

THE GRAND RONDE
REVIEW

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UPCOMING DEADLINE:

Monday, Oct. 5, 1998

Dear Editor,

I am a Grand Ronde tribal member doing 10 years in a Federal Penitentiary in Atlanta, Georgia. I appreciate and even look forward to receiving the newspaper from home.

I just read the first of the five part series (Molalla) that the paper is doing on each of the Grand Ronde Tribes. This was an excellent article and I feel our paper needs more of this kind of journalism.

I just wanted to express my opinion. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

M. Herrin

Roll # 2439

P.S. The new name is kind of stuffy. Would rather have had a native name, but then "what's in a name?"

Dear fellow tribal members:

It is my opinion, shared by many with whom I have voiced my concern, that Tribal Council should explore the feasibility of providing health care coverage for non-tribal spouses of our tribes members. One must consider this to be a vital part of the health care security desired by the majority of the membership during the recent community meetings. Due to the success of the various business ventures developed by the Tribe, it appears that there are funds available for such a program.

Many of the members' spouses are employed in positions where health care insurance is not available or otherwise cannot afford the escalating cost of health care. It is very distressing to have to watch a loved one do without needed health care in such a situation. What's more, one must consider the financial implications a medical emergency can place on a family. In many cases it may jeopardize a family's ability to maintain their residence. This is a worrisome burden that no tribal member should have to bear when there are funds available to address this problem.

I am very grateful for all the programs available to our members, but this shortfall should be addressed as soon as possible. I urge all members who support such a program to communicate their support to Tribal Council.

Thank you very much,

Marlena Lancour

Roll # 733

Letters

Editor,

I'm writing in response to a letter in the Sept. 1, 1998 *Smoke Signals*. The money tribal Elders receive each month and the investment money received by each tribal member is a real blessing and proof of our Tribal Council's money management skills. Sure, it would be nice to be able to have an allotment to go to all tribal members. We need to be thankful that our tribe has not "blown" all the tribal money we have made, like so many other tribes have done. We should be thankful for the money invested in education. This will make more of our people independent and self-sufficient without having to depend on Tribal support. Caring for our members with drug and alcohol problems and getting them clean, is a money saver in the longrun. This keeps our kids and adults out of prisons and homes where we have to support them with higher state and federal taxes. Before restoration, many of the Elders of our Tribe didn't have the opportunity to even be tribal members much less the financial support we get now. Medical, dental, and burial benefits are privileges that many other tribes don't enjoy. We should be thankful for what we have and count our blessings. If all the tribal members stand together, the benefits can only grow.

Barbara Pichette Cantwell

Roll # 632

Jimmie Pichette

Roll # 636

Dear tribal members,

I am enormously grateful and honored by everyone who supported me in the last election. Your faith and confidence in me is greatly appreciated and I'll continue to trust in God for His guidance.

To my family — love and hugs for always standing by me.

To all who voted — you've done yourself proud by making this the largest turnout ever for an election to date.

Kathryn Harrison

To the general membership,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who supported me in this last election, and those of you who did not as well, as it is every bit as important that you vote, as it is whom you vote for. Your direction forges our leadership and allows those leaders to take us forward into the next three years, with the renewed hopes of a stronger tribe, not only financially, but spiritually. And those of you who did not take the opportunity to vote for one reason or another please remember without your vote the direction of your tribe is administered by only a select few. So please register and vote. As per my campaign promises, I only hope that each and every one of my fellow candidates that did not get elected take this next year to work with the Tribe, the committees, and Council to resolve the issues they campaigned so strongly for, as I plan to do. And not just return next year for nomination and complain about unresolved issues.

Thanks again for your support.

J. Ken Gregg, Roll # 208

Dear Editor,

A long overdue thank you for sending me the paper each month. I really appreciate it.

I am glad that the Tribe is so successful in all its endeavors. John would have been pleased, I am sorry that he passed away before all this happened.

I visited the Spirit Mountain Casino the end of July, and although I wasn't successful, I had a good time trying.

Thanks again and you can be very proud of what you have accomplished.

Sincerely,

Jayne Pichette

Dear Editor,

I've always been an advocate of progress — but when I saw the latest edition of the newsletter, progress got a thumbs down. *Smoke Signals* was an eye-catching title depicting a Native American form of communication for eons.

Now we are just another newsletter. I feel as if I've lost an old friend!

Arlene Beck, Roll # 179

Fun for kids at "Family Night Out"



"Family Night Out" was a great success this year. Over 100 people came to the Community Center on September 21 for dinner and an evening of activities. That was quite an improvement from last year, when only about fifteen folks came. Activities for students included drumming and dancing, a penny toss, coloring contest, board games, and a dance. Special thanks to program staff for facilitating these events, and to Jeff Mercier and Travis Stewart for being the DJs at the dance.

PHOTO: Kids loved the "Penny Toss" where they had a chance to toss coins in a cup to win prizes. Marion Mercier, Education staff, handed out the prizes which consisted of a variety of school supplies.