect on how wonderful Wesley and myself are to have been a part of the Tribe and that the spirit of taking care of its members are a family that I am grateful to be a part of.

I would like to personally thank Gregg Leno, Tyson Mercier, Anthony Henry and Brady Bruckner.

You have gone above all expectations to give me peace of mind and I am thankful. I cannot express how much this has meant to me. I am in tears reflecting back on this.

Dolores West
Grand Ronde

(Editor's note: This letter has been edited to remain within the 400-word limitation.)

Need something notarized?

Tribal Court staff is available at no charge for notaries 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday with the exception of noon to 1 p.m. Please be sure to bring a photo ID with you. If you have any questions, contact the court at 503-879-2303. ■

Tribal Office Closures

Tribal offices will be closed on Monday, Oct. 8, in observance of Indigenous Peoples' Day.

Letters welcome

Letters should be exclusive to **Smoke Signals**.

Letters should be 400 words or less and must include the writer's name, address, phone number and Tribal roll number. You will be contacted to confirm authorship.

All letters are subject to editing for space, grammar and, on occasion, factual accuracy. Only two letters per writer are allowed during a three-month period.

Letters written in response to other letter writers should address the issue at hand and, rather than mentioning the other writer by name, should refer to the date of the letter published. Discourse should be civil and people should be referred to in a respectful manner. Letters deemed in poor taste will not be printed.

Send letters via e-mail to news@grandronde.org, or submit in person at the Tribal Governance Center in Grand Ronde, Ore., or mail to **Smoke Signals**, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR, 97347.

Smoke Signals

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DEADLINE DATE	ISSUE DATE
Friday, Oct. 5.....	Oct. 15
Friday, Oct. 19.....	Nov. 1
Monday, Nov. 5.....	Nov. 15
Tuesday, Nov. 20.....	Dec. 1
Wednesday, Dec. 5.....	Dec. 15
Friday, Dec. 21.....	Jan. 1, 2019

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. Letters must be 400 words or less.

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**.



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■ Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association

2018-19 Tribal Council

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