

**NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>
Wednesday, Oct. 22.....	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 Fellow Tribal Members:**

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support of my re-election to Tribal Council. I am grateful and honored for the opportunity to serve the membership for another three years. I also would like to say thank you to all who called and sent e-mails congratulating me on my re-election. Congratulations from you, the members, means so much especially given the nastiness during elections this year. As always, my family has been very supportive and I truly appreciate their constant support.

I want to say a special thank you to my family members who were listed in the infamous "Leno letter." I regret the fact that they have always been a target during the election process, but this year was definitely the worst. There was a group of people who were obviously envious of me and my family's accomplishments, dedication and devotion to the Tribe.

Thankfully, many Tribal members came out in support of me and my family, especially during Tribal Council meetings. I can't tell you how much that meant to all of us. My family will remain proud and dedicated to serving the membership to the best of their ability.

We all have differences of opinions and groups of Tribal members who support one another, but I encourage us all to come together as a Tribe. We, as Tribal people and as a Tribal government, will be facing many challenges in the years to come with the troubled economy we are now faced with. If we can find a way to all come together, we will make the challenges easier to handle.

I have no doubt we, as Tribal people and a Tribal government, will survive as we have for many years. We survived nearly 30 years of Termination and we will survive this.

**Reyn Leno**  
Roll #453

**Dear Smoke Signals:**

To the peoples of Grand Ronde Tribes.

We, the brothers of many Nations here at the Washington State Penitentiary, wish to say thank you. The folks of Natural Resources, thanks for the donation of salmon this past summer for our powwow gathering and celebration.

One big thank you also goes out to Tribal member and our l'il brother Jeffery Hedgecock for his continuously helping and contributing to the group's constant growth.

This celebration was one for the ages. It's a blessing to see them medicine sun dancers smile and show them we do stay tight with our cultures and have plenty of group strength in songs as well to the brothers.

I must add, please continue to give out to the community and show your reservation Elders and peoples that you're doing things to better yourselves than what peoples perceive of the jailed.

The Culture Committee has got to continue to let the administration know this is how we'd like to do old-time teaching to guild these outfits (regalia) for dance. It does me many smiles to read about the programs Grand Ronde is offering for the young to learn to bead and carve, teaching them kids better things than the videogame and drugs and alcohol.

I was blessed to have that started in another prison moons ago. Now I'm in segregation for protecting the culture of the peoples. Hey, sacrifices are what our Elders taught us and my love for the Indian ways is what may keep this Paiute smiling in here until I go home.

Thank you, Grand Ronde Tribes for the salmon. May your spirits be humbled and the Elders have a smile upon their faces.

**Ramon "Moony" Caldert**  
Walla Walla, Wash.

See page 11 for more letters.

**Corrections** — In the story about the Chankal celebration in the Oct. 1 issue of *Smoke Signals*, staff writer Ron Karten incorrectly reported that Tribal Elder Les Houck had passed on and did not report that Tribal Elder Merle Holmes had passed on. We regret the errors.

Also, Tribal Council Vice Chairman Reyn Leno's last name was misspelled in a letter to the editor in the Oct. 1 edition. His letter, with the correct name spelling, is being run in this edition. *Smoke Signals* apologizes for the error.

**Tribal Office Closures**

All Tribal offices will be closed on Tuesday, Nov. 11, in observance of Veterans Day.

**General Council meeting**

Sunday, Nov. 2, 2008 — 11 a.m.  
Tribal Community Center

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DEADLINE DATE	ISSUE DATE
Monday, Oct. 20 .....	NOV. 1
Wednesday, Nov. 5 .....	NOV. 15
Tuesday, Nov. 18 .....	DEC. 1
Friday, Dec. 5 .....	DEC. 15
Friday, Dec. 19 .....	JAN 1, 2009

**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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