



Spilyay Tymoo

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Some time with tribal elder Viola Kalama

In the early days the travel was by horseback. "We went everywhere on the reservation," Viola Kalama was saying last week. "We rode in the Mutton Mountains, to Mount Jefferson, all over."

She remembers in the summer they would ride to Mount Jefferson for huckleberries. There was a small glacier they had to cross—a prime huckleberry area was on the other side. But it was dangerous: In the past someone's horse had slipped on the ice, sending the horse and rider careening down.

Viola remembers, as their

horses crossed the glacier, "We were told to keep very quiet—don't even breath." And they made it safely over.

Viola is almost 93. She was born in early July of 1921, at the area that is now Elmer Quinn Park. In the old days people would gather there by the river for a Fourth of July celebration. They would dry trout and camp for a few days.

In July of 1921, "My mother was pregnant," Viola says. "She stayed there at the camp, and I was born in one of the tents."

See **VIOLA** on page 12



Edna Gonzalez and her mother Viola with Senior of the Year blanket. Dave McMechan/Spilyay

Grant award to W.S. Elementary

The Jefferson County School District 509-J has received a \$1.64 million grant for Warm Springs Elementary. The funding comes from the U.S. Department of Education School Improvement Grant program.

This federal funding is designed to help improve student achievement. The funds will be distributed over a three-year period.

Warm Springs Elementary is one of three in the state receiving ESI grant funding. The other two are East Gresham Elementary, and Woodlawn Elementary in Portland Public Schools.

The Oregon Department of Education identified eligible schools based on a variety of factors including reading and math scores from 2011 through 2013 and school ratings on Oregon's new accountability system.

Tribes host unmanned vehicle fly-overs

The Confederated Tribes this month hosted the first unmanned aerial vehicle fly-overs on the reservation.

Staff from Oregon State University and the company Virtual Data Operations Support (VDOS) operated the UAV flight, coordinated by Warm Springs Ventures.

OSU is interested in studying the effects of wildland fires. During the recent fly-over, the UAV flew above the area of the reservation that burned last summer, making a video recording.

The following week they were scheduled to conduct a flight above a controlled burn, said Seth Johnson, of VDOS. The plan was to fly over the area before the controlled burn, and then again afterward, Johnson said.

The information gathered by OSU forestry personnel could help generate strategies for reforestation strategies. The use of UAV's for this purpose could be valuable for foresters nationwide, once UAVs are integrated into the national airspace system.



Courtesy of Seth Johnson/VDOS

This UAV system flew over an area of the reservation that burned last year.

VDOS is a pioneer in the commercial application of UAVs. The company is led by Brian Whiteside, who is now working with Ventures

in developing the reservation UAV program.

After three-plus years of work, the tribes received approval from

the Federal Aviation Administration to operate UAV testing on the reservation as part of the Pan Pacific UAS Test Range Complex (PPUTRC).

The PPUTRC is comprised of test ranges in Oregon, Alaska and Hawaii. In Oregon, Tillamook and Pendleton also were approved.

The PPUTRC is based out of the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Economic development

"While UAVs or 'drones' have historically been used for military applications, the FAA's directive from Congress is to integrate UAVs into the National Airspace System, so that commercial operations can benefit from the technology as well," says Ventures' CEO Jeff Anspach.

Tribal leadership is hoping the program boosts economic development and job creation.

See **UAVS** on page 12

Prevention conference at Kah-Nee-Ta

Methamphetamine is a main source of personal danger and community damage. Solutions to the problem were a focus of a three-day conference this week at Kah-Nee-Ta Resort.

Tribal and other health officials were on hand, with experts in the field of drug abuse prevention. Over 100 people attended the conference.

On Monday at the conference a topic was high intensity drug traffic areas, or HIDTAs. The reservation is the only federally recognized tribe to be designated as an HIDTA.

There was a presentation on how local law enforcement works with other agencies including the DEA and FBI in identifying and apprehending drug traffickers.

Later in the afternoon Dr Jay Wursher presented information on methamphetamine and the many ill effects of its use.

On Tuesday the discussion turned to suicide prevention. The conference concludes Wednesday with a discussion about tobacco and a talk about how the Community can respond to what was learned.

MHS graduation coming up June 7

The Madras High School graduation this year will be held at the Jefferson County Middle School. The change in location is required because the high school athletics field, where graduation ceremonies are usually held, is under renovation. Graduation is set for June 7.

Group developing process for salvage vehicle removal

Public Safety officials met with Tribal Court, the Land Use Services program and Land Use Committee to discuss the removal of salvage vehicles from Warm Springs.

Currently, no company is authorized with a permit to remove broken down cars and trucks from residences in the community.

There are environmental concerns with removing these vehicles, and that is why a permit is required.

A new policy and procedures are being developed by the Land Use Planning committee that will better address accountability for the towing companies that get permits.

The group also discussed legal issues related to car ownership, and the rights of an individual to have vehicles removed from their property. The group will meet again to continue to improve the process.

— Sue Matters



Dave McMechan/Spilyay

Workers building the scoreboard at the Warm Springs Academy (see page 8 for construction update.)



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See page 12 for details.