

# T-shirt support



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

**Tribal Elder Kim Contreras, right, secures part of a decal on the T-shirt that her daughter, Tribal member Janel Lara, is making during the Warriors of Hope Program’s Domestic Violence Awareness Month event in the Tribal Community Center on Friday, Oct. 20. The event included educational information, conversation and the opportunity to design a T-shirt using decals. October was Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Lara is a family support specialist for the Tribe’s Children & Family Services Program.**

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## CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF GRAND RONDE TAX PREPARATION REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The Request for Proposals (RFP) is being conducted by the Member Services Department for the purpose of obtaining a licensed contractor who has at least five years of experience preparing tax returns.

Qualified applicants shall possess the ability to:

- Provide tax preparation services to Tribal Elders and foster youth living on and off Tribal lands.
- Assist Tribal members in completing tax-related paperwork.
- Serve as a resource to Tribal members who have questions regarding payment and filing of state and federal tax returns.

Preference will be given to members of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and/or Indian-owned businesses registered with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde TERO.

Contact Shannon Simi at [shannon.simi@grandronde.org](mailto:shannon.simi@grandronde.org) or 503-879-2253 for information. All proposals must be submitted by 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 17, to the following address:

Shannon Simi, Member Services Department  
9615 Grand Ronde Road  
Grand Ronde, OR 97347

# Tribal Council approves application for Emergency Services grant for UTV

By Danielle Harrison  
*Smoke Signals editor*

Tribal Council approved an Emergency Services grant application to purchase a utility terrain vehicle to help expand medical services available on off-highway lands during its Wednesday, Oct. 25, meeting.

A UTV is a larger type of all-terrain vehicle designed to haul heavier loads and additional passengers.

The \$70,000 grant will help the Tribe expand emergency medical services available on trails, which are typically inaccessible to regular emergency services vehicles, according to Tribal Grants Assistant Dana Morfin.

“This helps to better respond, locate and access off-highway vehicle trails, especially when responding to emergency medical calls in conjunction with local partner agencies in search and rescue efforts,” Morfin said during a Tuesday, Oct. 24, Legislative Action Committee meeting.

If the grant is awarded, the Tribe will provide a trailer to haul the vehicle, a mobile radio and patient transport equipment.

In other action, Tribal Council:

- Approved a grant agreement of \$133,000 between the Tribe and the state Department of Early Learning and Care to help fund staffing for a second preschool classroom and aftercare facilities in the Chinuk Wawa Education Program;

- Approved two credit card authorizations in the amount of \$2,500 for Natural Resources Department Biologist Kyle McLaughlin and \$5,000 for Portland Great Circle Recovery Clinical Manager Mike Tierney;
  - Approved appointing Chad Leno and Nakoosa Moreland to the Powwow Special Event Board for terms ending on March 31, 2025;
  - And approved final adoption of a change to the Burial Fund Ordinance, which increases the amount given to help Tribal families cover funeral costs from \$7,000 to \$8,000.
- Tribal Council also set the agenda for the next General Council meeting. It will be held at 10 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 5, and feature a preliminary 2024 budget presentation in executive session.
- Lastly, Tribal Council Vice Chair Chris Mercier read a statement from council that said based on results of the Sept. 9 election advisory votes regarding enrollment, council would be exploring options based on lineal descent to address issues caused by the 1999 amendment. Council will discuss a plan to involve the membership and will announce more soon.
- To watch the entire meeting, visit the Tribal government’s website at [www.grandronde.org](http://www.grandronde.org) and click on the Government tab and then Videos. ■

# We want to hear from you!

The Grand Ronde Health & Wellness Center Comment Box is located at the entrance of the Health & Wellness Center, next to the drinking fountain. Share your experience, good or bad with us. ■



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### MMIP BILLBOARD MOVEMENT REACHES GRAND RONDE:

A new billboard was placed along Highway 18 featuring a picture of Tribal member Amanda Freeman with a red hand print painted across the lower half of her face next to the words “How many must go missing before you start to listen?” *Smoke Signals* spoke with Freeman and Great Circle Recovery Operations Director Jennifer Worth about the meaning behind this billboard and the upcoming events they are hosting to raise awareness for the Missing and Murdered Indigenous People movement.

For more information, contact Kamiah Koch at 503-879-1461 or [kamiah.koch@grandronde.org](mailto:kamiah.koch@grandronde.org)





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Ad by Samuel Briggs III



## WIFI HOTSPOTS

NOW AVAILABLE FOR CHECKOUT AT THE TRIBAL LIBRARY!

For patrons without access to reliable internet, 10 T-Mobile hotspots have been made available for use. Devices provide access within the T-Mobile coverage area.

To borrow a hotspot library cardholders must be 18 years or older and have their library account in good standing. Parents/guardians are responsible for the use of the hotspot by minors.

For additional terms and agreements please contact the library  
[Kathy.Cole@grandronde.org](mailto:Kathy.Cole@grandronde.org)  
503-879-1488

These hotspots were made possible through funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and in cooperation with the Chemeketa Community College and the Chemeketa Cooperative Regional Library Service.

