

(Matthew Kirkland, continued)
I would like to offer my home phone number for those of you who would like to speak with me. If you like what I am saying or have additional questions, please give me a call. My home number is in Salem, Oregon, (503) 581-7674. I regret not being able to return long distance calls.

Please support me in this year's Tribal Council election. Let's get out there and vote for the leadership our tribe needs.

My name is Earl Floyd "Butch" LaBonte. My father's name is Joe LaBonte, and my mother's name is Thelma LaBonte. My grandparents are Bart LaBonte and Marlina Cunningham LaBonte. I am a member of the Veteran's Committee.

I served on a focus group for the Community Health Council. My group was religion and spirituality. I became a Born Again Christian on July 2, 1982.



Butch LaBonte

I have made steady progress in this area, towards the ultimate goal of perfection.

I presently work for the Tribal Forestry Seasonal Crew.

The first thing I want to work for is a multi-denominational church.

Secondly, we need to work for welfare reform. I have five children, and one stepson, who have been raised in the welfare system. I know the problems in the system. We have children who need to be reunited with their families.

Thirdly, we need 100,000 acres to be self-sufficient. The Colvilles have 1.4 million and eight thousand members. The Yakamas have 1.6 million acres. We need to be a role-model. We need more land now for our housing and welfare reform.

I want to work for a Veteran's Memorial, for veterans and their families.

I'm proud of our tribal flag and would like to see it flown over our facilities daily. Especially our cemetery.

I want our Tribal Council to stop logging our buffer zones. I'm physically able to walk down in our deepest holes to check our streams out.

My name is Eugene LaBonte. I was born and raised in the Grand Ronde area.



Eugene LaBonte

My parents are the late Alexander Gus LaBonte and Edna K. LaBonte.

If elected to Tribal Council I will work for equal opportunities for all tribal members both young and old; wherever their residence may be. I am also in favor of per capita financial benefits.

I feel it is important that the General Council be made aware of each Councilman's vote. The Council represents the entire Tribe, and therefore they have a responsibility to make their vote known.

I feel it is extremely important to provide tribal members with adequate housing.

Health care is essential. No tribal member should suffer without medical assistance or go without necessary dental work or glasses.

I will appreciate your vote in the coming election. I will do my best to represent all tribal members. I also endorse Ed Pearsall and Robert Haller as their views and concerns are the same as mine.

Vote for Merle Leno for Tribal Council.

I am running for Tribal Council because of my commitment to serving all the members and my desire to provide the best possible services for our Indian children, young adults, and tribal elders.



Merle Leno

My life long experience serving the Grand Ronde Tribe has included: serving on the Tribal Council for the corporation prior to the restoration of the Tribe; serving two terms on the Council since restoration; I am in my fifth year with the Tribal Health and Human Services Committee and am serving as Chairman of the committee. In

this capacity I have worked to help strengthen the Tribe's position for health care for tribal members and serve as a the tribal alternate for the Portland Area Indian Health Board. I am the current Chairman of the Advisory Committee for Nanitch Sahallie; the Chairman of the Pow-wow Committee for the past ten years; run the Tribal Bingo for the past two years, and have wroked on fund-raising for the pow-wow, bingo, tribal youth, and the elder's programs and services.

For the past seven years I have served on the Board of Directors for the National Indian Child Welfare Association to support legislation and funding to help our children and families.

I am committed to the support of the Tribe's economic development and training efforts. As your elected official I will use my knowledge and experience of tribal government to advance the tribal needs in housing, employment, education, child welfare services, youth services, senior services, and I will work to expand quality services and programs for all of our people.

I served eight years in the Air Force, and married. My wife, Claudia, works for the Chemawa Indian School, we have three children and three grand-children.

I would like to serve on Tribal Council.

My name is Reyn Leno, candidate for Tribal Council member. My parents are Orville and Ramona Leno. My wife Liz and I have three children Angela, age 21 just graduated from PSU and has been accepted to Lewis and Clark Law School. Shonn, age 18 will be a sophomore at PSU next year. Dustin, age 16 will be a senior at Willamina High School.



Reyn Leno

I have lived in the Grand Ronde area my whole life, with the exception of serving two years in the Marine Corps. I am currently the Vice-Chairman of the Timber Committee, and have also been very active in community youth activities. I have worked for Zimbrick logging for the past 23 years, a job I am willing to give up if elected as Council member.

In the past few months my family and I have presented to the people four advisory votes. The issues surrounding these votes affect each

and every tribal member. The issues voted on and addressed were: Tribal Council pay increase, prevention of Tribal Council voting another pay increase, Tribal Council local travel, and asking Tribal Council to accept an hourly wage. These issues were votes on by the people and passed by a large margin, for the Tribal Council to address and accept the people's advice. While presenting these issues and talking to many of the tribal members, I believe that I brought forth the feeling of the majority of the people. I felt I was speaking for many of the people and I will be able to take that on into a Council member position.

As you can see I have a real interest in our Tribe and would greatly appreciate your vote and support in September. I will do my best to represent the people and their concerns.

My name is Dean Mercier. I have lived in Grand Ronde all of my life and was a part of both the restoration effort and the formulation of the early Tribal Council.



Dean Mercier

Most of my life I have worked as a logger all over Oregon and the Northwest.

I believe the Tribe is now at a very important part of its history. A time when what we do will affect our future forever. I have always been one who believes in and values the opinions of tribal members. As our tribal population increases it becomes more and more important for Tribal Council to reach out to the members to know what our needs are.

Also, I am an advocate for accountable leadership. I believe tribal leaders should maintain the highest standards of ethics in everything they do.

I see a need to expand our communication and services to all members of the Tribe. And, to design new ways of improving the health, education, and living standards of all our tribal families.

By this, I mean, if I am elected, I will:

Push for expansion of Tribal Education Programs.

Push for development of a Health Center.

Push for development of a Youth Council.

Push for the creation of more jobs with adequate pay.

Push for the creation of better housing.
Push for the Cemetery Committee issue to be resolved.

And most importantly, I will represent your interests in the most thoughtful and ethical way.

My name is Bob Mercier, candidate for Tribal Council. I have lived in the Grand Ronde/Willamina area all my life. I own and operate a fleet of log trucks, which I have done for nine years.



Bob Mercier

As a small business operator, I must keep adequate financial records, make sure licensing and permits for hauling are kept current, and payroll for my drivers are just a few of the responsibilities required for operation. It takes basic skills and common sense to operate a business, small or large.

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde is a governmental entity. It is a business also. The Tribal Council is responsible for managing an annual budget of \$10,000,000. Much of the Tribe's annual budget comes from governmental sources, federal, state, and private foundations. However, government funding sources are becoming increasingly difficult to secure. Provision of public services will continue to decline due to budget constraints.

The responsibility of the Tribal Council will increase dramatically when the gaming center begins operation, as more money is generated. These monies must be used prudently to provide the necessary services that government dollars do not. I believe the skills I have in operating my business will be an asset to the Tribe in overall budget and fiscal planning for the future. We cannot rely on the gaming center alone to make the Tribe economically self-sufficient. We must establish other means to diversify the local economy.

Besides the fiscal responsibility, the Council has the responsibility of planning the growth of this community. The development of our infrastructure is paramount. Without it, community and economic development is impossible.

Between 1989 and 1992 I served on Tribal Council. At that time, the Tribal Council made it a priority to begin planning and construction of