

Portland office hosting artist development workshop

The Tribe's Portland office, 4445 S.W. Barbur Blvd., will host a marketing and professional skill-building workshop for Native artists from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1.

The Native Arts and Cultures Foundation is holding the free professional development workshop for Native artists.

Artists who attend will build skills in writing artist statements, pricing, strategies for breaking into the art market, Web site development and social media marketing.

Designed for artists in visual and traditional arts, such as carving, bead working, basket weaving and regalia making, the one-day workshop will be led by local Native artists with arts marketing expertise. Members of American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian communities who would like to attend the one-day workshop should contact Lisa Watt at 503-892-6560 or Laura Grabhorn at 360-867-6413 or visit <http://tinyurl.com/lw9w3jx>. Registration is due by Monday, Jan. 27. The free workshop is funded in part by Spirit Mountain Community Fund. Other workshops will be held Feb. 15 at Evergreen State College in Olympia, Wash., and March 1 at the Museum at Warm Springs. ■

Passage of the legislation will save the Tribe time and money

AMENDMENT ACT
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"The bureaucratic process that the Grand Ronde Tribe faces in re-acquiring their reservation lands is nightmarishly slow and costly," Schrader said in a press release. "My bill will not only accelerate this process, saving the Tribe time and money, but also will streamline the process at the Bureau of Indian Affairs, saving taxpayer money."

"The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde wants to express its deep appreciation for the hard work of Congressman Schrader, his staff and all of the Oregon delegation for their support and diligence in advancing this important piece of legislation," Leno said.

"This legislation is supported by the commissioners in Polk and Yamhill counties, who, like us, are focused on making their governments more efficient and using their revenues more wisely. This legislation will enable the Tribe to more efficiently move the land it owns into reservation status, which is historically a very complex and time-consuming process.

"The Tribe and its neighboring counties continue to work cooperatively as partners in this and other matters that improve the quality of life for our members and the people of the West Valley."

The amendment 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 amendment 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.

"The Tribe is hampered in its efforts to restore land within its original reservation by a lengthy and cumbersome Bureau of Indian Affairs process," Leno said while testifying before the House in May 2013. "After it acquires a parcel in fee, the Tribe must prepare a fee-

to-trust application package for the BIA. Then BIA processes the application as an 'on-reservation acquisition' or an 'off-reservation acquisition.'

"Because the Tribe does not have exterior reservation boundaries (instead, it has distinct parcels deemed reservation through legislation), all parcels are processed under the more rigorous off-reservation acquisition regulations – even if the parcel is located within the boundaries of the original reservation.

"After the land is accepted into trust, the Tribe must take an additional step of amending its Reservation Act through federal legislation to include the trust parcels in order for land to be deemed reservation land. Grand Ronde has been forced to come to the U.S. Congress three times in the last 20 years to amend its Reservation Act to secure reservation status for its trust lands. This process is unduly time-consuming, expensive and bureaucratic, and often takes years to complete."

In addition, the House-approved amendment prohibits the use of any land taken into trust to be used for any gaming activity unless it is within two miles of Spirit Mountain Casino.

Leno said passage of the legislation will save the Tribe and federal government time and money by streamlining the process.

"Polk County appreciates Representative Schrader's efforts to pass legislation of importance to the Grand Ronde Tribe," said Polk County Commissioner Jennifer Wheeler. "Polk County has been supportive of the legislation and is pleased to see it passed by the House of Representatives. Polk County continues to appreciate the Grand Ronde Tribe as an integral community partner."

A companion bill was introduced in the U.S. Senate in February 2013 by Oregon Sens. Jeff Merkley and Ron Wyden. Now that the amendment has passed the House, the Senate will more than likely take it under consideration, said Tribal lobbyist William Hollier. ■

Walking On...

John B. McKinney

Aug. 21, 1924 – Nov. 23, 2013

Tribal Elder John B. McKinney, 89, walked on on Saturday, Nov. 23, 2013, in Portland.

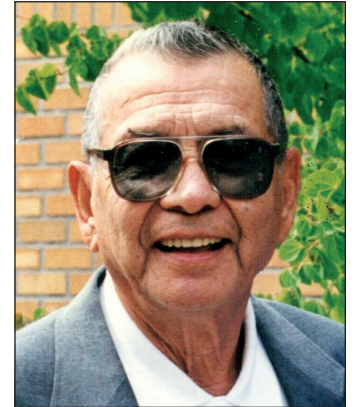
He was born on Aug. 21, 1924, in Grand Ronde. He attended St. Mary's School for Boys and Chemawa Indian School. He later joined the U.S. Army and served in Europe during World War II.

In 1950, he married Lavina George in Portland. They settled in St. Johns and they had lived there since. Lavina passed away in 2011.

He worked as a machinist for Tektronix for many years and later was a guard for Harbor Security.

He is survived by his children, Vernetta and Duane McKinney; sister, Susan Mason; 10 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren.

A memorial gathering was held Sunday, Dec. 8, 2013, at Hustad Funeral Home Chapel. Private inurnment occurred in Chief Schonchin Cemetery in Klamath Falls.



JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Currently, Spirit Mountain Casino has several job openings. Job postings are updated every Friday and can be viewed at <http://spiritmountain.com/careers> or you may call the Job Hotline number at 503-879-2350, ext. 3744, or 800-760-7977, ext. 3744.

If you are an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and need assistance in processing an application or have any questions, you can contact Tribal Development and we would be happy to assist you. E-mail: Tribal_Development@spiritmtn.com

David DeHart: 503-879-3867 or cell: 503-437-2176

Misty Carl: 503-879-3813 or cell: 503-437-1679

"The Tribal Career Development Department (TCD) is responsible for enhancing the self-sufficiency opportunities for enrolled members of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. This department will meet the needs of Tribal members through a progression of customized processes to ensure opportunities for the individual by providing a collaborative and trusting environment, consultation and career recommendations."



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LOCATION:

Grand Ronde Community Center

9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347

Thursday, Jan 16: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Check-in with Social Service Receptionist Rhonda Leno 503-879-2034

Jerry Wilson

Yamhill County Veterans Service Officer

503-434-7503