

Walking On...

Gary Wayne Lewis

March 2, 1943 – Jan. 20, 2011

Tribal Elder Gary Wayne Lewis was born March 2, 1943, to Delbert and Norma Lewis in McMinnville, Ore., the second of their five children. He was raised in Sheridan, Ore., until 1957 when the family relocated to Hillsboro, Ore. In 1961, Gary graduated from Hillsboro High School and the family moved to Keizer, Ore., and Gary began working at Montgomery Wards in Portland.



In 1962, Gary joined the U.S. Army and was stationed in Germany and had a tour of duty in Vietnam during the war. He was then stationed in Italy and finally New Jersey, where he taught electronics. Following his discharge in 1972, Gary and his family — then wife Polly and children David G. Lewis and Patricia A. Lewis — moved to Salem, Ore., and Gary worked in the photocopier industry as a repairman.

Gary married his wife, Kathi, in 1987 and went to work at Spirit Mountain Casino as a supervisor in the slot technician department and later went to work at Chinook Winds Casino as a slot technician. Gary and Kathi moved to Lincoln City, Ore., until their retirement in 2005, at which time they returned to Salem.

Gary had a wonderful sense of humor, was an avid woodworker, collector of model cars, loved hunting annually with his family and fishing.

Gary is survived by his wife, Kathleen; son, David (Donna) Lewis; daughter, Patricia (Steven) Schmitt; brothers, Larry and Tom; sisters, Karen McCutcheon and Deborah Cuthbert; grandchildren, Thomas, Katie, Saghaley, Inatye, Michael Becka, Jamie Oakes and Laura Oakes-Gillespie; and great-grandchildren, Karsen and Rhiley.

Gary was a loving father, husband and grandfather. He will be missed by all.

Gary was a member of the Grand Ronde Tribe with Santiam Kalapuya, Takelma and Chinook ancestry.

A Celebration of Life was held Monday, Jan. 24, at 11 a.m. at the Grand Ronde Tribal Cemetery. A reception followed at the Tribal Elders' Activity Center.

Arrangements were handled by Howell-Edwards-Doerksen with Rigdon-Ransom Funeral Directors in Salem, Ore.

Thelma Ruth Rickard

Nov. 4, 1929 – Jan. 23, 2011

Tribal Elder Thelma Ruth Rickard, 81, a resident of Grand Ronde, died Sunday, Jan. 23, 2011, in Salem, Ore.

She was born on Nov. 4, 1929, in McMinnville, Ore., the daughter of John H. and Celia E. Sorenson Smith. She attended St. Mary's Academy in Beaverton and graduated from Willamina High School. She went on to take some college courses.



She started working in the US Bank in Sheridan and then worked as a social worker in Oregon and Alaska. She moved to Alaska for 10 years where she worked on a U.S. Air Force base as a secretary for a general. She returned to Oregon and lived in Salem, working for the federal government in Portland. She married Duwayne Grosser and he preceded her in death. She married Gerald Rickard and they later divorced.

Ruth retired and enjoyed serving on the Health Committee with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. She enjoyed traveling to New York, Hawaii, South Dakota, Mexico and many other places. She was a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church in Grand Ronde. There was always fun wherever Ruth was found.

She is survived by her daughters, Melia Rickard, Laurie Cathcart and Mary Rickard, along with 12 grandchildren and many great-grandchildren. She also is survived by her sister, Lillian "Lynn" Berray of Vancouver, Wash., and sister-in-law, Dorothy Smith of Vancouver, Wash.

She was preceded in death by her son, Mark Grosser, on Dec. 30, 2008, and her brother, Jim.

A funeral Mass was held 2 p.m. Friday, Jan. 28, in St. Michael's Catholic Church in Grand Ronde and was followed by interment in the Grand Ronde Tribal Cemetery.

Dallas Mortuary Tribute Center handled the arrangements. To leave an online condolence for the family, go to www.dallastrIBUTE.com.

Chinuk wawa classes in Portland

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde will be offering Chinuk wawa language classes through its Portland satellite. A Chinuk wawa class for beginning speakers will run from 5:30-7 p.m. followed by a class for intermediate speakers from 7-8:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to come for the full three-hours.

Classes will be held on:

February: 2, 9 and 16.

March: 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30.

The Portland satellite office is located at 4445 S.W. Barbur Blvd., Portland, OR 97239 Contact Eric Bernando at Chinukwawa@gmail.com for more information. ■

Anthology seeking student submissions

"Honoring Our Rivers: A Student Anthology" is seeking submissions from students from kindergarten through college.

Literary submissions can include fiction, poetry or essays. Artwork, including black-and-white photography, sketches and drawings, are encouraged as either a separate submission or as an aid in clarifying and supporting written work.

Applications can be found at www.honoringourrivers.org or obtained by contacting Sarah Schra at 503-585-8789 or info@honoringourrivers.org. Deadline for submissions is Feb. 25.

The anthology is a Willamette Partnership project and is designed to stimulate awareness of watersheds, including waters, land, plants, animals and habitats that make up Oregon's river systems. ■

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Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Tribal Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program Wawa pus tenas "Speaking for Children/Youth"

Each year, approximately 780,000 children in the U.S. are caught in the court and child welfare maze because they are unable to live safely at home. Approximately 13,965 children in the state of Oregon have been in foster care at least once during the past year. Currently, there are approximately 87 Grand Ronde children in foster care. Half of those children are wards of the Tribal Court right here in the Grand Ronde Community. The Grand Ronde Tribal Court is looking for committed, caring volunteers who want to help these children by advocating for the child. The Tribal Court CASA Program will train all volunteer advocates. Give these children a voice during this difficult time, help these children to receive the services they need, stay connected to their culture and find safe permanent homes.

If you would like more information on how to volunteer and better serve our Tribal Children, please detach and complete this form and return it to: Tribal Court Programs Specialist, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347. For additional information, call 503-879-4623 or e-mail: Julie.boekhoff@grandronde.org



- please send me a CASA Advocate Application
- please send me more information about the Tribal Court CASA Program

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