Social Services Committee members wanted

Applications are being accepted for the newly formed Social Services Committee. Contact Dakota Whitecloud, Tribal Council Relations Coordinator, at 503-879-1309, 1-800-422-0232, ext. 1309, or e-mail at dakota.whitecloud@grandronde.org to obtain an application.

NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings

DATE	TIME
Wednesday, May 7	5 p.m.
Wednesday, May 21	5 p.m.

Please note that these times and dates are subject to change if needed. Call Dakota Whitecloud, Tribal Council Relations Coordinator, at 503-879-1309 to confirm.

Letters

Dear Elders of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Nation:

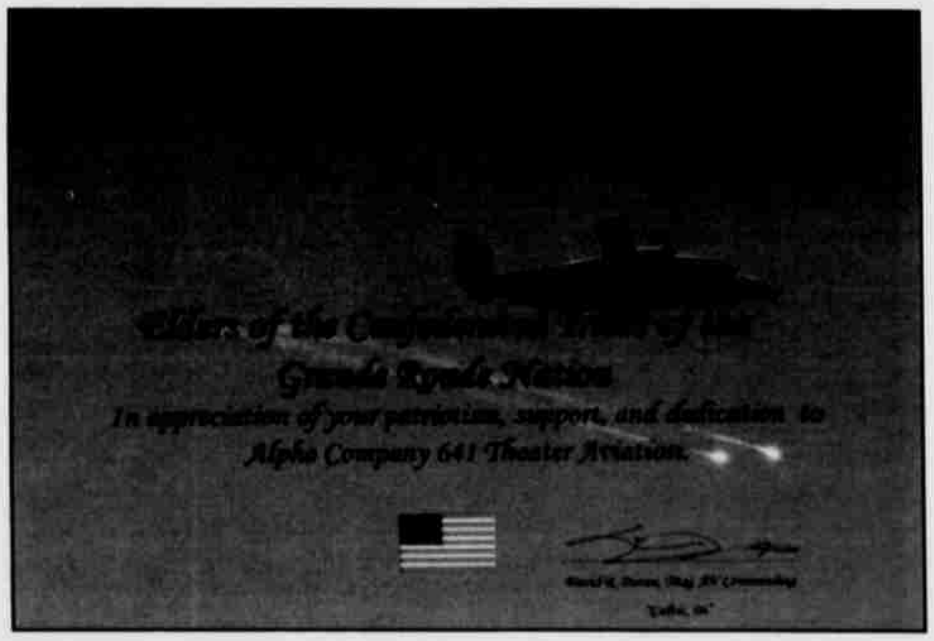
This letter and certificate are in appreciation for the support you have shown the American soldiers of Co. A 641 Aviation, the "Celts," during our deployment to Iraq from October of 2007 through May of 2008. Your cards and care packages were greatly appreciated by the 44 soldiers and officers of Alpha Company. Most importantly, the support we felt on receiving such generosity from our fellow Americans helped us make it through our deployment and return to our families with pride in a job well done.

Alpha Company is a C-23 Sherpa Theater Aviation Company, composed of 44 soldiers with our headquarters in Oregon, and detachments in Washington state, South Dakota and Oklahoma. The aircraft we fly is a Shorts Brothers C-23 "Sherpa" built in Northern Ireland; this is where we derive our unit name of the "Celts." We are one of only five such companies that exist in the Army inventory; all of the C-23 companies in the Army are National Guard units.

The soldiers of Alpha Company provide aviation support to the theater commander, hauling urgent cargoes and passengers throughout the Iraq Theater of operations. Since our arrival and takeover of the mission, we have hauled 5.4 million pounds of urgently needed cargo, typically medical supplies and urgently needed repair parts to support outlying bases. We have also transported 12,600 passengers, often soldiers on urgent missions, or going to or returning from leave with their families and friends. Our passengers and cargo are spared lengthy and dangerous ground convoys to reach outlying bases where they are needed for the mission of supporting the freedom and security that is growing every day in this country.

As I type this, the Celts are well on their way to setting a record for the mission we perform here in Iraq. We have moved more cargo and transported more passengers than any unit that has preceded us in this mission since it started in 2004. The morale of our soldiers is key to accomplishing this vital mission and owes a great deal to the support we feel from the friends, loved ones and very often strangers whom we have never met, but only know us as "American soldiers." Please accept our thanks and this enclosed certificate as a small token or our gratitude for your support, and know that you have played a part in the success of the Celts, and the support of our fighting forces in Iraq.

Commanding Major David R. Doran "Celtic '06"



Dear Grand Ronde Community:

My name is Jade Lee Fletchall. I'm 23. My date of birth is Feb. 10, 1985.

I'm looking for my father, "Don Madaries," and my grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Madaries. I'm not sure if that is how they spell the last name because I have not seen my dad for 20 years, but I do know the last place my grandparents lived at was Hideout Road in Grand Ronde.

If you may be able to help me find them, I would love for you to help me. This will be so cool if I do get a hold of my family on my dad's side because I would love to get to know my father and family on his side, and it would be nice to let them know how I'm doing.

Jade Lee Fletchall
SID No. 15336537
777 Stanton Blvd.
Ontario, OR 97914

2008 GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

- **Sunday, May 4 — 11 a.m.**
  Grand Ronde
- **Sunday, June 29 — 11 a.m. — Tribal Council Nominations ONLY**
  Grand Ronde

Smoke Signals

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DEADLINE DATE	ISSUE DATE
Monday, May 5	MAY 15
Friday, May 20	JUNE 1
Thursday, June 5	JUNE 15

Editorial Policy

SMOKE SIGNALS, a publication of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon, is published twice a month. No portion of this publication may be reprinted without permission.

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 e-mail 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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