

The Confederated Tribes Senior Program will be taking a bus and a van to the Nez Perce Tribe Elders Day on Friday, June 30. There is also a Nez Perce Elders Dinner on Thursday evening, June 29 at the Omak Longhouse. The Nez Perce Elders Day will be at the Clearwater River Casino event center.

The Warm Springs Senior Program is providing the transportation for seniors to

the Elders event. All other expenses, such as hotels and meals, are not included.

There is a sign-up sheet at the Senior Center on the bulletin board, so each individual elder who is interested in attending the Nez Perce Tribe Elders Days, should sign up on the sheet. There are no exceptions to the sign-up policy due to the limited space of the elder bus and van. You can reach the Senior Program at 541-553-3313.

For questions about the Nez Perce Elders Dinner, call Joel Boyd at 509-634-2759, or Anna Vargas at 509-636-2745; or Lisa Adolph at 509-634-2757.

For more information on the Nez Perce Elders Day, call 208-843-7311. Hotel reservations information is at 208-298-1400. And for vendor information call 208-935-7540. No children please at the Elders Day.

New Oregon task force on tribal consultation

The Oregon Senate has agreed with the House on a bill to create a 15-member Task Force on Tribal Consultation.

The task force will identify and clarify the requirements of state agencies to maintain a “just and respectful consultation process” with the nine tribes of Oregon.

The new law will hold the agencies accountable for co-operating with the tribes. The task force will include one member from each of the nine federally recognized tribes.

The task force will be essential to building trust and maintaining government-to-government relations between the state and the nine sovereign tribes, said Rep. Annessa Hartman, co-sponsor of HB 3173.

Tribal governments have an unparalleled understanding of the state and their input is vital to ensuring our state agencies are acting in the best interest of Oregon, said Sen. Kathleen Taylor, who carried the bill on the Senate floor.

“Cultural competency is critical to help government officials understand the unique communication styles, symbols, and nonverbal cues of tribal communities,” Rep. Hartman said.

“By adapting communication strategies to accommodate cultural differences, we can minimize misunderstandings, build meaningful relationships, and ensure our decision-making processes honor tribal sovereignty and promote positive outcomes for all stakeholders,” she said.



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