

Summit is creating similar events elsewhere

VETERANS continued from front page

will include helping veterans reconnect with civilian life and assisting them in understanding their benefits, compensation, pensions and presumptive health conditions.

Friday sessions will offer numerous informational tables for veterans and their family members, as well as a healing and self-care village and mental health first aid.

Elizabeth Estabrooks, Women Veterans coordinator with the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs, will deliver a speech entitled "I Am Not Invisible" and summit regular Linda Woods (Ojibwe) will discuss being a woman warrior in the Air Force.

The summit will conclude with a forgiveness ceremony facilitated by Native Wellness Institute Executive Director Jillene Joseph in the nearby Tribal plankhouse, achaf-hammi.

The Veterans Summit, which was first held in 2013 after Leno attended a planning meeting held in San Diego, is sponsored by the Grand Ronde Tribe, Native Wellness Institute based in Gresham and Veterans Affairs' Office of Tribal Government Relations.

Joseph said the original intent of the summit was to foster awareness of veterans' issues and provide opportunities for healing for veterans of all ages.

"Looking at five years back from now, what I am most proud of is more women veterans coming forward," Joseph said. "Some of our feedback in the past was that even though this was called a 'veterans summit,' to them it still meant male veterans. We have tried to invite more women veteran speakers

If you go
Veterans Summit: Gathering of Warriors V
When: 1 to 7 p.m. Thursday, July 6, and 9 a.m. to 5:35 p.m. Friday, July 7
Where: Uyxat Powwow Grounds, 9600 Highway 22 (Hebo Road)
Cost: The event is free and intended for all veterans
More information: 800-422-0232

If you go
Marcellus Norwest Memorial Veterans Powwow
When: Grand entries at 7 p.m. Friday, July 7, 1 and 7 p.m. Saturday, July 8, and 1 p.m. Sunday, July 9
Where: Uyxat Powwow Grounds, 9600 Highway 22 (Hebo Road)
Cost: The event is free and intended for all veterans
Vendor information: Contact Molly Leno at 503-983-6790 or at Charleslenojr75@gmail.com

and do more outreach to females so that we have more female veterans coming. That's exciting."

Joseph said that she is also proud that the Grand Ronde Veterans Summit is encouraging the creation of similar summits elsewhere in Indian Country.

"The attention, the focus on veterans and how things trickle out from the summit," she said. "Other communities doing their own summits has been another plus. That was another reason we wanted to do it.



Smoke Signals file photo

Tribal Elder Steve Bobb Sr. talks during a workshop that was part of the fourth annual Veterans Summit: Gathering of Warriors at Uyxat Powwow Grounds last July. This year's summit is Thursday and Friday, July 6-7.

Show an example of how it could be done for people to take back to their communities."

Nick Sixkiller, who acted as master of ceremonies at the Veterans Summit, will continue that role for the powwow and Carlos Calica will be the arena director. Tony Whitehead and Linda Meanus will be Head Man and Woman Dancers, respectively, and Bad Soul will be the host drum.

Vendors interested in selling their wares or food at the Veterans Powwow should contact Molly Leno at 503-879-6790 or via e-mail at charleslenojr75@gmail.com.

Tribal Veterans Special Event Board Chairman Steve Bobb Sr., a Marine Corps veteran from the Vietnam War era, said the Veterans Powwow is an opportunity to visit with old friends and swap military service stories.

"It's always nice to see everybody again," Bobb said. "Rekindle the old friendships and the ongoing things

with veterans. We like to visit and talk old stories. That's always fun. You see the same people every year, and that's good. They keep coming back, and that's good."

The 5-year-old Veterans Summit, as always, seeks to connect veterans with the Veterans Affairs' benefits they earned through their military service.

"I think we're gaining on it," Bobb said. "It started out kind of slow. It's always been a struggle to get the word out that it's not just for Tribal veterans, but for all veterans. I think we are at least starting to gain on some of those things that we were trying to help out with.

"Veterans are a hard group to deal with because some of them are kind of resentful still, especially of governmental agencies. And more, I guess, from my era. We try to tell them, 'You've earned this stuff. You've earned it. You have it coming.'" ■

2017 CLOTHING & SCHOOL SUPPLY DISTRIBUTION

"It's Back to School Time!"
Social Services 2017 School Clothing Program
Program opens July 3, 2017.
 This is a first-come, first-served program.
 Child must be an enrolled Grand Ronde Tribal member.
 Child must be of school age and enrolled in school (Preschool, Elementary, Middle or High School.)
 Income criteria applies.
 Please contact Social Services at 800-242-8196 or 503-879-2034 for application.
 Deadline for all applications is Sept. 15, 2017.

Youth Education 2017 School Supply Distribution Program
Program opens July 3, 2017.
 Child must be an enrolled Grand Ronde Tribal member.
 Child must be enrolled in grades kindergarten-12th grade.
 School Supply Distribution Form and Cover Letter will be mailed on July 3, 2017, to all eligible Tribal member households.

Back to School BBQ
 at Grand Ronde Tribal Gymnasium
 Date: Aug. 15
 Time: 4 - 7 p.m.
 Details: Important upcoming information on School, YED and other departments, YED program sign ups, Raffle prizes and Checks distributed
 For who: K-12 CTGR Tribal member (2017-18 school year)
School supply amount: \$100 per student

For General Questions:
 Contact: Amber Yates 503-879-2101

Please contact Tammy Garrison at 503-879-2077 for information regarding forms & check distribution.
 Deadline to apply for the School Supply Distribution program is Sept. 15, 2017.

Ad created by George Valdez

Hoop for Health!

CTGR NATIVE YOUTH 3 ON 3 2017

When: August 18th-20th

Tournament times: **Friday, Aug. 18** | 5 p.m.- 8 p.m.
Saturday, Aug. 19 | 8 a.m.- 9 p.m.
Sunday Aug. 20 | 8 a.m.- Until finished (If needed)

Who can play: Coed Middle school and High school brackets (teams of 4) 2016-2017 school year, must bring ID.

Where: Uyxat Pow Wow Grounds - Grand Ronde, Oregon

Cost: Free!

3 point contest | Prizes for 3 point contest, 1st, and 2nd place teams!

All teams must have a coach, 18 years or older | Limited Team spots available!
 Presentation on healthy lifestyle awareness!

Deadline to Register Aug 11th

To register a team Contact Harris Reibach: 503-879-1369

Recreation Department