

SMOKE SIGNALS



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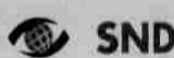
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2000 DEADLINES

DEADLINE DATE	ISSUE DATE
Fri., Feb. 4	FEBRUARY 15
Fri., Feb. 18	MARCH 1
Fri., March 3	MARCH 15
Mon., March 20	APRIL 1
Wed., April 5	APRIL 15
Thurs., April 20	MAY 1
Fri., May 5	MAY 15
Fri., May 19	JUNE 1
Mon., June 5	JUNE 15
Tues., June 20	JULY 1
Wed., July 5	JULY 15
Thurs., July 20	AUGUST 1
Fri., August 4	AUGUST 15
Mon., August 21	SEPTEMBER 1
Tues., Sept. 5	SEPTEMBER 15
Wed., Sept. 20	OCTOBER 1
Thurs., Oct. 5	OCTOBER 15
Fri., Oct. 20	NOVEMBER 1
Fri., Nov. 3	NOVEMBER 15
Fri., Nov. 17	DECEMBER 1
Tues., Dec. 5	DECEMBER 15
Wed., Dec. 20	JANUARY 1

- Submissions must reach the Public Information Office by the deadline dates listed. Please let us know ahead of time if you will be sending a submission so we can reserve a spot in the layout of the paper.
- It is very helpful if you e-mail or supply your submission on disk (include file name and program used).
- **Smoke Signals format:**
All copy and headlines in upper and lower case, and double space after punctuation.

Printed on recycled paper.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

I would like to thank Bryan Langley of the Grand Ronde Housing program for getting me on the right track in buying my dream home, and helping me get into classes at Mortgage Market Co.

It was there that I got to meet Vince Ventura and his assistant, Carey, who recently assisted me in obtaining a loan to purchase my home.

Jennine Goldblock of Prudential Real Estate was my agent. After looking at several homes with her I decided to start the process of qualifying for tribal down payment and securing a loan.

During the process, we hit a snag. Two days before we were to close the deal on our home, we needed to come up with \$2,300. I called Vince immediately and within several hours he, Carey, and Jennine had a solution.

Now, I celebrate my home ownership and the help and generosity of these people, who truly made my Christmas the greatest Christmas ever for me.

Not only that, but I am also now a proud foster parent through the Tribe's Indian Child Welfare program. I thank everyone for giving me this chance to make all of my dreams come true.

Dorothy Ann Spivey
Roll # 2473

To Human Resources staff and Tribal Council,

I would like to thank the Human Resources staff for the framed Service Award certificate and the Tribal Council for the Pendleton blanket I received at the Service Award Ceremony on January 12, 2000. I never dreamed when I came home to work for the Tribe in 1989 that this would happen.

When I began working for the Tribe, I worked in the Executive Office and with the Tribal Council. I have worked with the Legal department as a Legal Assistant and Tribal Court as a Deputy Court Clerk. Now, working in the Finance office I have the opportunity to work with staff throughout the organization.

There have been so many changes and we have grown so much that it is sometimes hard for people new to the Tribal organization to understand the feeling of seeing our 'dreams' of a clinic and headquarters office come true.

We have gone through good times and some rough spots, but we always worked together to reach our goals and I pray we always will. It has been said that "the greatest honor one can receive is to be recognized by your own people." I have had the unique opportunity to work with many people over the years, that this means more to me than you can imagine.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,
Dakota Whitecloud

Dear Editor,

We would like to thank Carrie Murray Aaron for helping us during the holidays. Words can't define the holiday season we have encountered with the kind help of her and her department. Thank you! You are a very sweet and special person!

**Gene Fay, Whitney, Sylvia,
McKenna, and Samantha**

Dear Editor,

I would like to send out a special thank you to Karen Peters on behalf of the veterans and the Tribe for her donation in Mark Cook's name toward the Veterans Memorial. The Grand Ronde veterans and Cook family greatly appreciate the donation.

Karen and her husband, Ray, were looking for some way to acknowledge Mark's life and to let Tammy and everyone know they are thinking of them.

Thank you again Karen and Ray.

Marce Norwest
Veterans Committee Chairman

In Loving Memory

Arthelia Mae Clark

Letter of Thanks

It is with a heavy heart that I have come to perform this important task on behalf of the passing of my mother, Arthelia Mae Holmes (Clark) on Christmas Day of 1999. This shall be a day that will always be regarded with much reflection by all who knew and loved her.



Her youngest son John and his youngest daughter Racheal were in her company at the moment of passing for which I can only be eternally grateful to both for.

Mom had been a cancer survivor of 21 years, a sinus cancer which left her physically scarred but her spirit strong. She loved her family and her grandchildren were always important to her.

She kept her house well up until a couple of years ago when she started having many strokes. Yet in her heart, I know she lived her life as her Master deemed her to. I know she has earned her place in the peaceful garden of God's house along with family long missed.

Among many who attended her memorial on the day she was also wed to dad 47 years ago, I wish to thank one lady in particular. One of her most steadfast friends from childhood always came to visit her and was in attendance — Mrs. Jone Be Bainter.

She always looked forward to seeing you and your Avon. You have no idea of the value of your presence when you came and administered to her in your special way. We should all be as blessed to have at least one friend who would do as much as you did for her. May you have all of the blessings due you and your family. She spoke at great length of you and your time with her as you grew up in the community long ago.

To Kathryn Harrison, I personally thank you for your visits when you had the time to stop in and speak with her as an old friend. She spoke highly of you 'as in the early days of restoration time was marked by your willingness to speak out and make your plight known to the public at large.

To those of the tribal staff and the Elders, thank you for your thoughts and prayers. She also grew up with many of you and spoke of those times long gone, now you must go on to bring better life standards to those remaining in all families.

To all the family and friends who came and walked up the hill to witness the special ceremony heralded by one of her grandsons, Bobby Allan Mercier, whom Grandfather aptly named "Bear Tracks." On this day you walked with the tracks of the great bear for you have the medicine of your great-grandfather David Holmes. Thank you for the blessing ceremony of her home and at the graveside with your chosen friends who assisted you in the drum ceremony. Your task was difficult but very much appreciated by your uncles and your mother, Arlettia. To you of the Drum, many thanks and blessings upon you and your heirs in eons to come. You and the pallbearers will be remembered.

Last but not least, to the ladies of the Alter Society of St. Michael's Catholic Church, many thanks for your kindness and service to the family and friends of Mom. May you all continue to enjoy the many colored and varied blessings of this life. You're earning your place in the Garden of Life with all that you do. To Father Neville, thank you for the precious service that you performed and the grace and manner of the ceremony. You blended the ancient with the new and made the ceremony a thing to remember for all of the young and old of the family and the community.

Now, thank you to all, seen and unseen, for having you there to fill the small church was indeed a testament to the life of this one woman of the Tribe. Father Neville, I too was pleased as I saw the smile land on your face as you commented on the act. May the Creator of all bless each according to His will.

David Lewis Clark