

## 70th Jeffers Family Reunion

Sunday, Aug. 11, 2019, at Wildcat covered bridge, Highway 126 and Siuslaw River Road (the old homestead of Ira Jeffers).

From Eugene, take Highway 126 west toward Mapleton. At approximately mile marker 27.5, turn left on Siuslaw River Road.

From Mapleton to Eugene, turn right at approximately mile marker 26.5 on Siuslaw River Road. Look for signs with balloons for your turnoff.

Bring lawn chairs and favorite food dish to share.

Eat around noon.

Call Evelyn Seidel at 503-831-4955 or Lori at 541-543-6117 for more information.



Congratulations to Tribal member Leland Hofenbredl for getting all-around logger at the Fourth of July Logging Show. Leland, we are proud of you and your accomplishment; keep up the good work. Photographed with his son, Matt.

**Love, your family and the entire Hofenbredl Logging team.**

## Spam calls inundate Governance Center phones

By Dean Rhodes

*Smoke Signals editor*

The Tribe's Governance Center became a target of robo calls on Wednesday, July 10, as the central phones operators fielded more than 1,800 calls from a single phone number.

According to General Manager's Office Executive Assistant Barbara Branson, the calls originated from the phone number 240-351-4448. An Internet search found the number listed on [www.shouldianswer.com](http://www.shouldianswer.com) as a nuisance call, Social Security scam and spammer from India, among other references.

"IT staff is working with our phone provider to try to resolve the issue," Branson said. "Unfortunately, we are losing legitimate callers and we are turning the phones off periodically as the volume is great. We have posted an alert on the Tribe's Facebook page to let members know that there is a problem."

One Tribal employee who received a call from the phone number on their direct line said the caller was offering loans with a 2- to 4-percent interest rate and spoke with an accent.

The phone number was eventually blocked from reaching the Tribe's system, Senior Telecommunications Technician Mark Scheelar announced via e-mail. ■



*Smoke Signals file photo*

**Former *Smoke Signals* photojournalist Michelle Alaimo received a first-place award in Best Sports Photo from the Native American Journalists Association for this photograph of Willamina High School junior Jordan Reyes hugging his brother Michael Reyes after Jordan won the Class 3A 106-pound weight class state title during the OSAA Wrestling State Championships held at Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Portland in February 2018.**

## Smoke Signals wins five NAJA awards

The Grand Ronde Tribal newspaper *Smoke Signals* won five awards, including three first places, in the 2019 Native American Journalists Association Native Media Awards for work published in 2018.

The winners were announced via e-mail on Wednesday, July 10, and the awards will be given out during a banquet to be held Wednesday, Sept. 18, at the Mystic Lake Center in Prior Lake, Minn., during the annual National Native Media Awards Conference.

Editor Dean Rhodes received a first-place award in the Best News Story category for "The New Normal," which examined the effect of the Cowlitz Tribe's Ilani casino on Spirit Mountain Casino one year after opening. The story appeared in the May 1, 2018, edition.

Staff writer Danielle Frost took second place in the Best News Story category for "Meteorite Impact," which detailed the Tribe's 2018 visit to Tomanowos at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. The story appeared in the July 1, 2018, edition.

Former *Smoke Signals* photojournalist Michelle Alaimo took first place in Best Sports Photo for her photograph of Tribal member Jordan Reyes winning the 3A state wrestling title for Willamina High School in February 2018. The photo appeared in the March 1, 2018, edition. Alaimo left *Smoke Signals* in September 2018 to move to South Carolina.

Frost took second place in the Best Sports Story category for "Spikers," which was about two Grand Ronde Tribal members who were playing community college volleyball. The story appeared in the Nov. 1, 2018, edition.

For the second consecutive year, Frost also received a first-place award in the Best Coverage of Native America category for her story "A Cultural Milestone," which reported on the Grand Ronde Tribe's successful return to Willamette Falls to traditionally fish for salmon off a removable platform in October 2018. The story appeared in the Nov. 1, 2018, edition and marked the third straight year that *Smoke Signals* has won the top award in this category.

*Smoke Signals'* awards were in the Associate category for nonTribal members who work for Tribal publications that have a circulation of between 5,000 and 10,000 copies.

The five awards mark the 54th time *Smoke Signals* has been honored by NAJA since 2008. ■



July 2019 - September 2019 • Featuring **The Drift** by Garrick Imatani  
Chachalu Tribal Museum and Cultural Center