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Spilyay Tymoo

(Coyote News)

News from the Warm Springs Indian Reservation

35 cents

Lincoln Powwow set at Simnasho

24th Annual Lincoln's Powwow and Sovereignty Celebration
February 9-12, 2001
Simnasho Longhouse, Simnasho, Oregon
Grand entries: Friday 7:30 p.m., Saturday 1:30 p.m., Sunday 2:00 p.m.
Over \$16,000 in prize money
Contestants judged on the point system
Schedule:
February 9—Memorials, blessing of the Longhouse, re-joining
February 9—New joiners, rejoiners, followed by grand entry.
Fancy & Traditional dancing
Ages 6-12, 13-16, 17 & up
Specials include: Drumming contest, 3-Hand drum contest (sponsored by Simnasho Committee and Pierson Mitchell family), Round Bustle/Chicken Dance (sponsored by Macky Begay), Sr. Men's Traditional (sponsored by Begay family), Jingle Dance 18& up (sponsored by Ike family)
The Lincoln's Powwow and Sovereignty Celebration honors: Children, Veterans, Leaders/Chiefs/Councilmen, Seniors/Elders, Sobriety, Field of Education
This is an alcohol and drug free powwow and will be enforced.
We ask that all the local drums provide their own chairs.
For information contact Anna Clements at 553-3290. For vendor information contact Sandra at 553-3601.

Downsizing team looks closely at operations

Senior management has been struggling with Tribal Government's increasing costs and decreasing revenues for the past several years. Unlike off-reservation communities, the Confederated Tribes do not have a tax base to help (defer costs) fund expenses related to such necessities as water, sewer, road building and repair, upkeep on tribal government buildings, and for providing services to the community including senior citizens. At the same time, as tribal government struggles to meet rising costs, it is also the largest employer on the Reservation.
With a decreasing revenue flow, it has become paramount for Tribal leadership to make adjustments that allow the Tribe to continue providing essential services for its members. In November, Tribal Council passed Resolution No 9935, approving the Tribes' 2001 Budget. The resolution directed the Tribal Government organization to improve efficiency and begin to permanently downsize operations to better match anticipated revenues with expenditures during the fiscal year 2001. Tribal Council also directed the Secretary-Treasurer to coordinate with the Chief Operations Officer to achieve an overall permanent base budget reduction of \$1,230,000, including a reduction in the number of Tribal Council committees and a reduction of Tribal Government programs and services. The resolution also stated that Tribal Council Committee members will travel at federal per diem rates beginning in 2001.
In a meeting held Dec. 14, 2000,

Secretary Treasurer Charles Jackson said, "We are taking the following precautionary actions. First, effective immediately, all vacant positions are frozen and no hiring of permanent staff will be permitted without prior approval of the ST." Jackson went on to say that effective Jan. 1, 5 percent of every budget unit will be sequestered (withheld) until a permanent reduction strategy and action plan is implemented during the second quarter.
Jackson and Chief Operations Officer Charles "Jody" Calica directed the formation of three groups to explore ways to address the revenue shortfall. The groups include a New Revenue Team, a Government "Downsizing" Team and a New Investment Team.
The Downsizing Team has concentrated on four areas: new initiatives, vacant positions, consolidation of Tribal Council committees, and reviewing the possibility of consolidating different areas of the Tribal Organization. The team has concentrated on alternative budget reductions that will not affect full time permanent employees this year. The team has been meeting each Tuesday since Dec. 14. It made its final report to Jackson and Calica on Jan. 30. Some recommendations, if accepted, could be implemented within 60 to 90 days, others by the end of the year, and still other recommendations could be implemented during 2002.
More information on the recommendations made by the Downsizing Team, New Revenue Team, and New Investment Team will appear in future issues of the Spilyay Tymoo.

Alyssa Macy looks ahead

Dressed in workout shorts and a baggy sweatshirt with a boldly emblazoned "Arizona State," Alyssa Macy looks every bit the thoroughly contemporary young woman-of-the-world she is. To reconcile this vision with the accompanying photo of a proudly-garbed, traditional Indian woman might appear difficult. Macy, however, moves with easy grace between both worlds.

Home to participate in the crowning of Adrienne Merrifield, her successor as "Miss Warm Springs," Macy reminisced about her year's reign, Warm Springs roots, current work in Washington, D.C., and plans for her future.

A self-possessed and articulate young woman, Macy is, by anyone's standards, a success story.

While candidly acknowledging her accomplishments, she credits them to family, community and, above all, education.

It was her father's untimely death, occurring when she was a high school senior, that ironically stimulated achievements she might not have otherwise attempted. She recalls her dad as someone who not only loved his Warm Springs home, but also enjoyed studying its history. "He was always learning, reading, writing." Her love of knowledge was a natural outgrowth of the home in which she was raised.

Jimmy Macy also conveyed a profound paternal pride and frequently communicated his dreams for his daughter's future.

