

NOTICES

Awards Available at Red Cloud Art Show

Benefactors of American Indian artists have provided more than \$5,800 in awards for this year's Red Cloud Indian Art Show, which opens June 3, 2001, in the Heritage Center on the Red Cloud Indian School Campus at Pine Ridge, S.D.

Now in its 33rd year, the Red Cloud Art Show is open to all Native American artists – Indian, Eskimo, and Aluet. All applicants must be 18 years or older and have a tribal enrollment number.

Sponsored by the Heritage Center of Red Cloud Indian School, it is the nation's largest show of its kind, with artists from more than 30 tribes represented. All works entered must be for sale, and each year 40 percent or more of the works displayed are sold, Brother C.M. Simon, SJ, director of the show, reported.

No entry fees are charged to the artists. The show is free to the public and runs from June 3 through Aug. 12. Entry forms and details can be obtained by writing to the Red Cloud Indian School, Heritage Center, 100 Mission Drive, Pine Ridge, SD 57770.

OLCC Details Minor Drinking Laws

Play it smart, don't drink alcohol until you're 21! That's the message the Oregon Liquor Control Commission works year around to deliver to young Oregonians and their parents.

The OLCC has just revised its informative pamphlet, titled "Minor in Possession," that spells out the reason why young folks should avoid alcohol until they reach legal age. The pamphlet reminds that it's a crime for anyone under 21 to purchase, attempt to purchase, or acquire alcohol. It warns teens that the penalties are stiff for violating liquor laws. "It can result in the loss of your car or other property. It can give you a criminal record for life. If you are involved in an accident because of illegal possession or consumption of alcohol, it could cause the loss of your life or the life of a friend."

Studies also have linked underage drinking with lower grades and poor performance in school. And the younger someone starts drinking, the greater the chance he or she will be addicted to alcohol as an adult.

Copies of "Minor in Possession" are available at the OLCC main office in Milwaukie or at many of the 11 OLCC offices in Oregon. Call 1-800-452-6522 for more information.



Tips for Last-Minute Tax Filers

This year on April 16, don't get caught by news camera crews trying to capture procrastinators in the act of filing their taxes at the last minute. Completing a tax form can be an assignment that even the most responsible individual would want to delay. If you are among the thousands of Americans yet to send off your tax forms, here are a few tips and recommendations from the Better Business Bureau:

- Gather all relevant information such as receipts, financial records, W-2 forms and copies of the past year's tax return. Make sure you have all the documentation you need for the deductions you claim.
- If you are going to fill out your own return, utilize free help. The IRS conducts "tax clinics" in most major cities, and you can call a toll-free helpline at 1-800-829-1040. For more information, contact the AARP at 1-888-227-7669.
- Educate yourself about the latest tax information. You may not be aware of changes in tax law that could represent a tax savings.

If you decide to have someone prepare your taxes for you, you have a variety of options. To determine the tax preparer that may be best for you, take a look at the complexity of your return and if you have had major events in the last year, such as retirement, death of a spouse, marriage, divorce, inheritance, or a change in your number of dependents.

If your return is complex, you may want to engage the services of certified public accountant (CPA), a tax attorney, or an enrolled agent. Enrolled agents are approved to represent taxpayers before the IRS and can assist people with especially complex tax cases and multiple forms.

If you do not have a complex return, you may want to choose a local or nationally franchised tax preparation service. When selecting a service, be wary of any service that "guarantees" a refund. Some services offer a quick payment on your anticipated refund, but remember that this is a loan and be sure you read and understand the terms carefully before signing.

Make sure that you are able to contact the service year round in the



event of an audit or if your taxes need to be amended. When selecting a tax preparation service, check their reliability report with the Better Business Bureau. You can request a copy of the BBB's free brochure "Tips on Tax Preparers" on the consumer hotline in Oregon at 503-226-3981, and in Western Washington at 206-431-2222, or on the Web at www.thebbb.org. You can access the IRS online at www.irs.gov.

The Better Business Bureau is a non-profit organization funded by BBB member companies. It's mission is to promote the highest ethical marketplace relationships through self-regulation, education, and information.

Siletz Basket Exhibit and Gathering

"... Promote our cultural and religious beliefs and to pass them on in our own way to our children, grandchildren, and grandchildren's children forever ..."

Siletz Constitution

Siletz Tribal Community Center, Government Hill

April 7, 2001 - 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Everyone is welcome!

We encourage you to bring your basket(s) and materials for display and interpretation.

For more information, call Bud or Cheryl Lane at 541-444-1258 or 541-444-8215.