

General Council meeting
11 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 7
Being held remotely using the Zoom teleconferencing program.

NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings

DATE	TIME
Wednesday, Jan. 27.....	10 a.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 10.....	10 a.m.

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

LETTERS

Dear Smoke Signals:
 Deb Haaland is a citizen of the Laguna Pueblo Tribe and one of two Native American women elected to Congress. If things go well, she might be the first Native American to lead a Cabinet-level agency. According to a *New York Times* article, she would oversee a sprawling department responsible for some 500 million acres of public lands, including national parks, oil and gas drilling sites, and endangered species habitat. Nominated by Joe Biden, she still has to face confirmation by the Senate. But what an honor and what a long time coming! Finally, some good news from 2020.
Judith Pettibone
 Roll No. 717

Dear Smoke Signals:
 My name is Samantha Dala. I have a problem. I moved out of my house so that Housing could do their job and fix the ceiling in the bathroom and in the bedroom. I was told by other people, "If you move everything out, then Housing will get you back in sooner than late winter." Look, I am an Elder well over 70 years and I am on the street and nobody cares. Well, I think that if this is the way you all treat your Elders. Then you need a little piece of wisdom. You should remember when your parents told you growing up to respect your Elders. There is no respect for us anymore and that is a sad thing. I made things for the Elders. I made blankets, scarves and even Christmas ornaments for the tree. I even played secret Santa for some of our Elders. But look at us now. Some of us have no way of getting around because the younger people just don't care. We are nothing to this place anymore. Why mistreat Elders? We are good people, but I have a surprise for the Tribe. I have a rent bill for the Tribe to pay back to me. So far it is \$1,500. If I had my own place, I would not have to do this. Elders desire a lot in life, and I mean not being homeless. The Tribe put me up at the hotel for 12 days. I have paid for all the other days. My cost so far is \$1,600 and I just don't have this kind of money. I am without my apartment because I made one mistake in my life. So sue me. Housing is the one that tells me no, I can't have my apartment back. The money is not coming out of your pocket. And my unit is still empty after Monday evening. I am on the street again. We Elders are so well taken care of. Look at me (no car, no home and no respect).
Samantha Dala
 Roll No. 382

Massage at Health & Wellness Center
 Mind, Body & Soul Therapeutic Massage started at the Health & Wellness Clinic. **Remember:** Appointments for massage are not managed by the Health & Wellness Center staff.
 To schedule an appointment, call 971-237-2561. ■

Clothes Closet open Friday afternoons
 The Clothes Closet is open from 3 to 6 p.m. Fridays on the Tribal campus near the Elders Activity Center at the end of Blacktail Drive. The change in hours will better serve the community so people do not have to choose between going to the Grand Ronde Food Bank or the Clothes Closet. It also will be open and available to those who work. The Clothes Closet accepts clothing, small appliances, small pieces of furniture, electronics and household goods that are clean and in good condition. It does not accept books, large TVs or furniture, but there is a community board where people can post those items. For more information or emergency clothes, contact Lori Walker-Hernandez at 559-847-7565. ■

TRIBAL OFFICE CLOSURES
 Tribal offices will be closed Monday, Jan. 18, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr Day. Offices also will be closed Monday, Feb. 15, in observance of Tribal Chiefs' Day.

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DEADLINE DATE	ISSUE DATE
MONDAY, JAN. 25.....	FEB. 1, 2021
MONDAY, FEB. 8.....	FEB. 15, 2021
MONDAY, FEB. 22.....	MARCH 1, 2021
MONDAY, MARCH 8.....	MARCH 15, 2021

EDITORIAL POLICY

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