



Spilyay Tymoo

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Tribes, state host Tribal Government Day

By Duran Bobb
Spilyay Tymoo

With Gov. Kitzhaber standing at his side, Warm Springs Chief Delvis Heath gave the invocation at the ceremony on May 13 in Salem, recognizing American Indian Week throughout the state of Oregon.

The governor said that during his first term in office he realized the need for state agencies to work in cooperation with Oregon's nine federally recognized tribal governments.

Also present at the ceremony, from Warm Springs were Council Chairman Stanley "Buck" Smith, Councilman Scott Moses, and tribal Governmental Affairs Director Louie Pitt.

Informational booths kicked off the day's events in the Capitol's Galleria. Tribal members Paula Miller, Denice Clements and Doris Miller answered questions on all aspects of the reservation.

"People seemed to be most interested and fascinated with our *shaptakai* [Indian suitcases]," Miller said gleefully.

Eric Queampts, from Umatilla, gave a brief presentation on the history of his reservation and the importance of protecting the first foods.

Outside the Capitol, the flag of



Tribal leaders and young people meet with Gov. Kitzhaber as he proclaims American Indian Week in Oregon.

the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs stands at the far right of eight other tribes, along with the nation's state flags.

Warm Springs' flag is a reminder of the reservation's continuing endurance since 1855, and the tribes' ongoing relationship with the state of Oregon.

In Salem last week were the annual Oregon tribes meeting and Tribal Agency Day, followed by Tribal Government Day.

W.S. to help in veterans study

By Dave McMechan
Spilyay Tymoo

Native American veterans use the services of the Veterans Administration much less than non-Indian veterans.

No one is sure why Native veterans do not use the full Veterans Administration (VA) services that are available to them, said Elton Greeley, director of the tribal Senior Department.

The VA recently hired a professor from Colorado, Dr. Carol Kaufman, to study the situation and suggest possible solutions.

Three reservations in the U.S. will participate in the study, including Warm Springs.

Greeley presented this information to Tribal Council last week, and Council approved Warm Springs' participation in the VA study.

Warm Springs VA representatives Shelia Danzuka, Violetta Vath and Patricia White were instrumental in setting up the initial meeting with Kaufman, said Greeley.

See VETERANS on page 9

Key decision pending on timber harvest

By Dave McMechan
Spilyay Tymoo

Tribal Council met with the Natural Resources Branch last week to discuss the timber harvest on the reservation, and the possible impact on the Warm Springs Forest Products Industries mill.

Tribal Council faces a difficult decision regarding forestry, as the annual timber cut from the reservation may have to be reduced.

Council members and Natural Resources agreed that a workshop of two or three days is needed for further discussion. The difficulty of the situation can be explained as follows:

To operate year-round, the WSFPI mill would require an annual cut of at

least 45 million board feet.

However, Natural Resources studies show that an annual cut of 45 million board feet is not sustainable. Natural Resources said to Council that an annual cut of about 30 million board feet from the reservation is a maximum sustainable number.

The sustainable harvest would protect important tribal resources including cultural foods, wildlife and watersheds.

An unsustainable harvest level, though, would leave the reservation natural resources—timber and wildlife—depleted for future generations.

The tribes' partner in operating the mill is VanPort International, which markets the wood that is cut and processed at the mill.

The decision facing Council and Natural Resources involves current jobs—already scarce—versus sustainable management of the natural resource.

VanPort has said that the mill cannot operate efficiently and profitably with an annual cut of 43 million board feet.

The amount needed annually to run the mill and potentially make a profit would be closer to 50 million or even 55 million board feet, VanPort officials have said.

The Natural Resources information

presented last week also looked at scenarios to market logs in a way that would bring higher stumpage rates back to the tribes without exceeding the sustainable harvest.

The mill, one of the last in the region, employs about 150 people, including many tribal members.

The decision facing Council and Natural Resources involves current jobs—already scarce—versus sustainable management of the natural resource. Tribal management is now determining possible dates, perhaps in July, for the Council and Natural Resources workshop.

An informed decision on this issue is critical, Council members and Natural Resources Branch manager Bobby Brunoe agreed.

Community cleanup Saturday

This Saturday, May 21, is neighborhood Spring Clean-Up day, hosted by the Community Safety Team. Clean-up activities will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. A barbecue lunch will be provided to those who volunteer to help with this project.

The volunteer work site station will be located at the Early Childhood Education center.

Volunteers can meet there. They will be given safety instruction, and issued garbage bags, gloves, and bottles of water.

Large dumpsters will be available, so this is a good time to get rid of all accumulated litter from yards, roadsides and other areas.

The team leader is Danny Martinez, fire chief. A contact person is Ashley Aguilar, of the Grant Development office. She can be reached at 541-553-2204; or email: ashley.aguilar@wstribes.org

Residents from the Hollywood Boulevard and Tenino Apartments areas are encouraged to participate in cleaning their neighborhood.

