

New Veterans' Queen and Young Warrior named

POWWOW continued
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the ocean. I was wounded three times."

Tribal member Deitz Peters served as Headman. His wife, Rose (Shoshone), was Headwoman. They hosted men's and women's Traditional Specials to say thanks for the honor of leading. In addition to the gifts they made and gave away, Tribal Council sponsored the Specials with two Pendleton blankets.

Tribal members Peter Nelson (Veterans Senior Young Warrior), Halona Butler (Veterans Senior Queen) and Nakoosa Moreland (Veterans Junior Queen) ended their years of service by holding a giveaway.

Nelson said he would be taking a year off of Tribal Royalty duty "to concentrate on high school," but would continue dancing, and maybe return to the Royalty programs in a year.

Moreland is already in the running for another Tribal Royalty position.

"I'm running for Junior Miss Grand Ronde 2009-10," she said. Orientation occurred during the powwow on Sunday at the Community Center, right after grand entry.

She anticipates participating in the Royalty Pageant before Contest Powwow so that the crowning ceremony can take place in time for the event.

"They show you how to respect each other and respect the veterans," she said of her experience with Veterans Royalty. "I like to spend time with them, talking with them, not only as veterans, but as friends."

Tribal members Promise Rimer, and her brother, True, were named Veterans' Queen and Young Warrior for 2009-10.

Tribal member Steve Holmes and his wife, Margie, head cook for Møk Møk Haws and assistant convenience store manager, respectively, led the effort to cook and serve a come-one, come-all free dinner on



Layla Harmon, 3, dances amongst the adults during an intertribal dance at the Veterans' Powwow on Saturday, July 11.



Photos by Michelle Alaimo

Speedy Fry, right, presents World War II Army veteran Robert Korhonen, 87, of Portland with a swagger stick he made during the Veteran's Powwow on Saturday, July 11. Korhonen was the oldest World War II veteran at the Powwow, so he received the stick, which was usually carried by a uniformed person as a symbol of authority, but went out of style long ago.

Saturday night and breakfast on Sunday morning.

The Møk Møk Haws restaurant

crew served a slow-cooked elk stew and fry bread for dinner. Biscuits, gravy and scrambled eggs

were served for breakfast. And throughout the powwow, Møk Møk Haws kept a booth where the staff prepared game meats, among its usual fare.

The Sixkiller family donated "a bunch of candy for the kids' games," Tinney said. The games were held on Sunday.

Among vendor highlights was one hosted by Tribal member Jan Michael Looking Wolf Reibach, not only featuring his award-winning Native flute music, but also selling smudge fans, drums, jewelry, dancing sticks, leather bags and rattles made by Kathy Sohler and Barb Wendt, who staffed the booth.

Four hundred danced on Saturday, Tinney said, and "probably half that" on Sunday. Total attendance each day was likely above 1,000, he added. ■

Hello, my name is Peter Nelson and I have been the Veterans' Young Warrior for the past three years. When filling this position, I felt it necessary to treat everyone, even the public, with absolute respect. Doing this takes discipline and keeping that discipline for these years has taught me not only respect, but self-respect and respect for the land and my surroundings.

This could only be achieved by the people who supported me the most — the Veterans.

Their work has shaped all of us and our country as well. So with that in mind, my opinion of them is very high. I respect them deeply and would trust each and every one of them with my life. I have learned so much from the Veterans and I hope that I have also brought knowledge to them as well.

This whole experience has brought me unknown happiness and a sense of satisfaction.

The fulfillment of what I am doing and why I'm doing it is an amazing feeling that everyone at one time or another should get to feel. The warfare that we are involved in, whatever it may be, I would hope that you remember soldiers are there to ensure the safety of everyone. So when our soldiers come back as Veterans, they should be treated with the utmost respect and equality.

The people who I've gotten to share the last three years of my life with are amazing people, so I recognize them, not only as some of the bravest people I have ever known, but also as some of the best friends I have ever had. Veterans are good people and it makes me smile with their moral fiber



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal member Peter Nelson dances during the 1 p.m. Grand Entry of the Veterans' Powwow on Saturday, July 11.

and courage is recognized and praised. I will always remember them as a part of my family and will keep them in my heart forever. ■