

### Pow-wow Committee Seeking Help

The Pow-wow Committee is looking for workers during the pow-wow, August 20-22. Volunteer and paid positions are available. Please contact Lisa Leno at 503-879-1471.

## Letters

Dear *Smoke Signals*/Toby McClary,

Thank you for taking the Elder pictures. Not all Elders are able to attend functions, so they are never seen. This gesture lets them know you and the community is also aware of them and they are important.

**Donna Stronach**  
Roll #12

Dear *Smoke Signals*,

We wish to express our appreciation to the Tribal Council, the casino and all the others who helped make Native American Week successful.

**The Culture Committee**

Dear Tribal members,

I am writing to encourage everyone to pay close attention to the upcoming council nominees. Read their statements in the *Smoke Signals*. I suggest you e-mail or write and learn more about them and how they would vote on issues that you are concerned about.

**ATTENTION YOUNG PEOPLE:** It is YOUR responsibility to register with the election committee so you can vote! If you haven't registered or you are just turning 18 on or before the election, **you must** request a voter's packet from the Election Committee. Call the Tribal offices and the receptionist will be happy to connect you to the Election Committee. Leave a detailed voice message with your address or phone number to be sure someone could reach you. There are no excuses not to vote.

The Tribe spends a lot of money every year and most of it comes from our casino. We as Tribal members should pay close attention to where and how our money is spent because it is our money. I think we need to elect people who will listen to Tribal member concerns and vote accordingly. I believe our council has good intentions when they decide to serve on council. I also believe that since the casino has been successful in a short amount of time that people may be blinded by dollar signs. We spend a lot of money on per capita while programs in Grand Ronde are under funded. We opened the gas station and want to hire our young people to work there but are more concerned with making a profit than providing a living wage for our young people. Our young people are starting families and cannot afford to pay rent on decent housing. If we work for the tribe we shouldn't have to live in low-income housing. We shouldn't have to apply for food stamps or section 8 housing with our county government. I remember a goal of being self-sufficient and that sounds good. It is not a reality yet for tribal members living in or around Grand Ronde.

It is everyone's responsibility to be involved. No one should be excluded because of your family or what you do in your free time. The Tribe works very hard to be a good neighbor to the community and we are. I think we need to work harder on being more supportive and friendly to Tribal members in the area, especially those who are struggling for whatever reason.

Sincerely,

**Cristina Contreras**  
chrischinuk@yahoo.com

**On the cover is a photograph of Tribal member Marcel Allen, one of many youngsters that danced in this year's Veterans' Pow-wow.**

**Correction:** In the last issue of *Smoke Signals*, in an article entitled, "Gathering Place For The Indian Nation' Opens In Sheridan," reporting errors resulted in two mistakes: we reported that John Hawks is Cherokee. In fact, he is Chiricahua Apache. We also reported that his last gallery was in Palmer, Alaska. It was in Homer, Alaska. We regret the errors.

Hawks also requested that we mention that artist Vee Ola Corso's work will be included in the gallery. Her work has been featured at the National Hall of Fame for Famous Indians in Anadarko, Oklahoma and in many other prestigious venues nationwide, including the Smithsonian.

Learn more about the facility on the web at [www.spirithawk.org](http://www.spirithawk.org). To inquire about showing art at the gallery or any other aspect of the project, feel free to contact John Hawks at 503-835-0711.

### FREE SUBSCRIPTION

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## Smoke Signals 2004 Deadlines

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DEADLINE DATE	ISSUE DATE
Thurs., Aug. 5	AUG. 15
Fri., Aug. 20	SEP. 1
Fri., Sep. 3	SEP. 15
Fri., Sep. 17	OCT. 1
Tues., Oct. 5	OCT. 15
Wed., Oct. 20	NOV. 1
Fri., Nov. 5	NOV. 15
Wed., Nov. 17	DEC. 1
Fri., Dec. 3	DEC. 15
Thurs., Dec. 16	JAN. 1, 2005

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Our editorial policy is intended to encourage input from Tribal members and readers about stories printed in the Tribal newspaper. However, all letters received must be signed by the author, an address must be given and a phone number or email address must be included for verification purposes. Full addresses and phone numbers will not be published unless requested.

**SMOKE SIGNALS** reserves the right to edit letters and to refuse letters that are determined to contain libelous statements or personal attacks on individuals, staff, Tribal administration or Tribal Council. Not all letters are guaranteed publication upon submission. Letters to the editor are the opinions and views of the writer. Published letters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of **SMOKE SIGNALS**, Tribal staff, Tribal administration or Tribal Council.

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In order to ensure a balanced election campaign and fairness to all candidates, the **SMOKE SIGNALS** 2003 Tribal Council Election Editorial Policy for letters to the editor will be as follows: Subject to existing editorial policies regarding libel, personal attacks and unsubstantiated facts.

1. Letters in support of candidates will **NOT** be published in regular editions of **SMOKE SIGNALS**.
  2. Letters to the editor from candidates will **NOT** be published during the time period from nominations to the conclusion of the Tribal Council Election.
  3. Feature articles and spotlights involving candidates will be suspended during the time period from nominations to the conclusion of the Tribal Council Election.
- This policy is intended to ensure an equal forum for all candidates.

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