

Letters

Dear Tribal members:

In the July 15 *Smoke Signals* on Page 15, the council wants an honorarium for past and present council members.

Honorarium is tax-free money.

They want this money to offset what they lose on Social Security.

The Tribe already has a retirement fund. I don't know how much it is, but it's there.

My problem is you can get Social Security at 62. The Elders' Pension Fund starts at 55. If you do the math, that's \$84,000, take one-third for taxes and you end up with about \$60,000.

The \$1,000 a month that the Elders Pension Fund gives the Elder is more than a lot of non-members get on Social Security to live on.

I am asking you, the members, to fill out this Tribal Council Honorarium and say no.

We don't need another retirement fund at this time. The money could be used for different programs that are being cut.

Les McKnight
Roll #510

Dear *Smoke Signals*:

A few weeks ago, Lacey Rose Haller, the daughter of Ken and Sandy Haller, was diagnosed with leukemia. The news came only a few weeks after the death of their son, Tankey.

Through this really rough time they have been overwhelmed with the outpouring of support from not only their church, but the whole community.

While visiting Lacey at Doernbecher Children's Hospital, my aunt pointed at the plaque out front of her room. It read, "Donated by Spirit Mountain Community Fund." It was so nice to know the Tribe was still helping out while she was staying there. I want to say thanks again to the Tribe for all the great things they are doing! Thank you and God bless.

Cindy Gleason (Larson)
Roll #1838

Dear Editor and Tribal membership:

I want to share with the general membership a correction notice that probably should have appeared in the July 15th edition of *Smoke Signals*.

The Editor's note to my Letter to the Editor in the July 1 edition stated that the Tribe's Editorial Policy would allow Grand Ronde PAC to advertise about three (3) Candidates Forums. However, that was not the case.

Our paid advertisement was pulled at the direction of a Tribal Council Record of Instruction (ROI) that stated "Political Advertisements and/or Notices, whether from a group or individual are not to be placed in *Smoke Signals*; the only exception to this are the letters from Candidates which are placed in a special edition of *Smoke Signals* each year. This is to remain in effect until the Tribal Council has had time to discuss the issue further and standard policy is established."

Tribal Council met on the issue, but no policy was established. Therefore, we were unable to share the dates and times of the Candidates Forums.

Luckily, we had good attendance at the first forum in Portland. Thirteen (13) of eighteen (18) Tribal Council candidates attended and debated important Tribal issues for more than three hours. It was an exchange of ideas and democratic process that would have made our ancestors proud.

I hope other Tribal members will take the opportunity to hear from our candidates. They have interesting perspectives and ideas on how to improve our Tribe. While we can't advertise, I hope folks will take the time to visit our Web site, www.grandrondepac.org, to find out about the two (2) remaining forums.

Bryan Mercier
Roll #1357

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
Surplus Equipment Sale
1 DAY ONLY! Saturday August 15, 2009
9AM to 3PM
CTGR Tribal members only
(must show ID)

25 Computer Towers,
storage racks,
100's of buffet dishes,
and misc other items.

The location this year: the brown storage building
south of OLD Pow Wow grounds across
from the Governance building

Ad created by George Valdez

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF
GRAND RONDE
OFFICIAL BALLOT
COUNCIL
GENERAL ELECTION
Grand Ronde
September 12, 2009

TO VOTE: Complete the arrow
pointing to the candidate of your choice like
this:

VOTING FOR MORE THAN THREE (3)
CANDIDATES WILL VOID YOUR BALLOT.

CANDIDATES FOR COUNCIL
VOTE FOR THREE (3) ONLY



JACKIE PROVOST
MANY HIDES



HAROLD
LYON



BRENT
MERRILL



STANLEY O.
JEFFERS



SHELLEY
HANSON



BOBBY ALLAN
MERCIER



TOBY
MCCLARY



APRIL
CAMPBELL



JACK
GIFFEN JR.



DENISE
HARVEY



PERRI
MCDANIEL



ALTON GUS
BUTLER, JR.



VALORIE
SHEKER



CHERYLE A.
KENNEDY



LEONARD 'LENNY'
LOGAN II



DEBBIE
MARRINGTON



SANDA L. (SAM)
HENNY



MICHAEL T
BOLTON

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