

**The Wood family and friends invite you to a dinner at  
Columbia Grove: 3412 SE Riverwood Court, Vancouver  
Friday, April 22, 2016 at 6:00 pm**

**welcoming the Nez Perce Tribal Council and tribal members to  
Vancouver, Washington  
for the Chief Red Heart Memorial Ceremony  
to be held at Fort Vancouver on Saturday,  
April 23, 2016 at 10:00 am**

please R.S.V.P. to Sandy and Erskine Wood at  
[ColumbiaGrove@msn.com](mailto:ColumbiaGrove@msn.com) or  
360 892-1443 (house) or 360 989-6825 (cell)



***The Chief Redheart Memorial Ceremony***

From August, 1877 to April, 1878, the Red Heart Band of Nez Perce was imprisoned by the U.S. Army in Vancouver Barracks at Fort Vancouver, Washington. Chief Red Heart and his band did not want war; they simply wanted to remain in their homelands.

Since 1998, the Nez Perce have made an annual journey from their reservation in Lapwai, Idaho to Vancouver, Washington to conduct a memorial ceremony in honor of their ancestors held in captivity and the death of the unnamed son of Little Bear.

In 1879, just one year after the Red Heart Band was released, Erskine Wood was born at Vancouver Barracks. He was the son of C.E.S. Wood, who, as aide-de-camp to General Howard during the Nez Perce war of 1877, befriended Chief Joseph, the leader of the Wallowa Band of the Nez Perce.

In 1892, upon the invitation of Chief Joseph, C.E.S. Wood sent 12-year old Erskine to live with Chief Joseph at his camp on the Nespelem River, a tributary of the Columbia River.

Young Erskine asked Chief Joseph what thank you gift would be most appreciated. He did not understand the importance of the stallion Chief Joseph requested, so did not relay the message to his father. In 1997, the entire Wood family gifted an appaloosa stallion to the Coville Nez Perce at a ceremony in the Wallowa Mountains, fulfilling the gift offer made over 100 years earlier by C.E.S. Wood to Chief Joseph.

Columbia Grove is the place where Erskine Sr. and his wife, Rebecca Biddle, made their home on the banks of the Columbia River. Erskine maintained his connections with the Nez Perce, hosting dinners for tribal dignitaries when they came to the Portland area to conduct business.

For the past dozen plus years, Erskine's grandchildren have been honored to revive their family's welcome of the Nez Perce by hosting a dinner the evening before the Memorial Ceremony. This year the Nez Perce will again be welcomed at the historic home of Erskine and Rebecca, now owned by grandson Erskine and Sandy Wood.

As a result of a concerted community effort, the habitat at Columbia Grove was placed into permanent conservation March 1, 2005, protecting one of the last three significant spawning sites for the imperiled chum salmon on the Columbia River.

**DIRECTIONS TO COLUMBIA GROVE 3412 SE Riverwood Ct. Vancouver, WA**

**From Portland**

1) cross the I-205 bridge into Washington. Take first exit off the bridge, onto Hwy 14, going east toward Camas (note: the exit ramp has two lanes; you want to be in the left one)

2) take SE 164th St exit, exit 8, from Hwy 14. Turn right at the light at the exit ramp, going down the hill on SE 164th toward the Columbia River.

3) at the bottom of the small hill, turn right on SE Evergreen Highway and head west, parallel with the Columbia River.

4) in just over a mile, you will see Steamboat Landing, a gated subdivision on the left. Continue west on SE Evergreen Highway another 1/4 mile, and look for the set of mailboxes on your left. This is Riverwood Lane, a gravel road between trees, with a small street sign, and a Private Road sign. (Across the street is Silver Springs Subdivision with a street heading up the hill to the right). Note: if you go under the I-205 bridge, you've gone too far.

5) **Stop at the mailboxes and look for trains. Be VERY careful of this train crossing, going in and out.**

**It is an ACTIVE track, and the trains are not blowing their horns!!**

There is some parking along SE Evergreen Hwy.

Turn left onto SE Riverwood Lane, crossing the train tracks. Follow the road to the left a very short distance and take the first drive to the right immediately after the "10 MPH Please" sign.

Cross the stream and proceed straight ahead to the white house at the end of the road.

There is some parking in front of the house: 3412 SE Riverwood Court. Carpooling is encouraged!

In case you get lost, the phone number is **360 892-1443**.

**From Seattle**

1) head south on I-5, then take the I-205 exit (continuing south)

2) just before crossing the Columbia River, take the Hwy 14 exit off I-205.

Stay in the lane headed EAST toward Camas on Hwy 14.

3) take the SE 164th exit, exit 8, off Hwy 14, and continue with directions #2 above.

**WELCOME!**

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 871660 Vancouver, Washington 98687