

**NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings**

DATE	TIME
Wednesday, Nov. 5.....	5 p.m.
Wednesday, Nov. 19.....	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 Smoke Signals:**

I am a member of the Tribe and our younger generation. I've been reading all these articles about people throwing around rumors about the Leno family. By throwing around half-truths and lies, you may shy good people away from the Tribe. Take Aubrey, for example.

I don't see why we are bringing bitterness into the Tribe, and the families of our communities. I ask, why destroy what took our Elders so long to build? Why not work and come together to preserve what is left of our heritage? Not strip it of its last remaining beauty.

If you must throw around insinuations, at least bring facts to the table. Whoever is throwing around all of this lore really needs to reconsider. Does this really need to happen as well as putting others' jobs on the line? I hope people are able to come forth and admit it was them.

Thank you for reading my letter and improving the Tribe.

Gary Lee Campbell  
Roll #2926

**Dear Smoke Signals:**

We, the Elders who went on the Canadian Canoe Journey, would like to thank everyone who helped us achieve our goal by working, making donations and participating in our fundraising events.

These events were very successful and we could not have done it without your help. We know that you all made great sacrifices and worked long hours to help us accomplish this. There were far too many participants to list the names, so for those of you who helped, please know your efforts are greatly appreciated by all of us.

This Canoe Journey was one of the best and most fulfilling trips we have taken. It will be remembered for years to come. Again, thank you very much. We love you, and appreciate everything you've done.

Elders from the Canadian Canoe Journey

**Dear Smoke Signals:**

I am celebrating 15 years sober. In my recovery, I have learned that I would not have made it this far without my loving family, friends and treatment staff. Graduating from NARA is one of the biggest blessings in my life, as is the CTGR treatment program.

In my practicing addictions of alcohol and prescription medications, I have done countless wrongs to others and myself. I would like to encourage others who suffer from the disease of addiction to seek help to get clean and sober. The Creator has given us so much in life, and in recovery I am enjoying these many gifts. It is a learning process to treat others in a good way, after using people with no respect.

Recovery offers love for the Creator, Jesus, self and others. I thank all who are a part of my life, for each and every one of you brings me joy.

I'd like to share this poem about my life:

**Habitual Offender**

*Easy escape, well worn path  
No courage, no compassion, no relationship can last.  
Laughing, lying, no respect to share  
Beer, wine and pot, using others without care*

*Numbing God-given gifts, sent from Heaven above  
Expecting something for nothing, incapable of love.  
Sailing through life, looking neither left nor right  
Focusing only on self, number one, day or night.*

*Failing to nurture others, whose lives I have shared  
Not able to show them how much I have cared.  
The darkness is thick, surrounding my heart  
To see the light, I break my addictions apart.*

*I beg to feel warmth, giving up the fierce cold  
Acknowledge the truths of neglect, habits of old.  
Learning to trust, offering my hand  
Feeling the Creator turning my walls into sand.*

*I love myself, taking care now  
Without the Creator, I wouldn't know how.*

Margo Mercier  
Roll #885

See page 11 for more letters.

**Tribal Office Closures**

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
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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■ Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association

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