

Tribal youth wins award for gun safety video

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

Tribal member Brayden Langley, 10, won the Daisy/Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation's Youth Video Contest.

His gun safety video features quick cuts and bright photos interspersed with his commentary on the importance of gun safety.

The 90-second video is posted on the Internet at www.youtube.com/watch?v=CFRUy4seN8Q.

As a home-schooled student, Brayden used a video camera and some high-powered software — the Adobe Masters Suite with video editing and animation capabilities.

"It was part of home school and the learning process," says his father, Tribal member Bryan Langley, who is Higher Education Program manager in the Tribe's Education Division, "and part of the entrepreneurial vision so he can earn some money in the future, but he already earned some in this contest."

Brayden's prize is a paid trip to attend this year's Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Elk Camp & Hunting, Fishing and Outdoor Expo in Fort Worth, Texas.

He also will receive a Daisy Ryder BB gun and gift card from Cabela, a retailer of hunting, fishing and camping merchandise.

Brayden says that he was "kind of surprised. Yes and no. Dad got new software, and I was able to use some animation and I thought that might have given me a better chance. But I was kind of surprised."

"He had been thinking about it for a long time," Bryan says. "When we went on our trip this summer to Montana to visit my sister, we made sure that he did some videoing, and took some pictures and he included those in the video."

"I got some really good scenery there," says Brayden.

Brayden started the project in August or September and finished close to the end of December.

"I wrote a script first, and then I took just the parts I wanted (to video)," Brayden says. "And then I



Smoke Signals file photo

Brayden Langley

read the rules over to make sure I had the right time and stuff."

Two years ago, Brayden placed fifth in the youth division at the World Elk Calling Championships in Reno, Nev. His sister, Tribal member Bryanna, then 12, placed third in the Daisy Outdoor essay contest with her essay, "Take Aim At Safety."

This year, the essay contest was expanded into the video project that included the essay.

Brayden also took first place in the Youth Division in the Calling the Cascades elk calling contest sponsored by the Elk Foundation and Sportsman's Warehouse last July. Also in 2008, Brayden was named the Oregon State Youth Elk Calling Champion. Later, he called in a prize elk that was then shot by his father.

The youth video prize also pays for one adult to accompany Brayden.

"My dad (Tribal Elder Dale Langley) tried to convince April (Campbell, Education Division manager) that I shouldn't have the time off," says Bryan, "so he could go, but that didn't work."

So, Bryan will accompany Brayden to the expo, where both will participate in the World Elk Calling championship held during the event. ■

Concert set at Tribal gym

An All Christian Concert is scheduled for 6 p.m. Saturday, March 14, in the Tribal gymnasium.

The concert will feature Russ Hosley, Russ Neal, Rex Haller, Cindy Larson, PO Soul Entertainment, Mark Anthony Jones, Ben Bauman and more.

Margo Mercier will make taco soup that will be served. Suggested donation is \$5 for the concert and \$2 for taco soup.

Donations will go toward Lighthouse building and ministries.

Also, attendees are asked to bring canned food to help the Grand Ronde Food Bank. For more information, call Larson at 503-876-2999. ■

Coming clean



Photos by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal youth Nick Larsen works his way out of some brush with pop cans and a plastic spoon as he helps clean up the Grand Ronde community on Thursday, Feb. 12. The Youth Education K-12 program cleaned up the community as part of a community service project. The Education Program is planning on doing a community service project every quarter.



Tribal youths Evan Leno, left, and Nick Colton stuff a piece of material they found into a garbage bag as they clean up a field near Tribal housing.

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Storytelling event set for March 14

"An Afternoon of Northwest Native American Storytelling" will be held from 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 14, at Brighton Creek Conference Center, 25 miles east of Olympia, Wash.

The event is hosted by the Advisory Council of the Northwest Indian Storytellers Association.

A lunch with the storytellers will start at 1 p.m. followed by a storytelling session from 2 to 4 p.m. A silent auction featuring Native American arts and crafts will start at 4 p.m. and the event will end at 5 p.m. with a friendship dance.

Brighton Creek is between Roy and McKenna, Wash., located on 24 forested acres in rural southwestern Washington.

Tickets can be purchased online at www.brownpapertickets.com. Write "Northwest Storytellers" in the Search Events column at the top of the Web site. Tickets are \$30 each and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Only 75 seats are available.

For more information, call Debbie Russell at 503-282-2910 or e-mail liaison@wisdomoftheelders.org ■