

# Man sentenced for damaging Tribal archaeological site

MEDFORD – Jason Christopher Ruppel, 44, of Grants Pass was sentenced to three years of probation for excavating and damaging an archaeological site on federal lands within the Grand Ronde Tribe’s ancestral homelands.

The Tribe submitted a letter at Ruppel’s sentencing expressing its concern about the damage done to a site along the Rogue River, which served as several permanent Native American villages over a period of about 8,000 years.

U.S. District Court Judge Ann Aiken sentenced Ruppel for violating the Archaeological Resources Protection Act. He pleaded guilty to the felony in February.

Ruppel admitted that in April and May 2013 he violated the act by digging on Bureau of Land Management land and damaging a known archaeological resource. He was seen excavating and removing items from the site on at least seven different days during a two-month period.

In addition to probation, he was ordered to pay \$2,500 in restitution for costs associated with restoring the site. While on probation, Ruppel is banned from lands managed by the federal government.

“Archaeological resources serve as an important link to the past for many Tribal communities,” U.S. Attorney for Oregon Billy J. Williams said. “The impact of damaging cultural assets extends far beyond a single Tribe or community – it impacts all Americans. We will continue to aggressively prosecute those who commit similar crimes in the future.” ■

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## Grand Ronde History & Culture Summit

q'ata sawash-ili?i-tilixam łaska munk ikta

**Registration Information**

- \$50 for conference
- \$25 for plank house dinner
- \$25 for workshops
- Free** for Tribal Members and Staff

Rooms are available at Spirit Mountain Casino for \$69 per night if you reference the History Summit

Join us for two days of interdisciplinary lectures and discussions. Sessions will include topics on anthropology, culture, history, archaeology, and environment.

Each day there will be a light breakfast and lunch provided. There will be an evening event at the plank house for the first 150 guests who register. The event will include a dinner.

# November 1st & 2nd 2017

**Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Gymnasium**  
9615 Grand Ronde Rd.  
Grand Ronde, OR 97347

Further information at [www.grandronde.org/hcsummit](http://www.grandronde.org/hcsummit)



Congratulations **Isabelle** we love you and couldn't be more proud. You have worked so hard this year to accomplish your goals, we are certain that you will do the same in high school. But, remember to have fun, always be kind and Slay (LOL). Love, Dad, Mom, Sophie and the rest of your family.

# Admitted to the Bar



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

**Brooks Wakeland takes the oath as he is sworn in as a lawyer during the Admission of New Lawyers ceremony held at Smith Auditorium on Willamette University's campus in Salem on Thursday, May 18. Wakeland graduated from the University of Oregon School of Law in May 2016 and passed the Oregon State Bar in February. He is currently the Tribe's Honors Attorney.**

## The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

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Rat Race Obstacle Course

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ZIP LINE

### Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Campus

Princess 5 in 1 Combo

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Thank you for respecting Grand Ronde Tribal Community and our Culture by not displaying gang affiliation, or by bringing drugs, alcohol or weapons to this event.

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CUP CAK WALK