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Smoke Signals

A Publication of the Grand Ronde Tribe

JULY 1, 2015

www.grandronde.org

UMPQUA ■ MOLALLA ■ ROGUE RIVER ■ KALAPUYA ■ CHASTA

Eight vying for Tribal Council

By Brent Merrill

Smoke Signals staff writer

Eight Tribal members were nominated to run for three open Tribal Council seats and all accepted during a General Council meeting held at the Tribal Community Center on Sunday, June 28.

Because of Labor Day weekend, Election Day this year will be Saturday, Sept. 12. Eligible voters must be registered to vote and can register up to and including Election Day. Each eligible voter is entitled to vote for up to three candidates.

Of the eight nominees, the top three vote-getters will fill three vacancies created when the terms of Cheryle A. Kennedy, Jon A. George and Toby McClary expire. Kennedy and George are seeking re-election this year while McClary will be wrapping up two consecutive three-year terms on Tribal Council.

Following are the nominators followed by the nominees:

- Tribal Elder Margaret Provost nominated Kennedy.
- Tribal Elder Val Grout nominated Tribal Elder and former Tribal Council member Steve Bobb Sr.
- Former Tribal Council member Kathleen Tom nominated Ann Lewis.
- Lewis nominated Tom.
- Rhonda Leno nominated Tammy Garrison.
- Jerry George nominated Tribal Council member Jon A. George.
- Tribal Council member Tonya Gleason-Shepek nominated Tribal Elder and former Tribal Council member June Sherer.
- And Tribal Council member Chris Mercier nominated Brenda Tuomi.

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Photo by Michelle Alaimo

The 2015 Marcellus Norwest Memorial Veterans Powwow will be the first powwow to be held under the new arbor at Uyxat Powwow Grounds.

Veterans Powwow will be first under the new arbor

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

Veterans Special Event Board Chairman Steve Bobb Sr. will be on his way to Germany to visit an exchange employee that he and his wife, Connie, hosted when the 2015 Marcellus Norwest Memorial Veterans Powwow becomes the first to be held under the new arbor at Uyxat Powwow Grounds, 9390 Highway 22.

“We’re pretty excited about being under the new arbor,” Bobb says, adding that unfortunately he will be leaving on the morning of Friday, July 10, for Europe. “I’m missing out on that. It’s kind of a bummer to miss that initial

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If you go

Marcellus Norwest Memorial Veterans Powwow

When: Grand entries at 7 p.m. Friday, July 10; 1 and 7 p.m. Saturday, July 11; and 1 p.m. Sunday, July 12.

Where: Uyxat Powwow Grounds, 9390 Highway 22.

Cost: Free.

More info: Contact Reina Nelson at 503-879-2313 or reina.nelson@grandronde.org.

Willamina OKs display of Tribal flag



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

By Brent Merrill

Smoke Signals staff writer

WILLAMINA — The Willamina School Board approved a new policy regarding flag displays that accommodates a request from Tribal Council Chairman Reyn

Leno to hang the Grand Ronde Tribe’s flag in the school gym during its Tuesday, June 23, meeting held in Willamina High School Library.

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Tribal Council Chairman Reyn Leno makes a request to the Willamina School Board to hang a Grand Ronde Tribal flag in the high school gym during a board meeting held at the school’s library on Tuesday, June 23. Tribal member Angela Fasana originally made a request on her own, not on behalf of the Tribe, but the board’s newly approved policy stated a sovereign nation needed to make the request, so Leno made a new one on behalf of the Tribe.