

Chilkat earns top business award

Heavy equipment outfit has grown from one backhoe

By Nat Shaw
Tribal Relations

A Warm Springs business nominated by the Warm Springs Small Business Center walked off with one of four minority business awards in Portland October 2. The 20th annual Minority Enterprise Development Week celebration and award luncheon was held in the Tiger Woods Ballroom at the Nike World Campus.

Pinky Beymer, president and co-owner of Chilkat Enterprise Inc., received the award from Bill Scott, the Executive Director of the Oregon Community and Economic Development Department. In making the presentation, Scott said, "This prestigious award is given annually to recognize an outstanding minority-owned business for its superior performance, which provides quality service to their community. The Minority Enterprise Development Week committee is pleased to present this award to Ruth "Pinky" Beymer."

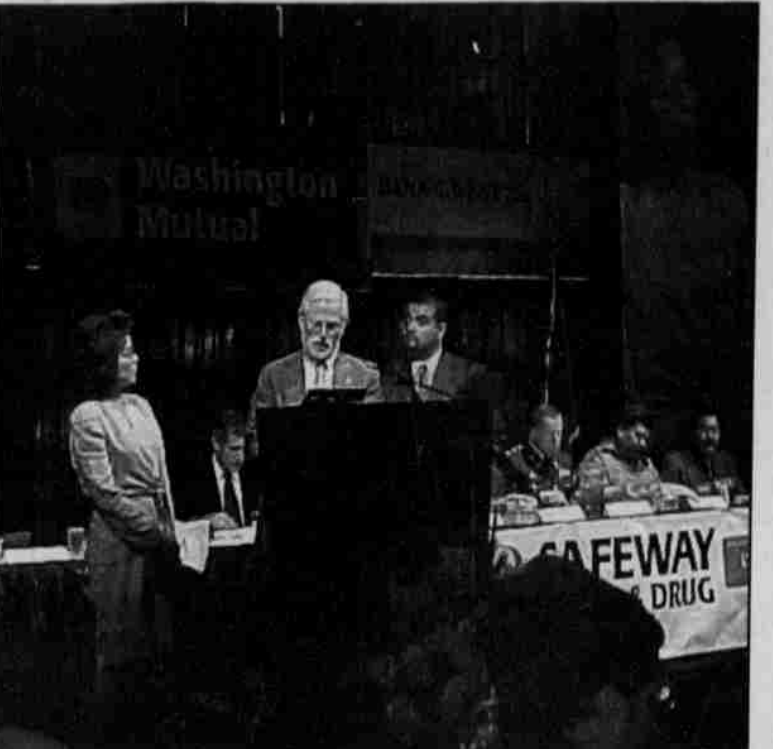
Pinky's husband, Kelly, son Waylon, daughter-in-law Tiffany, and grandson Wesley also represented Chilkat. Others in attendance from Warm Springs were Trudy Brunoe from the Small Business Center and Sal Sahme, Director of Business Development.

Chilkat Enterprise Inc. started in 1989 with a single backhoe. The heavy equipment construction company has steadily grown becoming a full-fledged earth moving company. Because of a downturn in the reservation economy, Chilkat has reduced its workforce to between 6 and 9 people. The company has streamlined its staff to remain competitive.

In accepting the award, Ms. Beymer thanked a number of



Kelly and Pinky Beymer (top) were honored in Portland ceremony.



people including the late Bill Christensen, who worked in the credit department, and was very supportive in Chilkat's effort to

a viable and profitable company. Ms. Beymer singled out Mitch Conley and Trudy Brunoe from the Small Business Center and

Mike Clements from Business and Economic Development for their encouragement and assistance. Beymer commented, "I've had a good deal of family and friend support."

She spoke of being thankful for the work ethic her Mom and Dad instilled in her and also thanked her Mother and Father in laws, saying, "They have had their own small business and they've influenced me."

Chilkat has worked on numerous projects throughout Warm Springs and Oregon. These projects include the Warm Springs Early Childhood Center, The Museum at Warm Springs, Warm Springs Health & Wellness, the HUD subdivision in Warm Springs and the infrastructure at the Wild Horse Gaming Casino in Pendleton and the casino at Kah-Nee-Ta High Desert Resort and Casino.

Chilkat has taken pride in employing local people and helping young community members develop skills and a solid work ethic. The company adheres to a drug free workplace and has a drug testing policy.

The President of Chilkat has a long-standing philosophy of supporting small business. "Remember to shop local, support small business, the Mom and Pop shops, and minority business. I'm a firm believer that you get what you give."

Being of Wasco and Tlingit descent, Beymer has her own take on being an American Indian businesswoman. "Indians have always bartered, had free trade, commerce, so business is not foreign to us."

