

The candidates speak!

My name is Robert Haller.



Robert Haller

I am a member of the Grand Ronde Tribe and have lived in the Willamette Valley for most of my life. I am a retired member of the construction trade. During my career in the construction trade, I have worked overseas and in the United States as a supervisor. I have been married to Leveta Sell Haller for thirty years. I have four sons.

I am running for Council because I believe I can represent the Tribe with fairness.

I have deep concerns about the past ventures put forth by the current council and staff of Grand Ronde.

I feel that tribal members outside of the reservation community have not received the same opportunities and advantages as those who live on the reservation. I view all members as equally important. In the interest of fairness, I would support per capita payments.

Tribal resources and monies should be put in tribal programs that affect our members, especially elders. There is no reason why a tribal member should have to endure waiting lists or years to receive hearing aids, glasses, or necessary dental work.

I would appreciate your vote. I would recommend Ed Pearsall and Eugene LaBonte as councilmen in this upcoming election as they express the same concerns. Thank you.

I, Merle Holmes, would like to share with the tribal members, especially first time voters, some of my experience and involvement with tribal government.



Merle Holmes

My affiliation began from the day tribal government started in Grand Ronde with the organization of the

of the Restoration Effort. I served as co-chairman of the first re-organized government, holding positions of Chairman and Councilman from the mid-70s to the present. Now, I work on numerous tribal assignments including jurisdiction, legislative development, tribal laws and ordinances, and cultural preservation. In addition, I am the current Education Liaison and Delegate to the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians.

My family, rich in tribal history, has been on the Grand Ronde reservation since 1856. My great grandfather, Joseph Shangretta, a Santiam Calapooia Chief signed the 1855 treaty with Oregon territorial government. A great leader and medicine man, he was also the first tribal judge appointed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. I am very proud of my grandfather, and likewise, the rest of my family. My parents were allotted and successfully raised a family of nine on the banks of the Agency River.

As for the future, I see prosperity as well as problems for our tribe. Our gaming facility, while increasing our revenue, also proposes new difficulties to overcome: 500-600 new employees, traffic, increased housing shortages, and the need for water and sewer upgrading. I welcome these challenges for I know my years of experience will help the Tribe overcome these obstacles. Let me help in solving these problems and continue the tradition of serving our people, the way my family has done for nearly 140 years. So, I call on all of you, for what will probably be the last time, for your votes, support, and prayers.

My name is Tim Holmes, grandson of Abe and Mildred Holmes, and son of Lemer Holmes.



Tim Holmes

My family and I currently reside in Salem. We are independent owners/managers of a full-service cafeteria in the Oregon Department of Transportation Building. If elected to Council we plan to relocate to Grand Ronde.

After graduating from high school, I broadened my education through attendance of the Oregon Commission for the Blind Orientation and Career Center in Portland. My courses covered a broad spectrum, from Grade II Braille and Independent Living Skills to woodwork and computers. This education and training provided the skills needed to function in an office setting and perform duties such as those of a Council member. Because of this training, I was given the opportunity to travel throughout the Portland School District, giving presentations on blindness as part of a public awareness campaign.

In 1993, Governor Barbara Roberts appointed me to serve on the Oregon State Independent Living Council, and I am now the vice-chairperson. This position requires working with federal, state, and local agencies to ensure compliance with federal regulations and maintenance of federal funding. Furthermore, the council reviews and advises the governor on proposed federal regulations affecting local agencies.

Tribal programs of particular interest to me, which I feel are crucial to the continued success and future existence to the Tribe are: education, economic development, natural resources, and housing. These areas work together to ensure a stable, successful, long-term existence for the Tribe. I believe it is crucial that we reach a point of financial independence. If elected to be your representative, I would listen to your concerns and carefully consider them, before making any decisions. If you want your voice to be heard, vote for me on election day.

"Nika Tillikam", my name is Joyce Kirk, daughter of Fremond Bean, Great Granddaughter of Margaret Menard, and Great-great granddaughter of Joseph Sangretta. I grew up in Grand Ronde and Siletz.

I have always felt an inner pride in being an Indian, and stand by my beliefs and convictions that we can totally regain control of our destiny as a sovereign nation.

I believe that the number one priority is the establishment of a self-sustaining economic base, through the development of diverse business enterprises. Exploration and expansion of existing enterprises, maximize use of present resources.

Experience and Qualifications:

I have spent many years working

with the Indian community seeking opportunities for the betterment of our people. In 1983 I served on the original Health Board. I was responsible for compiling the first Health Needs Assessment for the Tribe. In 1984 I entered Lane Community College to pursue a degree for Medical Office Assistant, which I completed in 1986. I then went to work at Chemawa Indian School. While employed at Chemawa I worked in the Intensive Residential Guidance programs. This is a program for chemically dependent students. In 1988 I moved to Klamath Falls and am currently employed as the Executive Secretary to the director of the Health Program for the Klamath Tribe.



Joyce Kirk

At the present time I reside in Klamath Falls, but my husband and I have ties in the Salem area and will be returning to live in this area very soon.

Previously to this I had been employed by Weyerhaeuser timber Co. I was the committee chairperson for the International Woodworkers of America. I believe that I have the concerns of all the people in my heart, as I am not running for Council because of any self-promotion. I would incorporate my skills and work ethic with our traditional values in an effort to effectively serve our people. Please support me in the upcoming election. I can be contacted at (503) 884-5695 or P.O. Box 100, Chiloquin, Oregon 97624 to answer any questions or concerns you may have.

My name is Matthew Kirkland, I am the son of Vivian (Joey) and Bob Phillips, and the grandson of Laree Johnson/Legachinski. This is my second year as a Tribal Council candidate and I want to begin by thanking everyone who supported me in the last election.

I am going to get directly to the point and explain why I am running for Tribal Council. I am a candidate because I believe it is more important than ever for our Tribal Council members to have both the education and the experience necessary to operate an effective tribal government. Our Tribe is

changing and we need representatives that understand the changes that are occurring. We need a Council who can effectively manage our Tribe.



Matt Kirkland

As everyone knows by now our Tribe's economic base is shifting to include gaming. As we enter this period of change and opportunity, we need to ask ourselves who we want representing our Tribe. I want Tribal Council members who have demonstrated experience and knowledge in business and in government. I want council members who will sincerely listen to the needs and issues of the General Council. I want Tribal Council members who will serve honorably and provide leadership for our community.

As our tribal organization becomes more professional, so too must our representatives. My education background includes a Bachelor of Science degree in Public Policy and Administration from Western Oregon State College. I will be attending Willamette University this fall where I will be working on my Master's degree in Management. As a graduate student of management I will have the opportunity to bring new ideas into our Tribe. I will also be able to apply new skills directly to our tribal organization. I sincerely believe our tribe can benefit from educated leadership.

My government work experience has primarily been in the field of Personnel and Human Resource Management. I began working in government in 1981, and have had the opportunity to work for the following organizations:

- The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
- Oregon State Legislature
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Federal Highway Administration
- Oregon State Employment Division
- U.S. Army
- Polk County Education Services District

There are many issues facing the Tribe today. I do not have the opportunity to go over the issues in this letter, however, I do invite you to attend the candidate's forum and listen to my views on a variety of issues.