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Smoke Signals

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UMPQUA ■ MOLALLA ■ ROGUE RIVER ■ KALAPUYA ■ CHASTA

A Hard Day's Blight

Beetle invasion fights Scotch broom in Grand Ronde

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

Tribal Biologist Rebecca McCoun and Fire Protection Tech Gabe Clift set 200 tiny *Bruchidius villosus* beetles free from their to-go box in Grand Ronde on Thursday, May 28.

The beetles were set free at a GPS reading of N - 45° 04.940' and W - 123° 36.368', but the location

also might be called Scotch broom-central for the Eastman property on the north side of Hebo Road.

The Natural Resources staffers also released another 200 beetles on the Bode property that day, the second release this year on the Bode property.

See BEETLES
continued on page 6



Photo by Ron Karten

Tribal Natural Resources staff recently released beetles in the Grand Ronde area to combat the proliferation of the invasive plant Scotch broom.

Grand Floral Parade



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Right, Spirit Mountain Casino's float, "Bridging the Past With The Future," rolls through downtown Portland during the 2009 KeyBank Grand Floral Parade on Saturday, June 6. The float, designed by Tribal Elder and Tribal Council member Steve Bobb Sr., received the Golden Rose Award for best float shorter than 35 feet. Above, Tribal member and Spirit Mountain Sponsorship Coordinator Ashley Langley covers the floor of the float with moss while helping build it at Studio Concepts in Portland on Thursday, June 4.



Photo by Ashley Langley

Natural Resources Youth Crew program wins again

Tribal member Justin Butler works on the Tribal Natural Resources Youth Crew last summer. The program won the 2008 Frank Roberts Oregon Youth Conservation Corps Project of the Year Award as best in Oregon.



Photo by Alyssa Cudmore

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

For the third time in six years, the Tribal Natural Resources Youth Crew Program has won the Frank Roberts Oregon Youth Conservation Corps Project of the Year Award as best in the state. The latest award covers 2008.

"This is a well-deserved award," said Tribal member and Natural Resources Manager Michael Wilson

of the program run for the last 12 years by Tribal Fish and Wildlife coordinator Kelly Dirksen. "Kelly and his team put a lot of time and energy into this project."

"I started," Dirksen said, "figuring you're just building trail all summer, and we'd lose half the kids by mid-summer."

As the years went by, Dirksen

See NATURAL
continued on page 3