

Tribal members display artwork

The Tenth Annual Tribal Member Art Exhibit is now open at the Museum at Warm Springs.

The Judge's Choice Award went to Archie Caldera and his work *Native Blessings*. (See page 3 for more information.)

Native Blessings is made from elk antler, soap stone, deer hooves, horse hair, dentalia, glass beads, and cut glass beads.

An Honorable Mention Award went to Roxanne Chinook for her acrylic painting on canvas, *My Son Dances for Freedom*.

Honorable Mention went to Roberta Kirk for beaded dress, barrette and bag, *Dancing with the Spirits of My Grandmothers*.

These works are just a few of those featured in the Tribal Member Art Exhibit.

The exhibition also features cradle boards, masks, sculptures, regalia and bags, baskets, drawings, paintings, quilts and beaded wall hangings.

The show this year is called *Visions of Our People*.

The Tribal Member Art Exhibit at the Museum at Warm Springs runs through November 23.

At top, Roxanne Chinook's *My Son Dances for Freedom*. At center, a detail from Archie Caldera's *Native Blessings*.

Bottom photo is beaded bag that is part of Roberta Kirk's *Dancing with the Spirits of My Grandmothers*.



Huckleberry research sees progress

Growing wild in the mountains, the huckleberry bush has become popular to the Northwestern tribes, and distributors of products containing huckleberries. This fruit is found in the wild at elevations between 4,000 and 6,000 feet because they are best suited for high altitudes with short growing seasons.

With the demand of the berry so high, the fruit is scarce when it becomes available.

A scientist at the University of Idaho Sandpoint Research Center is on the verge of cultivating the huckleberry, making it available to anyone who wishes to plant and produce it as a farm product. Danny Barney spent the last 15 years researching and predicts that within the next five years the huckleberry seeds may be purchased from a nursery for your home or farm.

The huckleberry will remain an exotic fruit and the products made with them continue to be the staple of tourism-related businesses in the Northwest. The underground huckleberry economy is a question of supply and demand. No one knows because of the secretive berry patches and how many berries these patches contain.

There are many companies that make products out of huck-

leberries, and the supply varies widely from year to year.

According to Barney the last bumper crop was in 1994, and subsequent harvests were hurt by bad weather and huge wildfires. These wildfires cut off access to prime huckleberry patches. As a result a gallon of huckleberries that once sold for \$16-\$30 can be worth as much as \$48 this year.

Tribes have long prized huckleberries for food and trade purposes, and the white settlers immediately developed a taste for this exotic fruit. The huckleberry was recently designated Idaho's state fruit.

In the 1800s the huckleberries became a term of humbleness or something minor. Huckleberry Finn was named so as to denote the character of Mark Twain's book. Later in the 1800s an expression meaning affection for another person became, "I'm your huckleberry."

Barney believes that the humble huckleberry can help economies of this region recover jobs lost in logging and mining industries. Many small companies of huckleberry products could expand with larger steadier supplies of huckleberries.

Growing huckleberries commercially has proven to be quite

a task because efforts to grow them at a lower elevation are finding problems. They are susceptible to weather extremes, especially early warm spells followed by freezing. Also the amount of shade and what is the best soil are questions unanswered.

Barney has thousands of huckleberry plants in different stages of growing, and is cross-breeding for different tasting blends. He is attempting to learn plants per acre, fertilizer, and weed control. Should weeds be controlled?

He is finding that these plants mature slowly, as his plants from 1996 are just now bearing fruit.

As early as spring 2004 farmers will receive plants to test in their fields. Some will also be tested in the wild. Target date for commercial production is 2008 for Barney.

Barney says that growing the huckleberry may take away their mystique, but then it may free more of the natural crop for casual pickers who are not in it for the money. "People who want 100,000 pounds of berries will get them in reliable consistent crops," Barney said. At the same time natural stands of the huckleberry will not be over-harvested.

Sanchez returns to U.S.

Rose M. Sanchez is back in the United States after a tour of duty with the U.S. Marine Corps in the Persian Gulf.

Sanchez arrived at her home base of Camp Pendleton in San Diego, on Sept. 17 and she is hoping to be in Warm Springs sometime within the next week, pending approval of her leave.

Her family was delighted to learn that Rose was headed home and extended their gratitude to the local community for all the heartfelt support.

"I want to thank everyone who kept her in their thoughts and prayers," said Coleen Reed. "She has shared with me that she was very happy to receive all the letters, cards and care packages that were sent to her while she was overseas and a 'thank you' to all who have supported her."

Sanchez was hoping to answer all of the letters she re-

ceived, but she's not certain her goal has been achieved, because there was a great deal of correspondence. For those who did not receive a return letter, Sanchez sends her appreciation and she apologizes for the oversight.

Sanchez stayed current on news events in the community by reading Spilyay Tymoo during her tour of duty.



The Museum At Warm Springs hosts a cultural gathering with a weaving circle. This circle is free and all you need to do is bring your cedar roots and tools and show up in the education room of the Museum. On October 27, 28, 29, 30, at 5 p.m. there are gatherings scheduled.

COCC planning for winter

Central Oregon Community College has announced that it is time to plan the winter community education classes. So far, interest has been expressed in

Museum to hold craft bazaar

On November 29, 2003 bring a new toy for admission to The Museum's 2003 Annual Holiday Native American Arts-Crafts and Bazaar. This Bazaar is an opportunity for the community members and tribal member artists.

Everyone is invited to 2189 North Highway 26 to shop for a variety of Native American arts-crafts or bazaar items. Food and drinks will be available, too. Opening is at 9:00 a.m. and the doors close at 5:00 p.m.

Your toy donation will benefit the local Children's Protective Services.

the following classes:

Conversational Spanish, American Sign Language, Indian Sign Language, You Can Change Your Body, Flint Knapping and Creating Tools.

COCC would like to hear from the community regarding the level of potential interest in these classes. Or are there other classes that would be of interest?

Call Cody Yeager, COCC Warm Springs, at 553-1428. Or e-mail at cyeager@cocc.edu.

Yard Sales
All residents of
West Tenino
Road
Hwy 4
October 10,
2003
9 a.m. til Dark

Twenty-five years ago this week

From the Oct. 6, 1978 edition of Spilyay Tymoo

Tribes take over HUD Housing Project

Having become totally fed up with delays and poor performance, the Confederated Tribes last week terminated the contract with Marshall N. Dana, the 50-unit HUD housing contractor.

The Confederated Tribes took over the project on September 27, and are completing it with Les Yaw as contracting officer. Included in the project are 30 family homes in West Hills and a senior citizen complex above Elliot Heights.

The expiration date for completion of the project was to have been on June 15, then, due to bad weather conditions the date was extended to June 25.

But now that the contract is over 90 days past due, and contractor has given non-specific reasons for more delays. So the Tribes have put down their foot and have taken over the project.

According to Yaw, the tribes will hire the subcontractors next week, and within two weeks the first people can begin moving in.

"Organizing takes a while," said Yaw, "but once we line up our ducks and get over that hurdle, those homes should finish up pretty quickly."

Story idea?
Call the Spilyay
553-3274

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