

Grand Ronde Editorial Board
position opening

The Grand Ronde Editorial Board, a Tribal board assigned the duty by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde (“Grand Ronde”) of overseeing its independent Tribal press (*Smoke Signals*), invites applications to serve on the Grand Ronde Editorial Board. There will be one (1) open board position occurring in March 2024.

The five-member Grand Ronde Editorial Board is responsible to the Grand Ronde Tribal Council. It oversees the editor of *Smoke Signals* to ensure the independent Tribal press reports news free from any undue influence and free from any political interest, and that Tribal news employees adhere to the highest ethical journalistic standards.

The Editorial Board meets monthly. From time to time, additional special meetings may be held. Board members are expected to attend all meetings in person, although participation by telephone or video will be permitted. Each board member receives a monthly stipend for attending meetings. Travel reimbursement is limited to travel within the six counties of Polk, Yamhill, Marion, Tillamook, Multnomah and Washington.

Board members must be 18 years of age, have qualified experience in management and/or publications, be of good character and integrity, and certify that he or she will adhere to the standards of accepted ethics of journalism as defined by the Society of Professional Journalists and endorsed by the Indigenous Journalists Association. Experience with and knowledge of Native American organizations is also preferred, as well as dedication to protecting and advancing a free press for the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.

Applicants will be interviewed by the Grand Ronde Editorial Board before a recommendation is forwarded to Tribal Council. Terms run for three years.

Preference will be given to qualified Tribal members.

Submission deadline: 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 1, 2023.

Interested individuals should submit a letter of interest describing their qualifications, a résumé and three references to:

Grand Ronde Editorial Board
c/o Smoke Signals
Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
9615 Grand Ronde Road
Grand Ronde, OR 97347
Phone: 503-879-4663
Email: editorial.board@grandronde.org

Tribe receives \$2 million EPA
grant to reduce basin toxins

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde has received almost \$2 million from the Environmental Protection Agency to help reduce toxins in the Columbia River Basin.

As part of the agency’s 2023 Tribal Grants announced on Thursday, Nov. 16, the EPA is investing \$31.7 million across seven Oregon projects and programs designed to reduced toxins in fish and water, address climate change and help restore the health of the almost 260,000-square-mile basin, which includes the Willamette River.

EPA Administrator Michael Regan visited Oregon in August 2022 at the invitation of Sen. Jeff Merkley to, among other things, announce new investments from the recently passed infrastructure law that would support reducing toxins in the Columbia River Basin.

“EPA is taking decisive action to protect public health and the environment for Oregonians and people across the nation,” Regan said during his visit. “We passed the infrastructure law, investing billions in important work like the restoration of the Columbia River Basin, as we’re poised to make historic investments to combat the climate crisis through the Inflation Reduction Act, which will deliver relief to families dealing with the devastating impacts of our greatest climate challenges.”

Regan announced a five-year, \$79 million investment from the infrastructure law to protect the Columbia River Basin, including \$6.9 million in Clean Water Act grants to be awarded for projects to reduce toxins in fish and water, and address climate impacts in communities.

The Columbia River Basin spans 16 federally recognized Tribal nations and seven states from Oregon and Washington to Wyoming.

Over decades, it has been contaminated by toxic waste from agriculture, forestry, recreation and hydroelectric power generation, which has harmed the health of wildlife and left some fish species threatened, endangered or unsafe for consumption.

The Grand Ronde Toxics Reduction Planning and Action Project will launch a new effort to reduce toxic pollution in the Willamette River Basin and allow for development of a formalized toxics reduction plan for the first time. The project hopes to improve the health and well-being of Tribal members and improve water quality for fish and wildlife.

“We are pleased to partner with the EPA to reduce toxic pollution,” Tribal Council Chairwoman Cheryle A. Kennedy said in a press release. “As longtime stewards of the land and water in the Willamette Valley, the Grand Ronde are committed to protecting and restoring clean water, salmon and healthy communities.” ■

MARRIAGES IN TRIBAL COURT

Tribal Court is issuing marriage licenses and able to perform marriage ceremonies for a filing fee of \$40.

Contact the Tribal Court at 503-879-2303. ■

Gas discount in Grand Ronde

Grand Ronde Tribal members, as well as Tribal and Spirit Mountain Casino employees, can receive a 30-cent per gallon discount on gasoline at the Tribally owned Grand Ronde Station convenience store.

There are, however, a few rules. Tribal members and employees must go inside and show either their enrollment card or employee identification card to receive the discount. ■



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12/4/23
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ELDER COMMUNITY OUTREACH FAIR

December, 13th from 11am to 1pm

At the Elder Activity Center
9615 Grand Ronde Road.

Grand Ronde, Oregon

Come join us and have a conversation with Northwest Senior and Disability Services from Tillamook and Polk County. Raffle prizes for those that sign-in and stop by our table!

Sponsored by Community Programs, Tribal Navigator

Please Contact Chris Martin at 503-560-1786 if you have any questions.