

# Grand Ronde contributes to exhibit

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde has mounted an interpreted display in the "Hidden Gems" exhibit at the Willamette Heritage Center at The Mill that will display from Jan. 21-March 12.

The Willamette Heritage Center is a unification of the former Mission Mill Museum and Marion County Historical Society.

"I knew I wanted it to reflect our Tribal history and culture," and "we're very pleased with how it came out," said Tribal member Julie Brown, who represented the Tribe as curator of the display. She is a temporary administrative assistant for the Cultural Resources Department.

The Grand Ronde display includes cedar frames, hand hewn by Cultural Resources staffers and Tribal members Don Day and Brian Krehbiel. Some of the cedar is wood left over from the recently completed Lane Community College plank-house and donated to the Tribe for this exhibit. Tribal member and Cultural Resources Department Manager David Lewis said.

The frames hold graphics by Lewis, a map of the Tribe's ceded lands by Tribal GIS Coordinator Volker Mell with help from Tribal member David Harrelson, site monitor for the Cultural Resources Department, and interpretive essays describing many elements of the Grand Ronde Tribe's history. The essays also describe traditional crafts, such as basket making.

Brown, Lewis and Tribal member and Cultural Protection Coordinator Eirik Thorsgard all had a hand in writing the essays. Brown and Tribal member Veronica Montano, Cultural Resources Department secretary, installed the exhibit.

"It was a collaborative effort," said Brown.

The display also includes a Wasco burl bowl and stone pestle, dated pre-1800, making it the oldest object in the show, according to Mission Mill Executive Director Peter Booth.

Also in the Tribal display is a Kalapuya basket, a purse that "we think," said Lewis, was made by Indian Eliza of the Santiam Tribe, who lived in the Brownville area until 1920 but was a member of one



Photos by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal members Julie Brown, right, and Khani Schultz, who are sisters, look at a case containing a Kalapuya pack basket and a Wasco bowl with a stone pestle that are part of the "Hidden Gems" exhibit during an opening reception for the exhibit at the Mission Mill Museum in Salem on Thursday, Jan. 20. The Tribe's Cultural Resources Department staff worked together on the exhibit with Brown, a temporary administrative assistant for the department, acting as the curator of the display. Schultz is the department's Cultural Collection coordinator.



The cedar frames used in the exhibit were constructed by Cultural Resources Department staff members Tribal Elder Don Day and Tribal member Brian Krehbiel.

of the Kalapuya Tribes in the area. She lived into her hundreds, Lewis said, but nobody really knows how old she was.

The exhibition, "Hidden Gems," includes local, regional and nation-

ally important objects from the area's past, according to Booth, and is part of the museum's "new vision" to help organizations like the 18 represented in this show "tell your story."

Participating organizations from Marion, Polk and Yamhill counties include Antique Powerland Museum Association, Aurora Colony Historical Society, Bush House Museum, the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Forest History Center, Frank Lloyd Wright Gordon House, Historic Deepwood Estate, Hoover-Minthorn House, Jensen Arctic Museum, Keizer Heritage Museum, Linfield Anthropology Museum, Oregon Northwest Black Pioneers, Oregon State Hospital Museum, Settlemier House, Silverton Country Historical Museum, St. Paul Mission Historical Society, Willamette University Archives and Yamhill County Historical Society.

Other featured items include a medical case from an 1899 graduate of Willamette University from the Willamette University Archives; an early fire radio from the Forest History Center; a jail ball and chain from the Yamhill County Historical Society; a pair of child's boots worn by Herbert Hoover from the Hoover-Minthorn house; a vintage wedding cake topper from Historic Deepwood Estate; and Wright's original sketch of what became the only Frank Lloyd Wright house in Oregon.

This is the first in what Mission Mill hopes will be an annual event highlighting different parts of mid-valley history. Next year is the 100th anniversary of Oregon women gaining the right to vote, said Booth, and the museum is hoping to mount an exhibit honoring mid-valley women.

For more information, contact The Mill at 503-585-7012 or visit the Web site at [www.missionmill.com](http://www.missionmill.com). ■

## Native American Veterans Memorial seeks support

Seminole Tribe of Florida Chairman Mitchell Cypress is seeking support for the Native American Veterans Memorial Initiative, which seeks to honor Native Americans who have served in all branches of the Armed Forces from World War I through the current conflicts in Iran and Afghanistan.

Cypress, a Vietnam-era U.S. Army veteran, said he would like to see a fourth soldier, a Native American, added to the three soldier likenesses that are part of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

"We were there during the conflicts, fighting for our country as Native Americans," Cypress said. "When we look at the beautiful statue that depicts true and brave warriors, we wonder why we were not included. We were there, too."

A Web site — [thenavmi.com](http://thenavmi.com) — has been established for the initiative and interested supporters can sign up by submitting their e-mail addresses on the home page. ■

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