



BRONZE HONORS WILBUR TERNYIK'S FORTY YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

Led the way for coastal zone management

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PORTLAND, OR, April 1, 2005 - A life-size bronze sculpture of coastal land-use planning pioneer, Wilbur E. Ternyik of Florence, is taking shape in the Wilsonville studio of world-renowned artist, Lorenzo Ghiglieri. Rejoined forces with former U.S. Senator Mark O. Hatfield and The Bridges Foundation to honor Ternyik for his many accomplishments.

Ternyik is a descendent of Clatsop Indian chief, Coboway, who helped Lewis and Clark during their encampment at Fort Clatsop near the mouth of the Columbia River. The 79-year-old Ternyik was a prime mover along with former Gov. Tom McCall in the early 1970s in an effort to bring about coastal land-use standards that helped make Oregon a leader in the protection and wise management of coastal natural resources.

The sculpture will show Ternyik from the waist up in the trademark buckskin jacket holding his combination tomahawk and peace pipe. It was used by Ternyik to gavel countless meetings, up and down the Oregon Coast. As chair of the Oregon Coastal Conservation and Development Commission, he launched the early coastal planning effort, which later led to enactment of land-use standards by the Oregon Land Conservation and Development Commission which now has prime oversight of coastal management. For nearly 40 years, Ternyik championed issues faced by coastal ports and portrayed visions for coastal economic development and environmental protection working with cities, counties and the state.

Ternyik, a long-time Florence mayor and port official, also has volunteered time to rehabilitate injured birds and animals and is internationally recognized as a dunes stabilization and wetlands restoration expert.

Ghiglieri, whose sculptures are valued around the world, has done pieces owned by celebrities and important people including King Juan Carlos I of Spain, Pope John Paul II, three Presidents, Dr. Schuller at Crystal Cathedral and golfer Tiger Woods. Many of Ghiglieri's sculptures and paintings portray wildlife in their natural settings and convey his strong feelings about the need to protect the natural landscape and the creatures who live there.

These are feelings that the long-time artist and Ternyik have in common. The Florence man said he is honored to be the subject of one of Ghiglieri's works. Ghiglieri, who said the Ternyik bronze will be done in the spring, said he got involved because his good friend Kathy Bridges of Turner, director of The Bridges Foundation, told him that his talent was needed to help convey through the Ternyik sculpture a powerful message.

"The powerful message is that there are those who show uncommon endeavor in our world and have a sense of value and caring and concern over the earth which man is supposed to manage," Ghiglieri said.

The Bridges Foundation supports work to protect the environment as well as efforts to provide scientific and technological opportunities for youth and programs to help disabled people. Kathy Bridges was an early director of what is now the Oregon Coastal Zone Management Association, a group of coastal officials once headed by Ternyik. Bridges, who conceived of the idea of honoring Ternyik, said it is fortunate that Ghiglieri agreed to join the effort along with her and Hatfield. "In your life, you meet people who have incredible leadership skill," she said. "Senator Hatfield has that. Lorenzo Ghiglieri has that. And Wilbur Ternyik has that and should be recognized by the people of Oregon."

When the sculpture is completed, it will be placed in a location on the northern Oregon Coast yet to be announced. Dedication is scheduled to take place in 2006 in conjunction with the 200th Anniversary of the winter spent by Lewis and Clark at Fort Clatsop near present-day Astoria.

Ternyik has touched many lives throughout Oregon and particularly on the coast, she said. The Bridges Foundation has agreed to underwrite the cost, but seeks donations to help defray landscaping for the display site and for presentation. Persons or organizations wishing to honor Wilbur Ternyik with a minimum donation of \$250 will have their names embedded in his bronze at the base of the sculpture. Donations may be sent to The Bridges Foundation at P. O. Box 1123, Turner, OR, 97392, or they may be made on-line at www.thebridgesfoundation.info.

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