Event organizers ask residents to please restrain their dogs during the clean-up.

Elderly or disabled people can call Sanitation for help in removing large junk such as old and unwanted appliances. Their number is 541-553-3163. They could have someone come by on Monday, May 23, to pick up the item.

Tiger VanPelt has agreed to assist with the removal and disposal of abandoned vehicles. Please contact Ahsley Aguilar for a removal application.

She mentioned that the Spring Clean-Up day will also be a great time for people to fulfill any community service hours they may have pending.

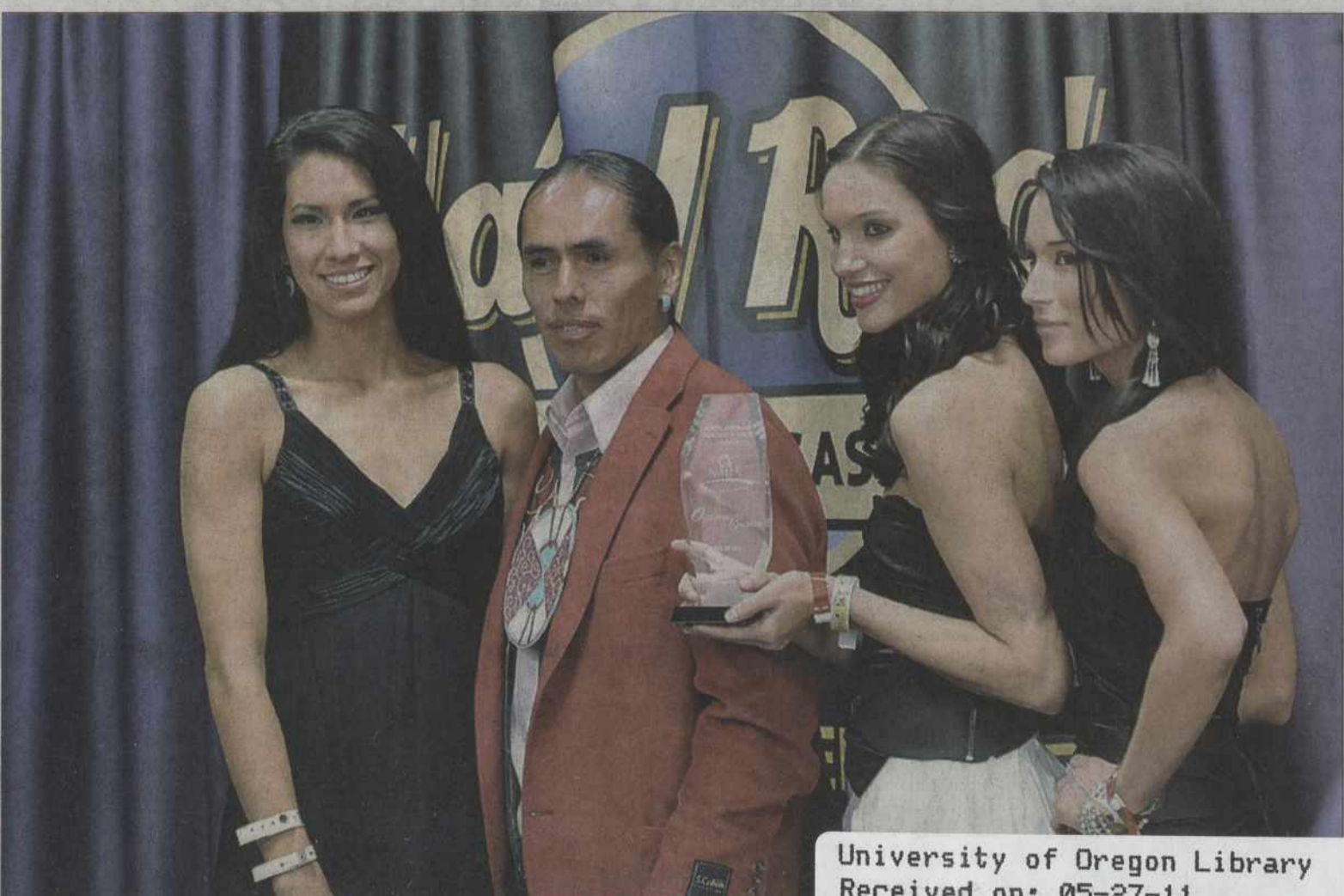
Blackwolf wins Indigenous Image Award

Levi Blackwolf won the Outstanding Calendar Award at the 2011 North American Indigenous Image Awards.

The awards ceremony was held at the Hard Rock Hotel in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Blackwolf, owner of Wolfn Photographies, won the award for his Powwow Model Calendar. (See the story on page 9.)

Roxane Gomez, Levi Blackwolf, Mariah Monique Watchman and Jamie Hansen Douts (from left) at the awards ceremony in Albuquerque.



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