

# Smoke Signals wins three awards from ONPA

By Danielle Harrison  
*Smoke Signals editor*

Smoke Signals received three awards – two firsts and a second – during the 138th annual Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association Summer Convention held Friday, July 18, at Boulder Falls Center in Lebanon.

The awards in the Associate Member category were given for work published in 2024.

Smoke Signals Graphic Designer Samuel Briggs III received a second-place award in the design category for his Contest Powwow ad. Page Designer Justin Phillips took second place in the page design category for the Feb. 1, Aug. 1 and Nov. 1 editions of the newspaper.

Lastly, Smoke Signals garnered a first-place award in the coveted Target Audience/General Excellence category.

“I’m thrilled with the excellent work Smoke Signals employees produced in 2024,” Editorial Board Chair Mia Prickett said. “I’m so thankful that we have a free press ordinance in place that allows the newspaper to do this work for our people. It’s especially important during these uncertain times and I look forward to Smoke Signals winning more awards in the future.”

Smoke Signals was once again the only Tribal newspaper honored in the statewide competition.

Earlier this year, Smoke Signals won five awards from the Indigenous Journalists Association, including first place awards for photography and video.

Smoke Signals has now won 150 state and national journalism awards since 2007. ■

# Water safety



Photos by Michelle Alaimo

**Amanda Mercier puts a new life jacket on her son Vincent Mercier, 5, during the second annual Water Safety Event at the Day Use Park on the Tribal campus Monday, July 21. Children & Family Services collaborated with Grand Ronde Emergency Services Department to host the fun day of water slides, barbecue, raffle prizes and life jacket giveaways.**

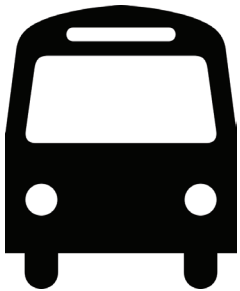


**Kylee Meckel, 6, plays in a water slide during the second annual Water Safety Event at the Day Use Park on the Tribal campus Monday, July 21.**

Medical Transport Services

Medical transportation services are available to Tribal members within the six-county service area when an alternate means of transportation is not available. Advance notice required.

Please call 503-879-2078 to schedule a reservation.



GRAND RONDE HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTER PRESENTS

# Back To SCHOOL Health Fair & Sports Physicals

**AUGUST 7TH, 2025  
FROM 7:30 AM TO 6 PM  
@ CHERYLE A. KENNEDY  
PUBLIC HEALTH BUILDING**

**THERE WILL BE**

**SCHOOL SUPPLIES, BACKPACKS, AND  
RESOURCES FROM GRAND RONDE HEALTH AND  
WELLNESS CENTER DEPARTMENTS.**

**CALL 503-879-1396 TO SCHEDULE A  
SPORTS PHYSICAL APPOINTMENT**

contest powwow

# BASKETBALL

T O U R N A M N E T

|                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>When:</b>         | Saturday August 16 <sup>th</sup> (8am-finish)                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Who can Play:</b> | Coed 11u<br>14 u and 17u, Girl's and Boy's<br>Men's open, Women's open                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Where:</b>        | Grand Ronde Gymnasium<br>9615 Grand Ronde Rd, Grand Ronde, OR 97347                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Other info:</b>   | All teams must have a coach (18+)<br>prizes for 3 point contest and 1st-3 <sup>rd</sup> PLACE<br>4 team minimum, 12 team maximum per division.<br>Free agents will be matched with teams as needed. |

**FREE REGISTRATION**  
**Deadline to register is August 13<sup>th</sup> by  
MIDNIGHT**



recreation@grandronde.org | 503.879.1369

Scan to register!



2025 CTGR 3 on 3 Tournament