

# Thomas will guide the day-to-day operations of the casino

**CASINO continued from front page**

ment team and implemented all of the policies, procedures and systems used in the operation.”

After leaving Spirit Mountain Casino, Thomas worked for nine years for Polaris Gaming Group, which developed four Tribal casinos, two in Washington state and two in California.

For 16 years, he was chief executive officer of Rolling Hills Casino in Corning, Calif., leaving that position in October 2017.

After establishing a horse ranch in Wilsonville, he returned to Grand Ronde Tribal employment in late 2018 when he was hired as the Tribe’s Economic Development director. He helped the Tribe develop two medication-assisted treatment clinics in Salem and Portland to treat people addicted to opioids and also expand the services provided by the Tribe’s Health & Wellness Center.

As interim general manager, Thomas will guide the day-to-day operations of the casino and help the Spirit Mountain Gaming Inc. Board of Directors find a permanent replacement.

“I am very pleased that Bruce has decided to step back into leadership at the casino,” Jenness said. “His

experience and education will serve the casino and Tribe well in this position. Honestly, Bruce is a breath of fresh air to me and the board as we continue to navigate the ripple effects of COVID-19.

“As you may know, a labor shortage is plaguing all businesses in our community, larger area, region and state. Bruce spent the first several days assessing these issues and working with the executive team on several tactics to address this at the casino. The board is excited to see these tactics rolled out in the near future.

“I am also pleased to personally work with Bruce again. I had the pleasure of working with him while on Tribal Council when we first established Spirit Mountain Casino. It is no surprise to me to see him working well and gelling with the current casino executive team. Bruce is a leader who inspires those around him to growth and excellence. I look forward to laboring with him in leading the Tribe’s primary economic engine to new heights.”



Thomas, 68, graduated from the University of Oregon with a bachelor’s degree in Economics and English and received a Master’s of Business Administration and a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from Willamette University College of Law in Salem. ■

## LIHEAP program open in service area

The Tribal Social Service’s LIHEAP – Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program – is open to eligible Tribal members in the six-county service area and Clackamas County.

This is a first-come, first-served program and income criteria applies. LIHEAP is federally funded through the Department of Health and Human Services and is designed to help low-income households with home heating costs.

For more information, contact Social Services at 503-879-2034. ■







U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Your Service. Our Mission.

## Bringing VA Benefits Home Event in Your Community


### VA Virtual Claims Clinic

**Contact Event POC to Schedule an Appointment**

**During the event, you can:**

- ✓ Speak with a VA representative
- ✓ Get answers to VA claim and benefits questions
- ✓ File your claim



**#FasterBetterTogether**  
VBAFY21

**EVENT DATE & TIME(S):**  
July 21-22, 2021

**EVENT POINT OF CONTACT(S) OF VIRTUAL CLAIMS CLINIC:**  
Ramona Quenelle  
Tribal Veteran Service Officer  
Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde  
Phone: 503-879-1484 or Email: ramona.quenelle@grandronde.org

**PHONE NUMBER TO SCHEDULE APPOINTMENT:**  
Ramona Quenelle  
Tribal Veteran Service Officer  
Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde  
Phone: 503-879-1484 or Email: CTGRTribalVSO@grandronde.org



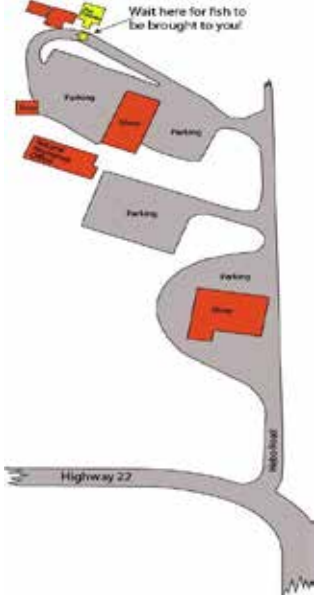
**GRAND RONDE HOUSING DEPARTMENT**  
28450 Tye Road – Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347 – 503-879-2401 – Fax 503-879-5973

**ATTENTION ALL HOUSING TENANTS AND GUEST**  
**PLEASE SLOW DOWN IN ELDER HOUSING**  
Also, please make sure and maintain low levels of music in the Elder community.

## 2021 Annual Fish Distribution

Natural Resources Department  
Fish Lab  
47010 SW HEBO ROAD  
Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347  
(503) 879-2424

**When:**  
Thursday, August 26, 2021 9:00am – 5:30pm  
Friday, August 27, 2021 9:00am – 5:30pm  
Saturday, August 28, 2021 9:00 am – 1:00 pm



**GRAND RONDE LIVING and ENROLLED TRIBAL MEMBERS**  
**Must show current photo I.D.**

*This year fish will be handed out in a drive through system. Please follow the signage up the hill to the fish lab, receive your fish and then follow the new exit loop road out.*

“See Directions Above”

**We will be asking that you remain in your vehicles again this year and the fish will be brought out to you. Thank you for understanding and consideration of others during this time.**

In 2021, we will continue to use the fish grading system. Each person will be given One **Grade “A”** Fillet and will have the option of ALSO taking multiple **Grade “B”** fish.

“See fish grading chart”



**If picking up for others:**  
A signed release AND **copy of Tribal ID or CIB is required!**  
No early or late pickups  
Fish will NOT be mailed

August 2021 Fish Distribution Release Example

I, \_\_\_\_\_ Roll Number, \_\_\_\_\_

Give \_\_\_\_\_ Permission to pick up my fish.

Signature of Tribal Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Portland Office Fish Distribution**

When: Wednesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 at 10 am – 4:00 pm.

Fish will **ONLY** be available to those who preregister.

Preregistration is required **BEFORE Thursday August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 4:30pm.**

Please contact Lisa Archuleta to preregister for pickup (503) 879-1881.