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## Museum Day features Minidoka Swing Band

PORTLAND, Ore. – The Minidoka Swing Band performs Sat., Sept. 24, at the Washington County Museum in celebration of National Museum Day, hosted by the *Smithsonian* magazine. The Washington County Museum is a participating museum with free admission from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Bring the family and a picnic lunch to the Museum and take in the toe-tapping music of the Minidoka Swing Band, view the current exhibits, see a Japanese woodblock printing demonstration and enjoy the grounds – all for free. The Museum is located on the PCC-Rock Creek Campus, 17677 NW Springville Road.

The locally-based swing band, established in September 2007, plays from noon to 2:30 p.m. The band's swing tunes serve as a tribute to the Japanese Americans interned during World War II and highlights the music that was popular in 1940s America – and in the internment camps.

Led by Music Director and Conductor Larry Nobori, the band's members range in age from 13 to 84 years old. Nobori also plays lead alto sax and clarinet. The Minidoka Swing Band, named after the Minidoka Internment Camp in Idaho, has been featured in a variety of media, including the Wall Street Journal and in an Emmy-nominated story produced by KING TV-Channel 5 in Seattle.

The Unite People Youth Group of the Japanese American Citizens League will provide swing dancing to select songs. In addition, the students will sell sodas and water to raise funds for their group's activities.

Two exhibits will be on display in the Museum gallery.

*Taken: FBI* is a traveling exhibit of the Oregon Nikkei Endowment that shares stories, artifacts, diaries and experiences of some Portland-area Japanese Americans who were interned. The traveling version of the exhibit is sponsored in part by the Oregon Heritage Commission, Spirit Mountain Community Fund and Target.

*The Day We Left* is a complementary exhibit of large-scale paintings by Cedar Mill artist Sharon Inahara, using words as art, to depict the emotions of WWII and the internment experience of Japanese Americans.

**About:** *The Washington County Museum is a cultural leader that serves to preserve our heritage and foster understanding of our shared future. The Museum offers unparalleled opportunities to experience and understand the complexity and richness of Washington County.*

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