

# General Council meeting

11 a.m. Sunday, March 2  
Tribal Council Chambers

Tribal members can participate remotely via Zoom and in-person attendance. Call 800-422-0232 for more information.

## NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday meetings

DATE	TIME
Wednesday, March 5.....	4 p.m.
Wednesday, March 19.....	4 p.m.

Please note that these times and dates are subject to change if needed. In-person attendance in Tribal Council Chambers and via Zoom.

## LETTERS

Dear Smoke Signals,

I want to thank Nicole Montesano and my brother, Bradley Kowing, for the awesome article in the Jan. 15 Smoke Signals. It covered my grandmother, Cecil Rose Russell Porter, and her time growing up and being taken from her family to the Chemawa Indian School.

Grandmother Cecil as always an active part of our families' life and we saw her every week. Her children and grandchildren were very important to her and saw that she was taken care of. Her home was always a place where family and friends were welcome.

In all of the times I visited her, grandmother never spoke of her time in the Indian school. The only hint of her time spent there came when I was 6 or 7. She took my three brothers and myself out to the small woodshed behind her house in Willamina.

"I have something to show you!" she said. In a box was her calico cat with a clutter of new babies. Black, white and calicos all being cleaned by their mother. "Do you see how the mother cat loves her babies regardless of what color they are? That is the way our Heavenly Father loves us. Don't ever judge a person by their color or belief."

Grandmother could have chosen to hate the people who stole her away from her family for 10 years. In the paperwork that was finally released from the national archives, were personal letters from grandmother asking our Norwest relatives if she couldn't, "Please come for a visit?" The reply was always a yes and tickets were even bought. However, there were letters from the school saying Cecil was their property until she was 18. She wasn't allowed to visit or have any visitors.

It stuck with me my whole life what grandmother Cecil said about us all being equal in God's eyes. Wouldn't the world be a great place if everyone felt this way, all being brothers and sisters and caring for all.

Sincerely,  
Judith Kowing Nesbit  
Roll #1823

## Spirit Mountain Casino Tribal Marketplace seeking vendors

Spirit Mountain Casino will host a Tribal Marketplace from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday, March 21-22.

Vendor spots are open to Grand Ronde Tribal members, other Tribes and community members. The cost is \$30 per table with a \$10 fee for a second table.

Spots are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Payment and registration will secure a spot in the vendor table assignment lottery.

For more information or to register for the marketplace, contact SMC Purchasing Manager Shauna Skinner at Shauna.Skinner@SpiritMtn.com or 503-879-3916; or Purchasing Supervisor Tanya Lopez at Tanya.Lopez@SpiritMtn.com or 503-879-3746. ■

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde  
OFFSITE GENERAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

Sunday, April 6

Lane Community College Longhouse  
4000 E. 30th Ave.  
Eugene, OR 97405

Followed by  
Community Input Meeting.

www.grandronde.org

Ad by Samuel Briggs III

# smok signalz

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DEADLINE DATE	ISSUE DATE	MEMBERS OF:
Thursday, Mar. 6 .....	Mar. 15	Indigenous Journalists Association
Thursday, Mar. 20 .....	Apr. 1	Oregon Newspaper Publishers Assoc.
Friday, Apr. 4 .....	Apr. 15	2022 IJA General Excellence
Tuesday, Apr. 22 .....	May. 1	2023 IJA General Excellence

### EDITORIAL POLICY

Smoke Signals, a publication of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon, is published twice a month. No portion of this publication may be reprinted without permission.

Our editorial policy is intended to encourage input from Tribal members and readers about stories printed in the Tribal newspaper. However, all letters received must be signed by the author, an address must be given and a phone number or email address must be included for verification purposes. Full addresses and phone numbers will not be published unless requested. Letters must be 400 words or less.

Smoke Signals reserves the right to edit letters and to refuse letters that are determined to contain libelous statements or personal attacks on individuals, staff, Tribal administration or Tribal Council. Not all letters are guaranteed publication upon submission. Letters to the editor are the opinions and views of the writer. Published letters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Smoke Signals.

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