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Veterans' central Tribe hosts Summit between July 9-12

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

"t will be difficult not to run into a veteran in Grand Ronde between Tuesday, July 9, and Sunday, July 14.

The annual Marcellus Northwest Memorial Veterans Powwow will be held Friday, July 12, through Sunday, July 14, at Uyxat Powwow Grounds off Hebo Road.

And three days before that - Tuesday, July 9, through Friday, July 12-the Tribe will host a four-day "Veterans Summit: A Gathering of Warriors" being put on by the Gresham-based Native Wellness Institute at the powwow grounds.

The free summit will bring an anticipated 500 to 1,000 veterans and their relatives to Grand Ronde's Tribal powwow grounds

Marcellus Norwest Memorial Veterans Powwow coming July 12-14

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

his year's Marcellus Norwest Memorial Veterans Powwow will have a 500- to 1000-veteran head start over previous years' attendance.

That's the estimated number of veterans expected the first year of what may be the first Veterans Summit held anywhere in

for informational workshops, motivational speakers, benefits coordination, parade of color guards, welcome home ceremony, traditional games, health care, talking circles, counseling and more.

"Our Native veterans are too often a forgotten population," said Charles Tail Feathers (Cree/Blackfeet), a Native Wellness Institute board member and visionary of the gathering. "Some of our warriors from prior wars and conflicts still have unmet needs.

"The purpose of the Veterans Summit is to honor them, provide direct services and sources, help them on their healing journey and provide a good time filled with food, laughter, culture and positive camaraderie."

If you go

Veterans Summit: A Gathering of Warriors When: Noon Tuesday, July 9, through 2 p.m. Friday, July 12 Where: Uyxat Powwow Grounds off Hebo Road, Grand Ronde Admission: Free More information: 800-422-0232

Tail Feathers, who worked for almost 20 years with the Warm Springs Tribe in east-

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Smoke Signals file photo

Land & Culture begins filming oral histories



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Elders sought to participate in interviews

By Ron Karten

Smoke Signals staff writer

t 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 19, Tribal Elder Ed Larsen entered Black Bear Lodge, an adult foster care home vacant at the moment.

His hair was brushed to perfection, maybe even to excess, he joked, entering the living room that was set up with lights and sound recording equipment.

Tribal Historian David Lewis and Collections Specialist Veronica Montano invited Larsen in as part of the latest effort to increase the Tribal

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Tribal Historian David Lewis, left, interviews Tribal Elder Ed Larsen for an oral history at Black Bear Lodge on Wednesday, June 19. Elders are being invited by the Land & Culture Department to record oral histories in an effort to increase the Tribal Museum's archive of their recollections.