

Elders visit Oregon Coast for Elder Honor Day recognition, fun

By Diane Rodriguez

Elders came from across the Northwest to join Siletz Tribal Elders for the annual Elder Honor Day at Chinook Winds Casino Resort on April 4.

Theresa Libbett, Elders coordinator for the Coquille Tribe, drove a van full of Elders to the event. Included in this group was her mother, Margaret Jones.

“I love meeting people and getting out of town,” said Jones, who lives in Myrtle Point, Ore.

“The Elders love to come here,” said Libbett as she and Jones enjoyed brunch before the day’s activities began at the 14th annual event.

The Siletz Honor Guard (Ed Ben, Stan Werth, Clint Muschamp, Josh

Morrow and Tony Molina) opened the event with drumming provided by Rusty Butler, Sage Butler, Ron Butler Jr., Aaron Case and Ron Belgarde. Bud Lane, Siletz Tribal Council vice chairman and language/traditional arts instructor, gave the invocation. Cynthia Farlow, Siletz Tribal Elder, served as emcee.

Several individuals were honored with Pendleton blankets during the day, including:

- Henry Fuller (Grand Ronde), the oldest male in attendance at 98 years old
- Betty Peck (Suquamish), the oldest female at 92 years old
- Wallace Wheeler (Nez Perce), the oldest veteran at 94 years old



Photos by Diane Rodriguez

Above: Theresa Libbett and her mother, Margaret Jones

Left: Junior Miss Siletz SuSun Fisher and Tasha Mason present a Pendleton blanket to Betty Peck.

Right: Wallace Wheeler



Left: Elders Council Chair Shirley Walker announces Henry Fuller.

Right: Sylvia Butler and her sister, Patricia Fredrickson

