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Spilyay Tym

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Success story written at Voc Rehab

By Leslie Mitts
Spilyay Tymoo

Noree Guerin displays her two identification cards proudly.

In one, the photo reflects the Guerin of today: happy, healthy and successful.

The other, a photo from several years ago, depicts a very different woman—one who suffered from alcoholism and was in danger of losing her job.

Guerin was no stranger to the workforce when she approached the Vocational Rehab program for assistance. She had worked for the tribes for 27 years.

Her problem involved her lack of a driver's license.

Guerin's license had been revoked due to several citations for driving under the influence of intoxicants. After a longtime problem with alcoholism, Guerin entered a treatment program.

In order to regain her driving privileges, Guerin needed a valid insurance policy. In order to get insurance, she needed a valid driver's license.

"I didn't really have anything," she said. "It was really tough."

At first Guerin wasn't even aware that she could receive help from the Vocational Rehab program—because the program is designated for those with disabilities, many aren't aware that they include alcoholism and substance abuse in their list of potential disabilities.

She explained, "I always thought Vocational Rehab was for people with a medical disability."

Once she approached the program and went through an orientation, Guerin began working with counselor Stacy Fast Horse-Burke.

"She right away identified what my problems were," Guerin said.

With the help of the Vocational Rehab program, Guerin was able to purchase a six-month insurance policy that she needed in order to get her license reinstated.

The program also assisted her by supplying weekly gas vouchers and in purchasing glasses and new clothing for the workforce.

See VOC REHAB on 11

Tribal leaders testify in grave-robbing case

By Dave McMechan
Spilyay Tymoo

Tribal leaders testified last week at the sentencing hearing of a Redmond man who was convicted of attempting to sell Native American remains.

The man found and dug up the remains over 10 years ago on public land near Crooked River Ranch. He kept the remains "in storage," and then tried to sell them to an undercover informant in 2004.

He was arrested and charged with violation of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act. He

pleaded guilty to conspiring to violate the law.

At the hearing last week in federal court in Eugene, he was sentenced to 2 1/2 years in prison for trafficking in an American Indian skeleton. He was also ordered to pay \$20,000 in restitution to the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

"I was happy that he got prison time instead of just restitution," said Roberta Kirk, coordinator of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.

"We were worried he was going to get off with a light sentence, such as

community service," she said. "That would not have been a good precedent for people convicted of this type of crime."

"It is unbelievable that someone could do this," Louie Pitt, director of tribal governmental affairs, said of the crime. "It's a horrible attack on our way of life."

Pitt said the remains would be turned over to the Confederated Tribes, or to relatives of the deceased for reburial.

The man convicted of the crime was Michael Orf, 30, of Redmond.

Wilson Wewa, a Paiute spiritual

leader, also testified at the sentencing hearing last week. Wewa said that Orf's 2 1/2 year prison sentence seems light, "like a slap on the wrist," he said.

"I think if the tables were turned, if somebody had dug up any of the looters' relatives and tried to sell them as curiosities, they would get more prison time than this guy got," Wewa said.

To put the issue in perspective, Wewa mentioned the controversy that arose about locating remains following the Oklahoma City bombing and the attacks on the World Trade Center.

See REMAINS on 14



Tony Stevens displays baskets. His work will be on display at the Madras exhibition.

Basket weaver displays work at art show

At first glance, Tony Stevens looks the part of a city-loving Portland resident.

It isn't until he pulls weaving materials from his bag and begins quickly working with the threads that his artistic side becomes evident—and it's something he's taken with him from his childhood in Warm Springs.

Stevens, the son of Mark Stevens and Carol and Sal Sahme, recently returned to the area to participate in a student show for the Oregon

College of Art and Craft at the Art Adventure Gallery in Madras.

"They've never had baskets in the art show," Stevens said. "They were really excited about it."

As part of his participation in the show, Stevens gave a live demonstration of his basket weaving—and it wasn't long ago that he was giving the same demonstration to a much larger crowd.

Recently Stevens traveled to Washington D.C. for a trip sponsored by the California Indian Basket Weavers As-

sociation.

"It was a real privilege," Stevens said.

During the trip he had an opportunity to participate in a television program with his teacher Pat Courtney-Gold as part of a mentor-student segment.