On the challenges of running her own business, Beymer commented. "You think you finally have your business, the market, people figured out, and then it all changes again! I'm lucky to have this opportunity and to be a woman in this time and place."

Fishery Pact Signed

After all-morning deliberations at Kah-Nee-Ta Lodge Oct. 13, a history-making pact between the Bonneville Power Administration and four major Northwest Indian Tribes was signed. Representatives of the Nez Perce Tribe and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Umatilla and Yakima agreed to join the BPA in a pact to restore the Columbia River anadromous fishery.

The pact was seen by Indian representatives as their first opportunity to participate in fisheries planning although the involvement of all concerned parties in a coordinated regional effort was stressed.

The amount of \$500,000 was recommended for the establishment of a year-long pilot project to begin restoration of the fishery on the Columbia River and its tributaries. Twenty percent of this sum is to be provided by the Tribes.

Signatories of the fishery pact were Zane Jackson (Warm Springs), Watson Totus (Yakima), Les Minthorn (Umatilla), Richard Halfmoon (Nez Perce) and Don Hodell, Administrator of the BPA.

Requested by Oregon Gov. Robert Straub last month to expand its participation in regional fisheries management, the BPA has been the designated recipient of Federal Columbia River Power System revenues for fishery mitigation programs and facilities, and therefore has a sizable investment in this area.

The Tribes are recognized as having specific treaty rights with regard to the fishery, and as jurisdictions of the government their input will be considered essential. Other parties such as the Pacific Northwest Regional Commission, federal, state and local government agencies, Indian user groups, and sports, commercial and environmental interests are recognized as sharing this "commonality of concern."

Residents of Warm Springs should not be alarmed when their electricity goes off Sunday morning. Jack Fiala, Facilities Manager, has notified us that all power to Warm Springs residences and businesses will be shut off at 7 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 17, so that additional work can be done on the sub-station.

Power will be restored by 9 a.m. if all goes well. So you might as well sleep in, because your toaster won't work anyway.

Alvin Smith retires from BIA After 38 years with the BIA Road Maintenance Department, Alvin Smith is facing retirement. When asked if he had any plans for his retired life he quipped, "No, not really. ... You got any ideas?"

We're sure he'll think of something. A man as active as he has been probably won't settle for idleness. ... For the last 15 years Smith has been the Road Maintenance Foreman, in charge of six men. He joined the roads department in 1933 as an equipment operator, running an assortment of cats, shovels, graders and carry-alls.

Outdoor lessons learned at Camp Tamarack In their annual autumn trek to Camp Tamarack outside Sisters, the sixth graders in 509-J learned what Nature had to teach. Mother Nature was kind, too, as she provided perfect weather for both four-day sessions Sept. 28-Oct. 1 and Oct. 4-7. The outdoor school offered classes in Soil and Rocks, Wildlife, Water, Arts and Crafts, Forestry, and Maps and Compasses - all utilizing the natural environment of Camp Tamarack as the classroom. Kids also had the opportunity to engage in various forms of planned recreation including archery, riflery, horseshoes and casting.

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Shots Flu Vaccine Clinic Set

High risk individuals will be identified by the health department and invited to the clinic. The clinic will be held at the Warm Springs Community Center on October 18, 2001.

Police 553-1171

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'F-Troop' meets for fun, food, fitness, relaxation and more

Join the "F-Troop" Fun, Fit and Fabulous is a weekly support and education group designed to help you meet your health goals for improved weight, blood pressure, blood cholesterol, and blood sugar. Join the F-Troop at 5:30 p.m. every Wednesday, the first and third Wednesday will feature a healthy cooking class. Other Wednesdays will be the Fun, Fit & Fabulous "F-Troop" support group.

Wednesday's 5:30 at the Warm Springs Health and Wellness Center. First cooking class begins October 17, 2001. First Fun, Fit and Fabulous support group begins October 24, 2001.

For more information, you can call Sara Thomas, RD or Susan Matthew, RN at 553-2460.

Spilyay Tymoo
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Deadlines

The next issue publishes November 1, with an October 26 deadline for all letter, story and advertising submissions.

The November 1 edition has an October 26 deadline.

The November 15 edition has a November 9 deadline.

The December 13 issue has a December 7 deadline.

Announcements

The Spilyay encourages organizations and individuals to send notices of events of interest to the Warm Springs community. The preferred method of delivery is via e-mail to spilyaytymoo@wstribes.org - this saves staff members from having to re-type something you've already printed up, thus allowing us additional time for reporting, photography and other tasks.

You also may drop announcements in printed and/or computer disk format at the Spilyay offices, 1100 Wasco St. on the Warm Springs campus, or send them to Spilyay Tymoo, P.O. