

Letters

Dear Editor,

The "Spirit Mountain Rodeo" board wishes to thank all of the sponsors for the 2001 rodeos, especially the major sponsors. The sponsors were the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and the Tribal Council, Spirit Mountain Casino, Boyd's Coffee and Pepsi.

We want to express our appreciation to our regular sponsors for their support; Raz, Stuck Electric, Carquest, Bonanza Antique Mall, Fast Cash, Fort Hill Restaurant and Double HH.

The buckle sponsorships added a personal touch, we wish to thank them as well; Rice Furniture, Chip and Bonnie Tom, Bill and Kathy Soderberg, Bud and Anna White, TLC, Merle Holmes and sons, Wood Family Farms, Joey Holmes and Harold and Linda Lyons.

The Elmer Tom Memorial Championship Saddle was sponsored by the friends and family of Elmer; we want to thank them for their donations which helped the Rodeo Board in purchasing the saddle. Thanks to Russ Leno, JLG Builders and Ron Leno. Due to the enthusiasm and dedication of our Board members and volunteers we have enjoyed another successful year.

We are planning three events in the coming year and with your continued support we are looking forward to a successful season. The board is always looking for additional sponsors, if you may be interested please contact Michaelle Kimsey at 503-550-4897.

Once again, thank you!
Marv Kimsey
 and the Rodeo Board

Dear Tribal members,

Another Tribal election has come and gone. I would like to thank all of you that participated in the election process. I would like to thank the Election Board for the work they performed to ensure that another fair election has been conducted.

I would especially like to express my gratitude to everyone that voted for me this year. I sincerely appreciate your support.

Let's support our Tribal Council. Together there is nothing we can't accomplish. We have a responsibility to all work together in a positive manner for the good of all.

Respectfully,
Tim E. Holmes
 Roll # 912

Editor's note:

Recently an article appeared in the *Sheridan Sun* that was authored by Charlene Brown. In a fictional account of history, Brown claimed that General Phil Sheridan lined up the Native people who had been forced onto an area of land known as the Grand Ronde Reservation and told them to stop fighting amongst themselves because in a hundred years or so they would have a casino with restaurants and live entertainment. There is a good chance Brown was trying to be funny, but many in this community did not see her humor. During a subsequent telephone conversation with *Sun* Editor George Robertson, he apologized for the article and offered a letter to back up his statement. Here is that letter.

Dear Brent,

I want to formally apologize to you and the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde for any offense that was taken from a column written by Charlene Brown and published in *The Sun*.

Believe me, there was no intention to offend anyone or the Tribe.

The column was an attempt at poking fun at some of the West Valley's history. Apparently, however, the column proved to be offensive.

I would also like to assure you and the Tribes that *The Sun* will continue to support the Tribes various activities and programs. I personally am aware of many positive activities the Tribes support in our local communities and I appreciate it very much.

I hope this sets the record straight. Thanks for giving me the opportunity to do so.

Sincerely,
George Robertson
 Editor-Publisher of *The Sun*

Dear Tribal members,

I want to thank everyone who supported me in the past Tribal Council Election.

I want to also congratulate Bob Haller, Ed Larsen and Val Grout.

I hope that all council members keep focused on the BIG PICTURE of the Tribe.

Thank you all once again for your support.

Sincerely,
Fred McGee
 Roll # 1172
 E-mail: mcgeef87@hotmail.com

BENCH NOTES

by Angela Fasana
 Tribal Court Administrator

UPDATE ON ENROLLMENT CASES

As some of you are aware, the Tribal Court has been very busy over the course of the last 16 months with a high volume of cases where an applicant has been denied enrollment and has filed a Petition for Review of their Enrollment Determination. The following is a summary of the status of those cases.

To date, 62 enrollment cases have been filed in the Tribal Court. Eleven of those cases were dismissed for technical defects in filing the cases, such as filing too late or filing before all other procedures were followed. In July of this year, Judge English issued an opinion for 41 cases. Ten cases are still pending.

Of the 41 cases decided in July, Judge English remanded 24 of those cases back to the Enrollment Committee. Judge English found that those 24 enrollment applicants had applied for enrollment prior to the effective date of the 1999 Constitutional Amendment (September 1999) and therefore the new Constitutional Amendment should not apply to their applications for Enrollment. The Tribe has appealed all of these decisions to the Court of Appeals. The Court of Appeals is made up of three judges who will now review the cases again.

Of the 41 cases decided in July, Judge English affirmed 17 of those cases. Judge English found that those applicants filed after the effective date of the 1999 Constitutional Amendment. Judge English did not find any violations of Constitutional Rights in these cases. Seven of these enrollment applicants have appealed Judge English's determination to the Court of Appeals, who will now review the cases again.

If you would like to read any of these opinions, they are available on the Tribe's website under Tribal Court Published Opinions, or you may contact the Tribal Court.

**The Confederated Tribes of the
 Grand Ronde Community of Oregon
 TRIBAL COUNCIL**

NAME	TITLE	TERM EXPIRES
Cheryle A. Kennedy	Chairperson	September 2003
Reynold L. Leno	Vice-Chair	September 2002
June Sell-Sherer	Secretary	September 2002
Val Grout	Council	September 2004
Robert "Bob" Haller	Council	September 2004
Earl F. "Butch" LaBonte	Council	September 2002
Ed Larsen	Council	September 2004
Ed Pearsall	Council	September 2003
Jan D. Reibach	Council	September 2003

Terms for Council: 3 years

Tribal Council Meetings: Council meets twice a month, generally on Wednesday.

General Council Meetings: Generally held 1st Sunday of January, February, March, April, May, September, October, November and December.

Constitution: Approved November 30, 1984 IRA
 Amended September 14, 1999

Tribal Enrollment: 4,679 as September 12, 2001 (active members only).



SMOKE SIGNALS

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

9615 Grand Ronde Road • Grand Ronde, OR 97347
 1-800-422-0232 • Fax: 503-879-2173 • www.grandronde.org

BRENT MERRILL
 ■ PUBLIC INFORMATION
 COORDINATOR
 ■ EDITOR
 503-879-2321
 brent.merrill@grandronde.org

KIM MUELLER
 ■ PRODUCTION
 COORDINATOR
 503-879-2264
 kim.mueller@grandronde.org

JUSTIN PHILLIPS
 ■ PRODUCTION
 ASSISTANT
 503-879-2190
 justin.phillips@grandronde.org

EDITORIAL POLICY

SMOKE SIGNALS, a publication of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon, is published twice a month. We have an Editorial Policy to encourage input from readers about stories printed in **SMOKE SIGNALS** and other Tribal issues. However, all letters must be received at the newspaper office with author's signature, address, and phone number in order to be considered for publication. **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.

DEADLINE DATE	ISSUE DATE
Fri., October 19	NOVEMBER 1
Mon., November 5	NOVEMBER 15
Mon., November 19	DECEMBER 1
Wed., December 5	DECEMBER 15
Mon., December 17	JANUARY 1

Members of: ■ Native American Journalist Association
 ■ Society of News Design
 ■ SND ■ The Associated Press

SMOKE SIGNALS is also available on audio cassette by request.

Printed on recycled paper.

SMOKE SIGNALS ONLINE: www.grandronde.org

FREE SUBSCRIPTION

SMOKE SIGNALS is available to anyone at no cost. Fill out this form with your name and address, mail to:
Smoke Signals, Attn: Justin Phillips
 9615 Grand Ronde Road ~ Grand Ronde, OR 97347

OLD ADDRESS:

NEW ADDRESS:

GRAND RONDE ROLL #: