



Special Section

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July 1, 2001
Sec. 2

2001 TRIBAL COUNCIL CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

SAMPLE BALLOT TRIBAL COUNCIL ELECTION

- Tom Leno
- Margaret J. Provost
- Ed Larsen
- Renaldo (Quinelle) Minjarez
- Mark Mercier
- Jack Giffen Jr.
- Richard McKnight
- Bob Haller
- Val Grout
- Timothy E. Holmes
- Patsy Pullin
- Fred McGee
- Loren F. Holmes
- Candy (George) Robertson
- Jackie Provost
- Wesley (Buddy) West

The order of the 2001 Tribal Council candidates were drawn randomly to appear on the ballot as listed above.

In this special section of *Smoke Signals*, the 16 nominees for the 2001 Tribal Council have the opportunity to share their beliefs and issues they care about most. Read on to learn more about these candidates....

■ Ballots will be mailed on July 23.

■ **CANDIDATE FORUM & POTLUCK** (see detailed agenda on page 7).
Saturday, July 7 – 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. – Community Center

■ **ELECTION DAY**
Saturday, September 8 – 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. – Community Center

■ General Council meetings will resume on Sunday, September 9.

■ **Notice: 1,400 eligible voters are not registered to vote, due to not having an official notarized signature on file. The Election Board will be sending official voter registration forms to these members. It is your responsibility to fill out, have notarized and return before election day on September 8 to the Enrollment office. Please note that ballot envelopes will not be used for notarization this year.**

ELECTION BOARD

503-879-2271

1-800-422-0232, ext. 2271
COMMUNITY CENTER

Chair Ellen Fischer
Vice Chair Joann Mercier
Secretary Theresa Haller
Members Claudia Leno
 Nancy Coleman
 Cherie Butler
 Kimberly Campbell
Alternates Ruby Bigoni
 Peachie Hamm
 Bernice Jensen
 Charlene Hoover

Tribal Council Elections; Mark it Up!

■ Annual opportunity for Tribal members to exercise their right to vote.

By Justin Phillips

Soon it will be that time of the year again. It is down to three marks on your ballot. But before you starting getting pencil happy, you better check to see if your vote even counts.

There are new things happening with the Election Board this year.

In May of 2001, there were four Election Board seats that were determined vacant. After reviewing the Election Board applications submitted by the membership, Tribal Council chose to renew three of the four current board member appointments. Ellen Fisher, Nancy Coleman and Cherie Butler have a new two-year term. Fisher also was unanimously re-elected as the Chairperson. Claudia Leno, who was serving as an alternate in the year 2000 election, filled the fourth Election Board seat. Other members include, Joann Mercier, Vice-Chairman and Theresa Haller, Secretary. Also, Kimberly Campbell is disqualifying herself for the period of the year 2001 election because of a potential personal conflict.

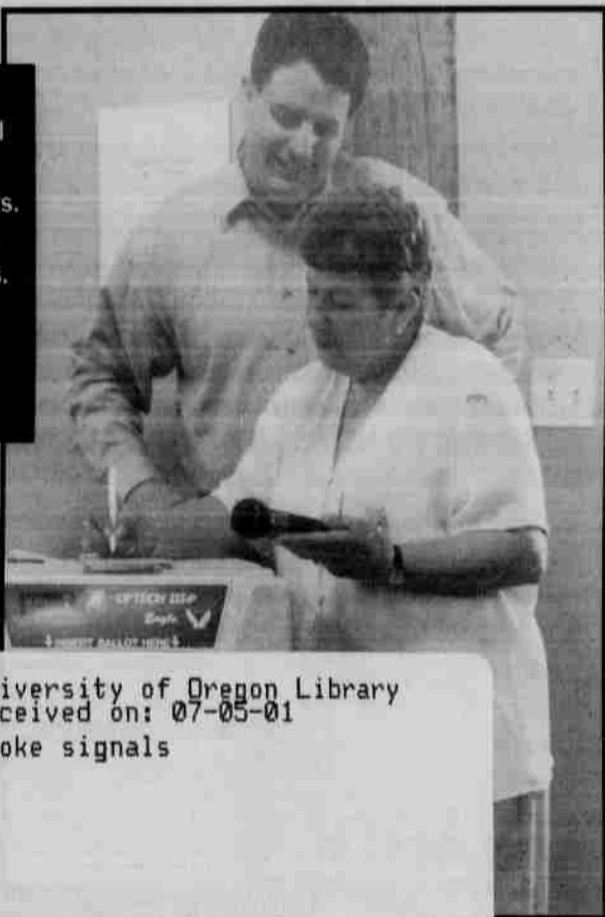
In the past, the Election Board offices were dismantled at the end of the annual Tribal Council election and all the documents were stored until the next year's election. The board has two permanent and one semi-permanent office located in the Community Center. One office has a window so Tribal members can access the Election Ordinance. The Election Board does not have a clerk at this time but board members retrieve messages left on the phone system and return calls and send information to all with requests.

Tribal Council has authorized an upgrade to the voter registration system. The purpose of the upgrade is to have a computer in the office that will store the voter registration forms (enrollment will still keep the originals) and capture the signatures so the Election Board mem-

The Tribal Election Board is now using two new machines to count and validate election ballots. One machine scans Tribal member signatures and those signatures will now be on file electronically. The other machine counts ballots. Ink Impressions, a New Mexico-based company is assisting the Election Board with the process.



◀ Pictured at left is company president Terry Rainey.
▶ Pictured at right is Tribal Election Board Chair Ellen Fischer and Rainey.



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bers can more efficiently view signatures for verification. Ink Impressions, a New Mexico-based company specializing in election-related materials, will conduct and federally certify the Tribal Council elections.

"We provide election management services to city, state, county and Tribal governments all over the country," said Ink Impressions President Terry Rainey. "This election (in Grand Ronde) is basically vote by mail. So here, we are assisting them (the Election Board) on getting their voter data file ready to do the ballot mailing. This will give them the ability to track every piece of mail in and out and be able to provide an audit trail of all the ballots."

Ink Impressions will also be here on Election Day, September 8, with tabulation equipment to do the optical scan and counting of the ballots. Ink Impressions also prints, assembles the mailing packages and handles the mailing for the Election Board.

"They (Election Board members) never touch any of that stuff," said Rainey.

Ink Impressions designs and develops several machines that count ballots quickly and precisely. The lasers read the carbon substance on the ballots – that is why a number two pencil must be used. The machine the Election Board uses acknowledges ballots at a time of 600 per minute. This will enable a quick return on the election results.

This year the Election Board is scanning all signatures of registered voters and it will be on file for easy access to verify signatures.

"We usually would have to look them up by hand," said Kimberly Campbell. "It's going to be so much easier with a computer."

"I think the main reason we have been contracted to do this kind of work is because we are an impartial group responsible for the tabulation of the ballots," said Rainey. "The Election Board has done a lot to make this whole signature verification and registration process tighter so that there is consistency in every transaction." ■