



December

- Wednesday, Dec. 18 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., Governance Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.
- Saturday, Dec. 21 – Baby Moccasin Class, 11 a.m., Portland Satellite Office, 4445 S.W. Barbur Blvd., Portland. 503-879-2268.
- Wednesday, Dec. 25 – Christmas Day. Tribal offices closed.
- Tuesday, Dec. 31 – Tribal Council meeting, 10 a.m., Governance Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.
- Tuesday, Dec. 31 – Youth Council Youth Party, 9 p.m., Tribal gym, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. For ages 12-18. 503-879-1489.

January

- Wednesday, Jan. 1 – New Year’s Day. Tribal offices closed.
- Sunday, Jan. 5 – General Council meeting, 11 a.m., Tribal Community Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.
- Wednesday, Jan. 15 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., Governance Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.
- Wednesday, Jan. 15 – Seagrass Skirt Making Class, 5 p.m., Tribal Community Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2476.
- Monday, Jan. 20 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Tribal offices closed.
- Wednesday, Jan. 29 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., Governance Center, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-2304.

WIC visits Community Center monthly

Pregnant? Breastfeeding? Does your family include a child under the age of 5?

If so, you may qualify for the Women, Infants and Children program. With WIC, people can receive answers to nutritional questions and access fruits and vegetables, whole grains, eggs, milk, cheese, juice, cereal and more.

A WIC representative visits the Tribal Community Center on the third Tuesday of the month, which will be Dec. 17.

Walk-ins are welcome between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 503-879-2034. ■

Tribal Court is now open during the lunch hour

The Tribal Court office is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., including the lunch hour. Tribal Court also provides notary services. However, to obtain notary services please arrive before 4:30 p.m.

For more information about Tribal Court and the services available, contact the court at court@grandronde.org or 503-879-2303. ■

Official Tribal Facebook pages

- Smoke Signals: www.facebook.com/SmokeSignalsCTGR/
- The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde: www.facebook.com/CT-GRgov
- Spirit Mountain Community Fund: www.facebook.com/SpiritMountainCommunityFund
- Grand Ronde Health & Wellness: www.facebook.com/GRHWC
- Grand Ronde Station: www.facebook.com/GrandRondeStation
- Grand Ronde Royalty: www.facebook.com/CTGRRoyalty
- Grand Ronde Education Programs: www.facebook.com/CTGREducation/
- Grand Ronde Community Garden: www.facebook.com/GrandRondeCommunityGarden
- Grand Ronde Food Bank: www.facebook.com/GrandRondeFoodBank
- Grand Ronde Youth Council: www.facebook.com/CTGRYouthCouncil
- Grand Ronde Social Services Department: www.facebook.com/CT-GRSocialservices/
- Grand Ronde Children & Family Services: www.facebook.com/CT-GRCFS/
- Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department: www.facebook.com/Grand-Ronde-Tribal-Police-Department
- Grand Ronde Cultural Education: www.facebook.com/Grand-Ronde-Cultural-Education



Grand Ronde Tribe seeking Reservation Act amendment

By Dean Rhodes
Smoke Signals editor

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde is seeking an amendment to the 1988 Reservation Act that would allow it to bring a land claim within the state of Oregon.

A Tribal contingent of Tribal Council Vice Chair Chris Mercier, Tribal Attorney Rob Greene, Tribal Council Chief of Staff Stacia Hernandez and Summit Strategies partner Mark Dedrick visited Washington, D.C., during the week of Dec. 2-6 to lobby for the amendment.

Tribal representatives met with Reps. Suzanne Bonamici and Kurt Schrader and staff for Reps. Peter DeFazio, Greg Walden and Earl Blumenauer and Sens. Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley.

Language in a 1994 amendment to the Reservation Act relinquished the Tribe’s right to bring a land claim within the state of Oregon.

“This waiver was much broader than the parties intended at the time,” said Deputy Press Secretary Sara Thompson. “The Tribe is asking the Oregon congressional delegation to consider legislation that would remedy this injustice.”

In addition to meeting with the Oregon congressional delegation and its staff, the Grand Ronde representatives also met with staff associated with the House Subcommittee on Indigenous Peoples, the Senate Finance Committee, the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs and the House Committee on Natural Resources.

Thompson said the entire Oregon congressional delegation, except for Walden, is sponsoring or co-spon-



Contributed photo

Tribal Council Vice Chair Chris Mercier visited with Oregon Rep. Suzanne Bonamici during the Tribe’s lobbying visit to Washington, D.C., during the week of Dec. 2-6. The Tribe is seeking an amendment to the 1988 Reservation Act that would allow it to bring a land claim within the state of Oregon.

soring the legislation. Walden is the only Republican in the Oregon delegation of five representatives and two senators and has already announced his intention not to seek re-election in his district that represents most of eastern and southern Oregon.

Summit Strategies is the Tribe’s Washington, D.C., lobbying firm. ■



Contributed photo

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde received a donated restroom from Leach Botanical Garden in Portland on Wednesday, Nov. 20. The donation, valued at approximately \$25,000, was coordinated by Tribal member Kelly Ibabao and Facilities Manager Tyson Mercier.

Tribe receives donated restroom

The Grand Ronde Tribe received a donated public restroom from Leach Botanical Gardens in Portland on Wednesday, Nov. 20.

Tribal member Kelly Ibabao, owner of Eugene William Construction of Salem and a subcontractor under JWF Fowler, coordinated the donation with Facilities Manager Tyson Mercier.

“The restroom is from my first public project where we were awarded the change order to reclaim with the intentions of restoration somewhere; just not demolish,” Ibabao said. “My first thought was our people and the abilities to reuse.”

Eugene William hired Maxim Crane for approximately \$6,000 to transport the 47,000-pound load to the Tribe. Ibabao put the value of the donation at approximately \$25,000.

Mercier said the donation was placed at the Tribe’s equipment storage facility until staff receives direction on where to place it.

Ibabao added that he is looking for a Native American artist to paint murals on the side of two new dump trucks he will be purchasing in March.

To contact Ibabao about painting the murals, send an e-mail to kelly@ewconstructionllc.com or call 971-241-3172. ■