

Letters to the editor

To the Editor:

I would like to take time-out to thank the people who said prayers for me when I was up on Spirit Mountain doing my Healing Quest. I went up on June 15 and 16, 1996.

First of all, my mother Donna Casey, for being there for me when I needed her the most, Candy and Jess Robertson for letting me use their property on Spirit Mountain. Judy Vinson for taking care of my two beautiful boys, David and Nakai. For Michael, letting LaVonne Butler use the Sweat Lodge and the area for her base camp. For all the people who said prayers for me. (Trish Haugen and John, Dorothy and Diane, my Grandma Blanche Lillard, all my Family, my Sundance brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles.) I'd like to thank John Bravehawk for loaning me a Chanupa (Sacred Pipe). I would also like to thank Jackie Provost and Kathy Coley for your prayers as well.

A great big thank you to LaVonne Butler for putting me up on the Mountain! May the Creator watch over each and every one of you, always. I had a giveaway when I came off the Mountain, it went rather well. Once again thank you for all of your prayers.

Sincerely,

Karen Blanchard

To the Editor:

My name is Dennis L. Smith, Jr. I'm an enrolled tribal member of the Grand Ronde Tribe.

I would like to take time out to give thanks to all the people who supported me to make it possible. If it weren't for these people and whoever else helped me out, I wouldn't be a part of this Tribe. The people who I want to recognize are: Jackie Provost, Kathy Coley, my Grandma, Rosemary Smith, and to the people of Tribal Council. Last, but not least, the people who I forgot!

Thanks for the support,

Dennis L. Smith, Jr.

To the tribal members:

I recently went to visit our Casino and Reservation. I met with Ed Pearsall and he gave me a short tour of our Reservation. I was running late and could only do a short tour.

I asked Ed a lot of questions about the future our tribe was heading. He was completely honest and straight with me. I can't say I agreed with all of what Ed told me, but he gave me the time and the respect to listen to my feelings.

I left there feeling a lot more secure about how things would be for us living off the six service area.

I know that if all of us were like Ed, then we'll truly be a tribe united and equal.

Thank you Ed, you not only have my respect, but also my trust and I don't trust easily.

Thank You,

Vonnie Edmondson

Roll #105

To the Editor:

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the members of Gib Baker's family, we would like to thank you for allowing our loved one to be placed near his father, George Baker, Sr., in your tribal cemetery. Gib often spoke of relatives and lifelong friends in Grand Ronde. He introduced me to some of you, especially his sister, Mabel Gaston, and her daughter, Elaine.

We thank you for the use of your Community Center where lunch was served. Joann Mercier was a big help when she allowed our friends from Tulalip to cook salmon at her "Tipi Village."

With love and respect,

Nellie Baker

EDITOR'S NOTE: As a gift of thanks, Nellie Baker donated a coffee maker to the Community Center, which she brought in on Election Day.

Council meeting minutes: Major Actions

August 8, 1996

Mark Mercier was on annual leave during this week, and Kathryn Harrison was attending a meeting out of town. The meeting was chaired by Secretary Ed Pearsall.

□ Natural Resources Division Manager Cliff Adams submitted and reviewed the Executive Summary for the Remix Salvage Logging Unit with Council. Following the review, Gene LaBonte moved, Ed Larsen seconded a motion to adopt **Resolution No. 045-96** approving the Remix Salvage Logging Unit sale as presented. Motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

□ NAPOLS contract renewal: Tribal Attorney Michael Mason submitted a draft resolution for Council's consideration. It called for the renewal of the NAPOLS contract for one year. Val Grout moved, Chip Tom seconded the motion to adopt **Resolution No. 046-96** approving renewal. Motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

□ Ed Larsen moved, and Gene LaBonte seconded a motion to reappoint Bill Miles to the Gaming Commission for a three-year term, as his contract was up. The motion carried.

□ Council adopted **Resolution No. 047-96** approving a two-year contract extension for the Tribal Court Judge — Bob Goodwin.

August 28, 1996

All members of Council were present, except for Ed Pearsall, who was on annual leave.

□ Linda Layden, Housing Coordinator, presented the Housing Policy to Council for their approval. Val Grout moved, Margaret Provost seconded a motion to adopt **Resolution No. 049-96**, approving the policy as presented. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

□ Pat Mercier, Finance Officer, presented the Membership Benefit Authorization Ordinance to Council, which they had already reviewed a number of times. Gene LaBonte moved, Val Grout seconded a motion to adopt **Resolution No. 050-96**, approving the Ordinance. The motion carried by a vote of 7-0. Council also adopted **Resolution No. 051-96**, approving the Gaming Dividend Fund IPS, which carried by a vote of 7-0. Also presented by Pat was information about the Use of Working Capital Bond Sinking Fund. Val Grout moved, Margaret Provost seconded a motion to adopt **Resolution No. 052-96**, authorizing the use of these funds. The motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

□ Executive Officer Francis Somday presented Council with information regarding the interagency agreement with the Polk County Sheriff's Office. Kathryn Harrison moved, Chip Tom seconded a motion to adopt **Resolution No. 053-96**, approving the agreement as presented. Francis requested authorization to discuss a similar agreement with Yamhill County Sheriff's Office, which Council approved by consensus.

□ Greg Archuleta, Policy and Planning Division Manager, presented Council with material on the Self-Governance Compact Renewal for 1997. Val Grout Moved, Ed Larsen seconded a motion to adopt **Resolution No. 055-96**, approving the Self-Governance Compact as presented.

□ Council voted unanimously to approve the 1996 Education Budget Plan, as well as the budget for the Student Advisory Council.

MEMBERSHIP INVESTMENT UPDATE

Every tribal member should have already received papers to complete regarding the Tribal Member Investment Fund. All tribal members are required to fill out an application form and a designation of beneficiary form for themselves and their member children. This needs to be done regardless of your decision to leave your dollars in the fund or withdraw them.

The Tribe originally intended to hire a trust officer to conduct investment briefings and consultations with any tribal member wishing to withdraw funds. This person will not be hired for a few more weeks, so those members wishing to make a withdraw from their Investment Fund will simply be mailed a check after their applications are received and processed. When the trust officer is hired, he/she will be available to consult with members on their investment options. Please call Chris Leno at 1-800-422-0232 for more information.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Smoke Signals is a publication of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon. We have established an Editorial Policy to encourage input from readers about stories printed in *Smoke Signals*, as well as other tribal issues.

Letters must be printed or typed, and cannot exceed 300 words. *Smoke Signals* reserves the right to edit any letter for clarity and length, and to refuse publication of any letter or any part of a letter that may contain libelous statements or personal attacks. Not all letters are guaranteed publication upon submission. Published letters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of *Smoke Signals*, tribal employees, or Tribal Council.

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