

Public Notice Open For Comment

Public Notice for Comment on the Grand Ronde Tribe's application for 2009 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) Funding. The Grand Ronde Tribe obtained a LIHEAP grant last year from the Division of Energy Assistance within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. This grant program assists income eligible Tribal members with energy assistance (utility bills, fire wood, etc.), crisis energy assistance and weatherization (e.g. furnace repair, caulking, insulation).

The Tribe's LIHEAP service area includes Polk, Yamhill, Marion, Multnomah, Washington, Tillamook and Clackamas counties. If you are interested in obtaining services from the current program, please contact Social Services at 800-242-8196 for energy assistance and the Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Authority at 503-879-2405 for weatherization.

The Tribe is taking public comment on the 2009 LIHEAP application which is to be submitted by Sept. 2, 2008. A draft is available for review at the Planning & Grants Department at the Tribal Governance Center. You may also call Planning & Grants Development at 503-879-2250 with your comments on the plan or to obtain more information about the plan.

Support group forming

A support group for parents and caregivers of Grand Ronde children with special needs is forming.

If your child, grandchild, foster child, etc., has extra challenges — medically, emotionally or developmentally — and you would like to collaborate and share resources with other parents, send your contact information in an e-mail to lewis.dm@comcast.net or call David and Donna Lewis at 503-566-3093.

Lewis said the support group is compiling an e-mail and telephone contact list and will later coordinate meetings with group members. ■

Knight 'jumped in and was an instant fit'

FELLOWS continued from front page

"Rebecca Knight is a special young woman," Hooley said. "She jumped right in and was an instant fit."

Hooley, who is retiring this year as Oregon's 5th District representative in the U.S. House, complimented Knight for researching various versions of reauthorization bills for the Indian Health Care Improvement Act.

"She kept me abreast of the bills," Hooley said. "She had a good grasp of the Tribes' needs and what needs to happen legislatively to meet those needs."

"She was truly a joy to work with. She was always willing to help out."

"It was a really good experience," Knight said about her fellowship, adding that she learned much about public health and American Indian issues.

After Knight received wrapped parting gifts from Spirit Mountain Community Fund Program Officer Louis King, who coordinates the Hatfield Fellowship, Community Fund Director Shelley Hanson introduced Ambrose.

Ambrose was one of two Tribal members who interviewed for the 2008-09 fellowship, Hanson said.

Both were strong candidates, she added.

"I can't tell you how excited I am for this experience," Am-

brose said. "I've been looking forward to this for a few years."

"I really look forward to doing the work there, and look forward to representing the Tribe."

Her grandfather, Corky Ambrose (Yakama), and fiancé, Jerald Harris, a Yakama descendant, accompanied Ambrose, who was celebrating her 29th birthday.

Ambrose is currently finishing her master's degree in public administration at The Evergreen State College in Olympia, Wash. The Hatfield Fellowship will help her earn elective credits.

Ambrose will work in Wyden's office from November through July 2009. She said she is excited about being in Washington, D.C., during the November presidential election and January inauguration of a new president.

Spirit Mountain Community Fund started the Mark O. Hatfield Fellowship Program in 1997 to offer Native Americans the opportunity to learn the federal legislative system and become skilled at working within the system to meet Tribal needs.

It was named to honor former Oregon Gov. Mark Hatfield, who was instrumental as a U.S. senator in helping the Tribe gain Restoration in the early 1980s.

Of the 10 Hatfield Fellows since 1998, six have been Grand Ronde Tribal members, including Tribal Director of Development Pete Wakeland. Three fellows were Warm Springs Tribal members and one fellow belonged to the Coeur D'Alene Tribe. ■

Graduates



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal member Saige Torres, 5, peeks into her bag of presents after receiving it during the preschool graduation on Thursday, Aug. 14. Twenty-three Tribal youth graduated during the ceremony that took place at the Uyxat Powwow Grounds.

SMGI board seeks two members

Spirit Mountain Gaming Inc. invites dynamic business-oriented individuals to apply to the Spirit Mountain Gaming Inc. Board of Directors. There are two positions open for qualified candidates who possess the appropriate business knowledge and experience.

The SMGI Board of Directors is responsible to the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Tribal Council and oversees fiscal accountability, budgets, policies, procedures and business operations of Spirit Mountain Casino.

The SMGI Board meets twice monthly and each board member receives a stipend each month for their participation.

Qualifications should include general business knowledge, experience in hospitality/customer service driven environments, 10 years of experience in a responsible business position, and either a strong business financial experience (banking/auditing) or in vibrant business marketing. Knowledge of Native American-owned and operated organizations preferred but not mandatory. There should also be a demonstrated ability to be responsive to the goals of the business and its increasing dynamic character with appropriate analytical and communication skills. Ability to pass a thorough background check and obtain a gaming license is necessary.

Deadline to apply is Sept. 15, 2008.

Applicants may submit a letter of interest, résumé and three references to Camille Mercier, Director of Human Resources, Spirit Mountain Gaming Inc., PO Box 39, Grand Ronde, OR 97347. ■

Paintbrush Carving Class

Portland Office, 3312 S.W. Kelly Ave.

6:30 – 9:30 P.M.

Mondays

(Sept. 8, 15, 22, & 29)

Design and carve a unique paintbrush handle and make a paintbrush with traditional materials.

Must provide your own carving tools

To sign up and for further information contact

Cultural Education, Misty Thorsgard at

1-800-422-0232 (ext. 2320)