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# Smoke Signals

A Publication of the Grand Ronde Tribe

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UMPQUA ■ MOLALLA ■ ROGUE RIVER ■ KALAPUYA ■ CHASTA

## Tribe continues effort to amend Reservation Act

*Leno testifies before House Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs again*

By Dean Rhodes  
 Smoke Signals editor

Tribal Chairman Reyn Leno made his second appearance in less than a year before the House Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs on Thursday, May 16, seeking passage of an amendment to 1988's Grand Ronde Reservation Act that would streamline how the Tribe takes land into trust.

Leno also testified before the subcommittee during the previous Congress in July 2012.

The legislation, H.R. 841, was introduced by Oregon Rep. Kurt Schrader and has bipartisan support from the entire Oregon congressional delegation.

It seeks to end the current two-step process that requires the Grand Ronde Tribe take each piece of former reservation land into trust with approval from the Bureau of Indian Affairs and then request the land be designated reservation land by Congress.

The legislation would allow the Grand Ronde Tribe to combine the two-step process for real property that is within the boundaries of its original reservation established in 1857.

Bureau of Indian Affairs Director Michael Black testified that the Department of the Interior continues to support the legislation as it did in the previous Congress.

"H.R. 841 has the support of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the

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Photos by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal Council Chairman Reyn Leno speaks as he serves as the master of ceremonies at the Memorial Day observance held at the West Valley Veterans Memorial on Monday, May 27.

## Veterans honored

*Tribe hosts annual ceremonial meal, name dedication*

By Ron Karten  
 Smoke Signals staff writer

On the 10th anniversary of the West Valley Veterans Memorial's dedication, more than 200 people attended the annual commemoration of veterans, an honored group among the Grand Ronde Tribe.

On Monday, May 27, events started, as always, with a noon meal of ceremonial elk stew prepared under the direction of Tribal Nutrition Department Manager Kristy DeLoe. She again was joined in cooking this

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Jan Looking Wolf Reibach plays taps during the Memorial Day observance held at the West Valley Veterans Memorial on Monday, May 27.

## John Lillard slims down thanks to good habits

Tribal Elder John Lillard pours olive oil on a spinach salad as he makes it in his home in Elder Housing recently. Since 2005, Lillard has been living a healthy lifestyle, including watching what he eats, to maintain a healthy weight.



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

By Ron Karten  
 Smoke Signals staff writer

Anybody with a taste for fatty, processed foods knows how difficult it is to give them up for uncooked carrots, tomatoes and greens as 64-year-old Tribal Elder John Lillard has done.

He also has substituted chicken and fish for most red meat, given up breads,

rice and potatoes, and he walks about six miles a day.

Lillard walks 1.5 miles each way to the big store twice daily. The change in diet and increased physical activity has added up to him living at a healthy weight again, a place he has been heading



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