"You're special, you're going to do something good," he would tell her. If college had not been one of her dad's aspirations, Macy believes she might well have been afraid to leave Warm Springs and further her education. His death, however, "forced me to grow and go." At his gravesite, she made a promise. She would go on to college, she would "make something" of her life.
After high school, she left



Alyssa Macy is currently working in Washington, D.C.

weaknesses, her goals, and the work she needed to do to achieve them. Building on the self-confidence imparted by her father and some "hard-headed stubbornness," she decided that with a strong work ethic and a solid education, she could achieve whatever she wished.

She returned to Warm Springs in December 1999. In her absence, it appeared that "the mountains had grown more beautiful, the rivers prettier and the people nicer." The welcome she received from the community was heartwarming. She renewed ties with family and special elder friends like Amelia Colwash and Daisy Ike who she says have "grounded me in reality." She discovered a newfound curiosity, a desire to learn more about the place she had formerly taken for granted. "The best thing about coming home to be Miss Warm Springs was coming home."

As Miss Warm Springs, Macy believed she could share her emerging skills and strengths with the community; and, in typical fashion, she took the opportunity seriously. Macy believes strongly that each Miss Warm Springs can adapt the role to fit her own personality and strengths. At various Indian conferences and pow-wows Macy thought of herself as an ambassador for, and a reflection of, the Warm Springs community. However at non-Indian events she was a representative of all Indians - a responsibility she refers to as a "glorious burden." A person who is "comfortable about speaking out" and, like her father, holds strong opinions, Macy took advantage of opportunities to present her views on education, tribal sovereignty and other issues of concern to her at the events she visited during the year of her reign.

Macy is working in Washington, D.C., on a Mark Hatfield Fellowship as a legislative assistant to Congresswoman Darlene Hooley.

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Warm Springs for Arizona, the home of her mother's family. She eventually enrolled at Arizona State University from which she graduated last May with a bachelor's degree in Justice Studies. She did not return to

Warm Springs for seven years - until her decision to participate in the Miss Warm Springs pageant.

As introspective as she appears outgoing, Macy used the time to examine herself - her strengths and

Miss Warm Springs steps into spotlight

A commitment one year earlier than planned has resulted in Adrienne Merrifield becoming the new Miss Warm Springs.

Adrienne, daughter of Dinah and Wilbur Merrifield Jr., turns 18 on Feb. 10. She was thinking about running in 2002, but decided last week to enter the competition. Since then, reality has set in.

"I think about it a lot," said the Madras High School senior, who will finish courses required for graduation in March. "Now I have to work at a lot of things too that I didn't before."
There is also the matter of increased responsibility that comes with the honor.

"I know that people look at me in a different way," she said.

While Adrienne was carried away in the changing of her outfits by her aunts backstage and the pageantry onstage, her mother was swept

up in nervousness and emotion.

"I was nervous all day," said Dinah Merrifield. "I was all that ... and she seemed so calm and cool."

The memory of Adrienne's older sister brought an added emotional element to the event. Benita, who passed away a couple of years ago, had dreamed of becoming Miss Warm Springs.

"I cried when Adrienne danced, because I hadn't seen her dance in three years," said Dinah.

For Adrienne, the title is a chance to honor her sister. "I'm doing this for her because she didn't get to do the things she wanted to."



Adrienne Merrifield at the pageant, above, and after school.



Wolfe Point road planned Paving would help safety, maintenance

Residents in the Wolfe Point area could be accessing their homes via a paved road by the end of the summer. The BIA Branch of Roads is proposing to construct a newly aligned road near Wolfe Point between Highway 3 and Culpus Bridge.

The natural-surface road that residents have grown accustomed to traveling has several drawbacks. It has a number of curves and can be difficult to negotiate when the surface is wet. The current road is very expensive to maintain.

BIA is proposing the \$2.5 million project to alleviate these problems. Their plan calls for a realignment that would provide safer and better access into the area. The realignment would straighten much of the roadway and provide better drainage over its surface, which should make for safer travel. The design also calls for two 15-foot wide, asphalt lanes, approximately 25 percent wider than the existing road.

Construction enterprise, Page 5

Officials hope these features will reduce the number of traffic accidents that occur on Wolfe Point Road, a benefit to residents and thru traffic, as well. The issue of safety is extremely important because Wolfe Point Road is part of a school bus route.

When the road is completed it will provide an alternate paved route to Kah-Nee-Ta Resort, which could become the primary access in case of emergencies. If Culpus Bridge is replaced within the next couple of years, as officials anticipate, the entire loop connecting Highway 3, Wolfe Point Road and Highway 8

along the Warm Springs River would accommodate two lanes of traffic over asphalt surfaces.

The project is subject to review by an interdisciplinary planning team, so natural resources will be protected in accordance with tribal codes and ordinances. Impacts to cultural resources, water, soil, fish, wildlife, forage and scenic values will be assessed before the project gets underway. Any significant impacts will be mitigated.

During construction, access to local residences will be maintained, but thru traffic is likely to be detoured. Whenever possible, the road will be relocated away from private allotments and onto tribal lands. Abandoned sections of road will be eradicated and reseeded.

Anyone wishing to comment on the Wolfe Point Road realignment project should contact Tom Shuman at 553-2432 or Doug Dunlap at 553-2416.

