



ṭun-mun (March)

- Friday, March 3 – Native Youth Wellness Day, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Tribal gym, 9615 Grand Ronde Road. 503-879-1471.
- Friday-Saturday, March 3-4 – Agency Creek Round Dance, 5 p.m., Tribal gym, 9615 Grand Ronde Road.
- Sunday, March 5 – General Council meeting, 11 a.m., Tribal Council Chambers, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, and via the Zoom teleconference application. 503-879-2304.
- Wednesday, March 8 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via the Zoom teleconference application. 503-879-2304.
- Wednesday, March 22 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via the Zoom teleconference application. 503-879-2304.

lakit-mun (April)

- Sunday, April 3 – General Council meeting, Lane Community College Longhouse, Eugene, 11 a.m., and via the Zoom teleconference application. 503-879-2304.
- Wednesday, April 5 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via the Zoom teleconference application. 503-879-2304.
- Wednesday, April 19 – Tribal Council meeting, 4 p.m., in-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via the Zoom teleconference application. 503-879-2304.

Main culprits are Grand Ronde-area soil and heavy truck use

ROAD continued from front page

ations made to allow vehicles from the Grand Ronde Fire Station and Tribal Police to quickly and safely use the road during construction.

“We’re going to make sure we have a well thought out traffic management plan,” Mercier said. “We want to ensure that fire and police have good access throughout the project.”

The \$3 million project is a collaboration between the Tribe and Polk and Yamhill counties. The Tribe is paying for half of it, Mercier added. Polk County has most of the jurisdiction over the road and Yamhill County has a small part.

Road improvements will include removing all of the pavement and replacing it with a thicker version, and adding more rock underneath it to better absorb wear and tear over time.

The two main culprits causing the potholes and alligator cracking on the road are a combination of moisture issues with Grand Ronde-area soil and heavy trucks using the road as a shortcut to Highway 18.

“We have thought about creating a fee agreement (for heavy truck use) or even weight limit restric-

tions,” Mercier said. “But the big concern with that is it becomes a safety issue because right now, we’ve got two intersections that the trucks can use and both of them are high accident areas. We don’t know if the trade-off would be worth it to send the trucks clear down to Valley Junction. It’s really curvy and with its proximity to the casino, you know, we don’t want to create congestion with large trucks trying to turn left onto Highway 18.”

Since the project takes place on the Grand Ronde Reservation, it will be subject to Tribal Employment Rights Office guidelines for Tribal member and other Native hiring preferences.

Since the work was delayed in 2020, the Tribe and Polk County maintained a “patch-as-we-go” process, but it doesn’t solve the problem of persistent potholes. Mercier is hoping that using a larger amount of rock and increasing the pavement thickness will help alleviate these issues in the future.

Grand Ronde Road was last significantly reconstructed in 2009 and completed in 2010 using a mix of Bureau of Indian Affairs, Indian Health Service and Polk County funds. ■

Drop box installed

The Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department, 9655 Grand Ronde Road, 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. ■

GRAND RONDE HOUSING DEPARTMENT
28450 Tyege 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.

Tribal Veterans Service Office
2023 Claim Appointment Schedule

Monday By scheduled appointment only	Tuesday By scheduled appointment only	Thursday Walk-in claim appointments
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To schedule a claim appointment:
call (503) 879-1484 or email
CTGRtribalVSO@GrandRonde.Org

TRIBAL VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE
[503] 879-1484 • CTGRtribalVSO@GrandRonde.Org

SEEKING TRIBAL MEMBERS 50+ TO SHARE STORIES...

Chachalu is seeking tribal members 50+ to share stories and photos for an upcoming exhibit. The exhibit will feature stories from the forest, told through the perspective of timber industry workers, conservationists, hunters, weavers and others reflecting on how our interaction with the land has changed from time immemorial to present day.

If you or someone you know have a story to share, please contact us at Chachalu:
Phone // 503-879-2194 or
Email // culturalresources@grandronde.org

CHACHALU
Tribal Museum and Cultural Center