



Map by Samuel Briggs III

# Tribal Council OKs buying Wiseman Island property

By Dean Rhodes  
*Smoke Signals editor*

Tribal Council approved a purchase and sale agreement for approximately 71 acres of Wiseman Island located in the North Santiam River southeast of Salem during its Wednesday, May 18, meeting.

Wiseman Island is about 300 acres and consists of a series of small islands and gravel bars created by the meandering river. Much of the area is owned by the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife.

The property, which is being purchased from the Michael C. Harbison Trust, boasts floodplain habitat for fish and wildlife and will be an “excellent” addition to the Tribe’s conservation efforts regarding natural and cultural resources, a staff report says.

It also is about five miles southwest of the Tribe’s Chahalpam conservation properties.

The Tribe is purchasing the property for \$200,000, Tribal Lands Manager Jan Michael Reibach said.

- In other action, Tribal Council:
- Approved a per capita distribution date of June 10;
  - Sent proposed amendments to the Enrollment Ordinance out for a first reading, which will give Tribal members 30 days to comment. The amendments would allow Tribal Children and Family Services staff members to have access to kinship reports and birth records for use in protecting Tribal children and serving their families;
  - Appointed Jenny VanAtta to the Election Board with a term expiring in March 2023, appointed Tim Holmes to the Fish & Wildlife Committee with a term expiring in March 2024 and appointed Joanna Brisbois to the Enrollment Committee with a term expiring in March 2024;
  - Approved a memorandum of agreement with the Indian

Health Service to accept a maximum \$429,840 to upgrade the Tribe’s waste water treatment plant. Engineering and Planning Manager Ryan Webb said the upgrades will update the plant’s software system, increase capacity and purchase backup equipment;

- Approved the draft language for residential leases at Tipsu-ili’l, the Tribe’s first homeownership development currently being constructed at the east end of McPherson Drive off Grand Ronde Road;
  - Approved a utility easement agreement with Portland General Electric for Chemawa Station in Keizer, which is co-owned by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and Confederated Tribes of Siletz;
  - And approved increasing a Willamette Anchor Habitat Investment Opportunity Grant application from \$300,000 to \$401,294 because the Tribe was the only applicant for the funds. Tribal Council previously approved applying for the grant that will be used to replace two failing stream crossings and modify a berm on the Tribe’s Chahalpam conservation properties located in Marion County during its April 20 meeting.
- Also included in the May 18 Tribal Council packet were approved authorizations to proceed that increase the lifetime amount a Tribal member can receive from the Down Payment Assistance Program to \$20,000 and increases the amount a Tribal member can receive from the Property Improvement Matching Grant program from \$4,000 to \$5,000.

To watch the entire meeting, visit the Tribal government’s website at [www.grandronde.org](http://www.grandronde.org) and click on the Government icon and then Videos. ■

## Health & Wellness Center hours

The Health & Wellness Center has additional access for patients during holiday weeks on Thursday mornings.

The clinic will be scheduling patients at 8 a.m. every Thursday preceding or following a holiday closure. Urgent care also will be available during this time. ■

## ENROLLMENT ORDINANCE OPEN FOR COMMENT

Tribal Council is considering amendments to the Enrollment Ordinance. The proposed amendments were given a First Reading at the May 18, 2022, Tribal Council meeting.

The proposed amendments (1) add a provision allowing Children and Family Services staff to have access to kinship reports and birth records for use in protecting Tribal children and serving their families; (2) provide that any unauthorized use of the information shall be a violation of the Ordinance; and (3) may include other minor and technical changes.

Tribal Council invites comments on the proposed amendments to the Enrollment Ordinance. For a copy of the proposed amendments, please contact the Tribal Attorney’s Office at 503-879-4664. Please send your comments to the Tribal Attorney’s Office, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347, or by e-mail to [legal@grandronde.org](mailto:legal@grandronde.org).

Comments must be received by June 30, 2022. ■

## RABBI TRUST FUND AND MINORS’ CUSTODIAL TRUST FUND

This announcement is to inform you of the upcoming election opportunity to recommend an investment option that best suits your tolerance for investment risk. The election deadline is June 24, 2022, and the investment period will be effective from July 1, 2022, until modified.

Recognizing that each Tribal member’s tolerance for investment risk may be different, parents of minor members age 17 or younger having balances in the Rabbi Trust Fund and Minors’ Custodial Trust Fund, or members age 18 or older can recommend that these funds be invested in one out of five possible investment options. Please e-mail [deanne.norton@grandronde.org](mailto:deanne.norton@grandronde.org) or call 503-879-2215 to receive your Investment Risk Assessment Recommendation Form. This is optional and open only to those who participate in the Rabbi and Minors’ Custodial Trust Funds. ■

# Drop box installed

The Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department, 9655 Grand Ronde Road, now has a medication drop box located in the front lobby.

Lobby hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The drop box is for any prescribed or over-the-counter medication. If the containers are too large to fit in the drop box, please repackage them in a zip-lock plastic bag. Tribal Police employees cannot handle the medications so the person dropping them off must repackage them.

Needles and liquids are not allowed in the drop box.

Tribal Police suggest mixing liquid medications with cat litter or coffee grounds and then throwing them away with the household trash.

For more information, call 503-879-1821. ■



## WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY

Building Strong Support for Elders

### CTGR Awareness Walk

June 15th, 2022 5:30pm  
Elder Activity Center

As Americans, we believe in justice for all. Yet, every year an estimated 5 million, or 1 in 10 older Americans experience elder abuse, neglect, or exploitation. Working together, we can build the social supports that can prevent this abuse and keep everyone safe as we age.

Join us to bring awareness to this issue and be a part of the change. Boxed Dinner while supplies last.



To learn more visit <https://ncea.acl.gov>, or find ways to take action here <http://eldermistreatment.usc.edu/weaad-home>