

Dillon was under contract until September 2022

DILLON continued from front page

only manage the daily operations of the casino, but assist the board in completing a recruitment search for a new general manager.

“This past year has been challenging with the COVID/pandemic restrictions, temporary close down, the local fires, national unrest and wearing masks,” Jenness said. “We know how hard you have worked and we wish to acknowledge and thank you.”

When contacted by *Smoke Signals* on Monday, June 7, Jenness said he was not fully surprised by Dillon’s resignation.

“There were some issues going on, personnel issues, that I thought we were making strides to work it out and he would stay,” Jenness said. “But he decided to resign. We were saddened about that. He’s done a great job for the casino.”

Jenness said Dillon was under contract until September 2022 and was probably going to retire then.

Jenness said the Spirit Mountain Gaming Inc. board has been in contact with an interim general manager candidate who has expressed interest in the job. However, he or she will not be able to take over for at least three weeks until a gaming license is obtained from the Grand Ronde Gaming Commission.

Former Tribal Council chairman and former Spirit Mountain Gaming Inc. Board member Reyn Leno posted on Facebook that he was concerned that Dillon has resigned. “That’s a big hit for us,” Leno wrote.

He also said that Tribal Council member Jack Giffen Jr. resigned from the board after almost two decades of service.

“I would like to both thank and acknowledge Stan Dillon and Jack Giffen for all they have done for the Tribe and the casino,” Leno wrote.

Giffen said that he resigned for personal reasons and that his resignation was not related to Dillon’s departure.

“While change is not fun and the unknown can be scary, change always brings growth,” Jenness said. “We have a great management team at the casino and we are looking forward to continued prosperity.”

Dillon became general manager at Spirit Mountain Casino in September 2014, succeeding Randy Dugger in the position. He previously worked at gaming facilities in Reno, Nev., and Prior Lake, Minn. He joined the Spirit Mountain Casino staff in 2008 as the director of gaming.

For the purposes of full disclosure, Jenness also serves on the Grand Ronde Editorial Board, which oversees the editor of *Smoke Signals*. ■

Camas in bloom



Photo by Timothy J. Gonzalez

A camas plant that Tribal Council member Michael Langley planted in the fall is now blooming outside of his home in Tribal Housing on Thursday, May 20. The approximately 40-by-4-foot area is a test garden and also brings traditional first foods to families in Tribal Housing.

GRAND RONDE HOUSING DEPARTMENT
28450 Tyee Road – Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347 – 503-879-2401 – Fax 503-879-5973

ATTENTION ALL HOUSING TENANTS AND GUEST
PLEASE SLOW DOWN IN ELDER HOUSING
Also, please make sure and maintain low levels of music in the Elder community.



TRIBAL VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

Ramona Quenelle, Tribal Veterans' Service Officer, (TVSO)US Navy Veteran (IT2 SW)
Phone: 503-879-1484 | CTGRtribalvso@grandronde.org

CTGR Social Services Department, Attn: Tribal Veterans' Service Officer
9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347

VETERANS CRISIS LINE, CALL 1-800-273-8255 AND PRESS 1 OR TEXT 838255

VETERAN'S CORNER:

E-mail CTGRtribalvso@grandronde.org to register for events and training!

All CTGR veterans send us your e-mail address so we can include you on the monthly CTGR Veteran Newsletter Distribution List and periodic e-mail information updates.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

June 8, 2021 at 2 p.m. (Virtual)

Military Sexual Trauma (MST) Behavioral Health Training #2
E-mail CTGRtribalvso to register.

The impact of trauma is far reaching and shapes the lives of survivors as well as the community that holds and cares for them. For the Veteran community, military sexual trauma is particularly impactful as this type of trauma occurs at the hands of those survivors often trust most. We will discuss the impact of trauma and, in particular, military sexual trauma. We will also discuss resources and support to place survivors and their loved ones on the path toward recovery.

June 15, 2021 at 2 p.m. (Virtual)

Blue Water Navy Informational Meeting
Bi-monthly veterans meeting #2
Go to: zoom.us/join and Enter meeting ID: 966 1654 4977

Calling all Veterans from the Vietnam Era. If you served in Vietnam or during that era, please sign up for our virtual meeting! Featuring our guest speaker, Frankie Williams. Frankie is a United States Navy Veteran and the Tribal Veterans' Service Officer from Warm Springs. Frankie has an extensive background as a Director / Drug and Alcohol Counselor and is involved in all of his tribal cultural

activities. We are looking forward to presenting information about Blue Water Navy and hope you will join us.

July 8, 2021 at 10:30 a.m.

Paint with a Vet event (only 22 spots available)
E-mail CTGRtribalvso to register.

July 21 & 22, 2021 (Virtual)

Veterans Virtual Claims Clinic

Brought to you by U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Your Service. Our Mission.

Bringing VA benefits home event into your community. Contact Event POC to schedule an appointment. During the event, you can:

- Speak with a VA representative.
- Get answers to VA claims and benefit questions.
- File your claim.

Event Point Contact of Virtual Claims Clinic:
Ramona Quenelle
Tribal Veterans' Service Officer
Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

To schedule an appointment Phone: 503-879-1484 or Email: CTGRtribalvso@grandronde.org

Sept. 2, 2021 at 2 p.m.

Mindfulness Behavioral Health Training #3

Sept. 17, 2021 at 2 p.m.

Cultural Class #2 – Cattail Cordage

Nov. 12, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

Veterans Day Dinner

SAVE THE DATE CALENDAR:

Sept. 2021 (Date/Time TBD)

VISN Network Presentations – Meeting #3

Oct. 2021 (Date/Time TBD)

Native Wellness Behavioral Health Training #4

Dec. 2021 (Date/Time TBD)

Veterans End of the Year Event

