

Priest hopes to rebuild relationships in Grand Ronde

By Danielle Frost

Smoke Signals staff writer

MCMINNVILLE — St. Michael’s Catholic Church has been a part of Grand Ronde since Father Adrian Croquet opened it in 1862, just five years after the Reservation was established.

Scores of Tribal Elders recall attending the parish school and roller skating in the gymnasium as young teens.

Tribal Council member Steve Bobb Sr. recalls how he used to drive the nuns to distraction with his antics. At one point, they stopped by his grandparents’ home to express “concern for his soul.”

Through Termination and Restoration, St. Michael’s has remained open to the community and a small congregation gathers for weekly Sunday Mass.

Zani Pacanza, the new priest-in-charge at the church, is hoping to reintroduce St. Michael’s to Tribal residents who once attended, but stopped coming for various reasons.

“My goal is to rebuild those connections,” he says. “I was told that years ago, many were baptized at the church, but had left because of cold treatment. ... I would like to invite them to visit again and increase their circle of friends. It is a very warm and welcoming con-



Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez

Father Zani Pacanza, parochial vicar at St. James Catholic Church in McMinnville, also serves the Grand Ronde community at St. Michael’s Catholic Church.

gregation. ... Things have changed.”

Pacanza, who grew up in the Philippines, was assigned to St. Michael’s in July 2017 shortly after completing Mount Angel Seminary and being ordained in Portland.

After working as a journalist for several years in his native country, Pacanza became burnt out after covering the political beat and being threatened with lawsuits from

upset politicians.

“Writing and interviewing were my passions,” he says. “But when I was in grade school and was an altar server for church with my brothers, I was the only one to memorize all of the prayers. I used to stop by the store on my way home and buy Necco Wafers and do ‘communion.’ I was doing a good job as a journalist, but decided to go back to my original calling.”

Pacanza, who is based at St. James Catholic Church in McMinnville, says his first 14 months of Sunday services in Grand

Ronde have been a positive experience.

“It’s been very beautiful,” he says. “St. Michael’s is a very small parish, but very historic. People are really warm and always appreciative if I say a good sermon.”

The choir includes three people and brunch is served after Mass. Church attendance is not required.

“It’s really good food,” he says. “I would welcome newcomers to at least see the church. It is an important part of Grand Ronde history.”

Pacanza will get his first taste of Grand Ronde culture when he attends the 35th annual Restoration Celebration on Sunday, Nov. 18.

“I am really excited,” he says. “I have been to powwows before, but not in this area. I am also looking forward to trying the food.”

During the next few years, Pacanza is hoping to add more social events to the church calendar with the help of a pastoral planning group.

“I really enjoy seeing the milestones in people’s lives,” he says. “All of the sacraments we do – baptisms, confirmations, weddings and funerals – all of these are sharing in some of the most important aspects of their lives.”

Pacanza says that everyone is welcome to rent the church gym at a low cost for events.

For more information about St. Michael’s, which is located on Hebo Road just west of the Grand Ronde Road intersection, contact Pacanza at zanimpacanza@gmail.com or call 503-472-5232. For gym rental, contact Carol Nash at canash@live.com or 503-930-8355. ■

ENTERED
NOV - 6 2018
CTGR COURT *4/5*

1 IN THE TRIBAL COURT OF THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE
2 GRAND RONDE COMMUNITY OF OREGON

3

4 In the Matter of:) Case No.: C-18-013
5 Devin Austin French,)
6 Petitioner.) ORDER GRANTING REQUEST TO
7) CHANGE NAME

8

9 Based on the allegations set forth in the Petition for Name Change filed by Petitioner on
10 September 14, 2018:

11 THE COURT FINDS AS FOLLOWS:

12 1. This Court has jurisdiction over the Petitioner and the subject matter of the Petition
13 herein;

14 2. The Petitioner is over 18 years of age;

15 3. The Petitioner is an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
16 Community of Oregon, roll number 6166;

17 4. The Petitioner has not petitioned and been granted a change of name by the Tribal
18 Court within the past twelve (12) months;

19 5. The Petitioner has published a Notice of Name Change in the Tribal newspaper, the
20 Smoke Signals for one edition.

21

22 NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

23 1. The name of the Petitioner is changed from Devin Austin French to Devin Austin
24 Real;

25 2. The Clerk of the Tribal Court shall cause a copy of this Order to be published in the
26 Tribal Newsletter;

1 3. The Clerk of the Tribal Court shall submit a certified copy of this Order to the Grand
2 Ronde Tribal Enrollment office;

3 4. The Clerk of the Court shall provide a certified copy of the Order to the Oregon State
4 Department of Vital Statistics.

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9 DATED THIS 6th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2018.

10

11 /s/ David D. Shaw
12 David D. Shaw
13 Chief Judge

Certified Application Assisters at the Health & Wellness Center

Cheyenne Zimmer is now available to assist with re-certification and applications for the Oregon Health Plan. She can be reached at 503-879-1359 or cheyenne.zimmer@grandronde.org. Leah Bailey also is a Certified Application Assister available to help. She can be reached at 503-879-2197 or leah.bailey@grandronde.org. ■

FORM 2

IN THE TRIBAL COURT FOR THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES
OF THE GRAND RONDE COMMUNITY OF OREGON

5 In The Matter of:) Case No.: C-18-015
6 Mychal Shamane Cherry)
7 Applicant) NOTICE OF NAME CHANGE
8 [ADULT]

9 NOTICE TO ANY INTERESTED PERSONS:

10 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that the above Petitioner has filed a Petition with this Court on
11 the 5th day of November, 2018, requesting that Petitioner's name be
12 changed from Mychal Shamane Cherry to
13 Michael Shamane Cherry.

14

15 The purpose of this Notice is to give all interested persons an opportunity to show cause
16 why the name change should or should not be granted. Any person objecting to the proposed
17 name change may file a written objection with the Court within 14 days from the date of
18 publication of this Notice, as to why the Court should not enter an order granting the proposed
19 change of name.

20 DATED this 5th day of November, 2018.

21

22 Mychal S. Cherry
23 Petitioner
24 Mychal S. Cherry [Print Name]

25

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