

Legislative Commission on Indian Services turning 40

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

SALEM — The Oregon Legislative Commission on Indian Services will mark its 40th birthday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, May 14, at the State Capitol with the appropriately named “A Day to Celebrate.”

A morning program in the Capitol Rotunda starting at 9 a.m. will include cultural program presentations and speakers. The Grand Ronde Color Guard has been asked to lead the flag procession and the Canoe Family dancers have been invited to perform a 10-minute program. Scheduled speakers will include Senate President Peter Courtney, Speaker of the House Tina Kotek, Secretary of State Jeanne Atkins and Gov. Kate Brown, who will sign a proclamation honoring the 40th anniversary.

From 10:45 to 11:30 a.m., Tribal leaders will participate in a panel discussion titled “What, How and Why My Tribe Celebrates.”

A lunch buffet served from noon to 1 p.m. will be provided by the Grand Ronde Tribe and Spirit Mountain Casino.

Celebration cupcakes will be served in the Galleria starting at 12:30 p.m. and a week-long display

If you go

What: “A Day to Celebrate: The 40th Anniversary of the LCIS”

When: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, May 14

Where: State Capitol, 900 Court St., Salem

More info: 503-986-1067

of the Oregon Historical Society’s “Oregon Is Indian Country” exhibit will be shown in the Capitol Galleria.

The celebration also will kick off American Indian Week in Oregon.

The Legislative Commission on Indian Services was created by statute in 1975 to improve services to Native Americans in Oregon. Its 13 members are appointed jointly by the president of the Oregon Senate and speaker of the Oregon House to two-year terms. Commission members select their own officers to serve one-year terms.

Tribal Council member Cheryl A. Kennedy has been the Grand Ronde Tribe’s longtime representative on the commission, serving 12 years. She is currently the longest

serving member on the commission.

“LCIS is a vehicle to identify and promote legislation that serves the nine Oregon Tribes,” Kennedy said. “Powerful legislation and work that came from LCIS throughout the years includes recognizing Tribal languages and incorporating them in schools, establishment of an Indian Education Office, including Oregon Tribes as a government eligible for surplus county land and placing of Oregon Tribal flags on the Capitol Mall. While each Tribe is unique in the way its government is set up, LCIS commissioners focus on common issues to address and have done so throughout the years.”

Besides representatives from each of the nine federally recognized Tribes in Oregon, Sens. Ted Ferrioli and Arnie Roblan and Reps. Caddy McKeown and Greg Smith sit on the commission.

According to the Oregon State Legislature’s website, before the commission’s establishment there was no suitable mechanism in state government to consider Indian concerns directly.

“LCIS serves as the main forum in which Indian concerns are considered. It serves as a conduit through which concerns are channeled through the network to the appropriate entity; it serves as a point of access for finding out about state government programs and Indian communities; and it serves as a catalyst for bringing about change where change is needed.”

Karen Quigley has been the commission’s executive director for the last 20 years.

“All are welcome to the ‘Day to Celebrate’” Quigley said. “We invite everyone to dress for the celebration and join us at the Capitol.” ■

Spirit Mountain Gaming, Inc. Board of Director’s position opening

Spirit Mountain Gaming, Inc. (SMGI) is seeking a dynamic business oriented Tribal member to fill a vacant position on the SMGI Board of Directors. 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 once a month and board members receive a stipend each month for their participation in board meetings.

Qualifications: We are seeking individuals with general business knowledge, experience in hospitality/customer service-driven environment, and in one or more of the following areas:

- Finance;
- Internal Audit;
- Marketing;
- Gaming;
- Surveillance/Security.

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.

Must be able to pass a thorough background check and obtain a PMO gaming license.

Deadline to apply is Monday, June 22, 2015.

Applicants may submit a letter of interest, resume and three references to:

Stacia Martin
Chief of Staff
Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Tribal Council
9615 Grand Ronde Road
Grand Ronde, OR 97347
stacia.martin@grandronde.org

Danita Trombla
Sr. Executive Administrative Assistant
Spirit Mountain Gaming, Inc.
PO Box 39
Grand Ronde, OR 97347
danita.trombla@spiritmtn.com



Education Association begins registration

The National Indian Education Association started registration for its 46th annual Convention and Trade Show on April 1. The four-day convention is being held Oct. 14-17 at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland and will be the first time in more than 30 years that the association has held its convention in the Rose City.

“Portland is central to the Tribes living throughout the Northwest, ensuring equity for all of our students and NIEA members in the area,” said board President Melvin Monette. “The city is well-known for its longstanding and positive working relationship with Tribal entities.”

This year’s theme is “Building Education Nations Through Traditional Foundations” and will emphasize innovation, creativity and culture throughout the convention.

Teachers, school administrators, Tribal leaders and education faculty will be able to choose from more than 100 workshops focusing on advanced educational programs for Native students. Workshops will be coupled with a tradeshow where vendors will showcase Native art, career opportunities and educational technologies.

For more information or to inquire about attending the convention as a member, sponsor or tradeshow exhibitor, visit www.niea.org on the Internet. ■

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THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2015
BUSES WILL LEAVE ELDER CENTER AT 8:30 AM

- **RAIN OR SHINE EVENT!**
- TRANSPORTATION & FISHING GEAR PROVIDED
- VANS WILL DEPART FROM ELDER ACTIVITY CENTER
- PICNIC STYLE LUNCHEON WILL BE PROVIDED
- JOIN US EVEN IF YOU DON’T FISH BUT WOULD ENJOY A PICNIC ON THE LAKE
- **ELDER & SPOUSE EVENT ONLY PLEASE**

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NATURAL RESOURCES AT 503.879.2424