

# Veterans share inspiring message at school assembly

By Leslie Mitts  
Spilyay Tymoo

Alvis Smith III had the chance to see strength in all of the different races during his time in the military, and he shared that experience with middle school students recently.

"The number one thing this nation has that makes it strong—we've got the strength of each race," he told the students.

Smith served in the military from 1988 to 1992.

He spoke to students at the Jefferson County Middle School Veterans Day Assembly last week. The assembly is an annual event at JCMS.

Discipline is something else that Smith learned about during his time in the military. "You're putting your effort into it because you want to do it," he explained.

Smith told the students not to take for granted the freedoms that they have as citizens of the United States. In other parts of the world, Smith said, "Kids your age—they don't have the opportunities that you guys have."



JCMS students participated in a parade outside to complete the Veterans Day assembly.

Leslie Mitts/Spilyay

In addition to the speakers, Warm Springs youth Minnie Vance sang "America Will Always Stand" at the assembly last week.

Joining Smith as speakers, several other men spent time discussing their experiences in the military at the JCMS assembly.

Jack Goodman, a language arts teacher at JCMS, spoke about the 2 1/2 years he spent stationed in Germany during the Vietnam War.

"I felt like I was protecting the freedom of our country," Goodman told the students. "And that was important to me."

Goodman added, "I'm really

proud to have served in the United States military. It's a part of my life I will never forget."

Iraq War Veteran Brian Crowley spent the day speaking to Maria Crowley's social studies classes at JCMS, and also spoke to the student at the Veteran's Day assembly.

Crowley spent 11 months in

Iraq from 2003 to 2004 and said he was affected greatly by seeing young children in the area where he was stationed.

"After awhile that became my main goal over there was to fight for those little kids," Crowley said. He also said that what he enjoyed the most during his time serving with the National

Guard was the camaraderie that developed between his fellow soldiers. Crowley cautioned the students against dismissing veterans as normal people.

"I want you guys to be appreciative of all their hard work, of all their buddies lost," he told the students.

Jim Smith spoke to the students about how joining the coast guard led to a 10 1/2 year stint as well as a career path. He served in Vietnam and later used his experience to go into law enforcement. "My career was one of the most exciting things that I've ever done in my life," Smith told the students.

Smith spent five years living in Greece and also had the opportunity to travel throughout Europe during his time with the Coast Guard. As for time serving the military, Smith said, "You only get out of it what you put into it."

In addition, Smith said, "If you do it, you will always remember it."

After listening to speakers, JCMS students participated in a parade outside to complete the Veterans Day assembly.

## Honor warrior ceremony

Family and friends of Raylene Alana "Ti-Kwux-ni" Ike-Thomas this week were planning an Honor Ceremony for her this week.

Raylene joined the U.S. Air Force in 2005, and has completed one tour of duty in Iraq. She may be redeployed there early next year.

The ceremony was planned Wednesday evening of this week (after deadline



Raylene Ike-Thomas

for this publication).  
(Look in the next Spilyay for more on the Honor Ceremony.)

## Beader needed

Bead worker needed for 2009 Miss Warm Springs crown and banner

Deadline to submit resume is this Friday, Nov. 21.

To drop off resume or for more information, contact the Tribal Council office 553-3257.

## Gathering to discuss range restoration

A seminar, Range Restoration 101, is set for 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 24 at the Warm Springs Community Center.

In order to restore rangeland, we have to know what we are restoring it to and why.

These important questions will be addressed in our workshop, presented by the Warm Springs office of Oregon State

University Extension.

"We will discuss three building blocks of range—soils, plants and grazing," said Fara Ann Brummer of OSU Extension.

The workshop will provide a big-picture of rangeland health and sustainability, said Brummer.

"Come and learn more about the rangelands outside your front door," she said.

The soils portion of the

workshop will be presented by Ryan Miebach and MaryBeth Smith, of the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Plants will be presented Bob Gillaspay of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Sandy Wyman of the Bureau of Land Management.

Grazing systems will be presented Brummer.

Lunch will be provided.

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