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Annual ML King Breakfast

Capacity crowd celebrates King with *The Skanner News*

Of The Skanner News

A capacity crowd filled the Portland Convention Center on Monday morning for the Skanner News Group 28th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast.

As usual the event attracted a wide variety of attendees, from local churchgoers, educators and teenagers to Mayor Charlie Hales, and both of Oregon's U.S. Senators, Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley.

Winner of the Skanner News' Drum Major for Justice Award, an honor bestowed on a local resident who has dedicated their life to Civil Rights, went to Joyce Braden Harris, Equity Assistance Center director for Education Northwest.

Event emcee, Bobbie Dore Foster, executive editor of The Skanner News Group, presided over the presentation of dozens of college scholarships for local students attending schools around the country.

A celebrated poet, Pastor Emmett Wheatfall of Remember the Hope Christian Fellowship Church, gave the invocation as well as the benediction; singer Jeanne Wiggins led the audience in the Black national anthem, "Lift Ev'ry Voice."

For the first time the event was broadcast live on Portland Community Media television, Channel 30.

Honored guests at the head table included Neil MacFarlane, general manager of TriMet; Roger Thompson, vice president for enrollment management at the University of Oregon; Portland City Commissioner Dan Saltzman; Patrick Quinton, executive director of the Portland Development Commission; Portland Mayor Charlie Hales; Dr. Bruce Goldberg, keynote speaker and interim executive director of Cover Oregon; Ben Basom, director of communications for the Pacific NW Regional Council of Carpenters; Steve Frisby, president of Portland Division of Safeway; Gary Oxley, president of Oxley and Associates; Jack Roberts, executive director of the Oregon Lottery;

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DRUM MAJOR

Joyce Braden Harris accepted the Drum Major for Justice Award at The Skanner News Group's Martin Luther King Breakfast. Harris has spent her life as an educator and community organizer as well as a scholar and mentor. Julie Keefe photo



PHOTO BY THE SKANNER STAFF

NW Tribes Throw Members Out

Disenrollment leaves Native Americans 'culturally homeless'

By Gosia Wozniacka
Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Mia Prickett's ancestor was a leader of the Cascade Indians along the Columbia River and was one of the chiefs who signed an 1855 treaty that helped establish the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde in Oregon.

But the Grand Ronde now wants to disenroll Prickett and 79 relatives, and possibly hundreds of other tribal members,

because they no longer satisfy new enrollment requirements.

Prickett's family is fighting the effort, part of what some experts have dubbed the "disenrollment epidemic" — a rising number of dramatic clashes over tribal belonging that are sweeping through more than a dozen states, from California to Michigan.

"In my entire life, I have always known I was an Indian. I have always known my family's history, and I am so proud of that," Prickett said. She said her

ancestor chief Tumult was unjustly accused of participating in a revolt and was executed by the U.S. Army — and hence didn't make it onto the tribe's roll, which is now a membership requirement.

The prospect of losing her membership is "gut-wrenching," Prickett said.

"It's like coming home one day and having the keys taken from you," she said. "You're culturally homeless."

The enrollment battles come at a time when many tribes —

long poverty-stricken and oppressed by government policies — are finally coming into their own, gaining wealth and building infrastructure with revenues from Indian casinos.

Critics of disenrollment say the rising tide of tribal expulsions is due to greed over increased gambling profits, along with political in-fighting and old family and personal feuds.

But at the core of the problem, tribes and experts agree, is a

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Centennial Party for N. Portland Library

Locals encouraged to bring mementos for celebration display

By Lisa Loving
Of The Skanner News

The North Portland Library — one of the only Carnegie libraries in the city — is throwing its 100th birthday party on Feb. 1, and book-huggers are encouraged to bring by historic memorabilia for the special event.

Library manager Patricia Welch plans a

display to depict the institution's history, and she is calling on the local community to pitch in with stories, ideas or anything they may have to celebrate the gorgeous red-brick building at 510 N. Killingsworth St.

"People love the library," Welch says. "Every time I come into this building I feel the love, because only in a town where people love their libraries so much, would the public agree to step up and fund this beautiful library."

ful library."

The ornate, Jacobean-style brick edifice was built through the civic improvement project of industrialist Andrew Carnegie that saw the construction of landmark libraries across the country.

The North Portland Library itself pre-dates the current building, as Portlanders in

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