Stevens also gave a live weaving demonstration on the National Mall—during an event that was visited by over 900,000 people.

See BASKET WEAVER on 11

Election appears favorable for casino

The Nov. 7 election appears to be favorable to the Confederated Tribes in regard to the Bridge of the Gods Casino at Cascade Locks.

The local election for city council at Cascade Locks, for instance, appeared likely to result in a council membership that is unanimous in support of the Bridge of the Gods Casino, said Margie Tuckta, casino project manager.

Previously, there was one Cascade Locks council member who was opposed to the casino on moral grounds.

The issue of the casino was not a central part of the election at Cascade Locks, an indication that there is general support among the community, said Tuckta.

Members of the Hood River County Board of Commissioners are also in support of the project.

"We are grateful for the support of the local community at Cascade Locks," said Tuckta.

In the recent election, it appeared likely that Gov. Kulongoski would be re-elected, according to the most recent poll. Kulongoski was endorsed by the Tribal Council, as he has been a supporter of the Bridge of the Gods project.

This edition of the Spilyay went to press before the Tuesday evening deadline to vote, so final results were not yet available at print time.

Old news article details veteran's war experience

By Leslie Mitts
Spilyay Tymoo

About sixty years ago, a young man at home on leave from the Navy during World War II gave an interview to a local paper.

As he told a reporter about his direct involvement with the war, it's likely that he didn't realize those moments would one day be noteworthy.

In fact, he probably didn't even think that one day his family would find the article and learn something new about his life.

Today, with Veteran's Day quickly approaching, one tribal member's family discovered that article and has found out even more information about their relative's time in the service.

Gerald Smith knew that his father had served during World War II and the Korean War, and received numerous medals.

But he didn't know everything. He didn't know, for instance, that his father, Lloyd G. Smith, had been an instrumental force in one of the blood-

est battles of World War II.

Local community members knew Lloyd Smith as a soft-spoken, thoughtful man who became involved in countless committees and organizations in this area.

Now his family has uncovered articles from a New Mexico newspaper that include an interview with Lloyd Smith as he describes what his service in the military entailed.

"You don't worry about being killed when the bullets are flying around," Smith told the newspaper. "You know plenty of guys are going to get theirs, and you're scared, but you just figure that you're going to stay alive."

Smith served as a second-class radioman in the Navy and described how he felt when he and four other radiomen went ashore to establish communications between their ship and the Tarawa beachhead during the first day of the invasion of the island.

Smith described the events of that day to the newspaper. "We went ashore on the morning of Nov. 20, the first



Lloyd Smith

day of the attack," he said. "We had to wade in to the island, carrying our radios on our backs, from the coral reef about 400 to 500 yards offshore which the landing boats couldn't get past."

"The first time we tried, it seemed like there was no one ashore except the

Japs. The machine gun fire from their beach emplacements was terrific. Boats all around the coral reef were being sunk," Smith continued.

"After several tries we finally made it and set up our communications on the beach. We stayed right there, with sniper fire all around us, until evening. Then the Japs staged a counter-attack and we had to radio for landing craft from the boats to take us off."

"Early the next morning we went back with more Marines and this time we stayed there until enemy resistance had been broken four days later. When everything got quiet, we left," Smith described.

He went on to describe to the newspaper how one plane would fly overhead and drop bombs near their camp every morning.

"He didn't stay around very long," Smith said. "We had a lot of Navy planes for protection."

The account describes Smith showing the reporter pieces of Japanese currency that he took off of dead fight-

ers on Tarawa.

"I picked those up for souvenirs, but I didn't bother about other souvenirs because they were too hard to carry," he said.

Smith spoke of other battles, and said they were all much easier than the fight at Tarawa.

"We met some resistance at Kwajalein," he said, "but after Tarawa it was the same old routine—a job to be done."

At the time, Smith wore campaign ribbons for the American and European theatres as well as the Asiatic.

Smith enlisted in the Navy in 1942. He served in World War II for four years and received a bronze star medal at Tarawa, Gilbert Island.

Smith was one of the first radiomen to establish communications on Tarawa, and he also received two stars, a good conduct medal and a victory medal for World War II. He went on to serve in Hungman, Korea during the Korean Conflict in 1951.

See VETERAN on 11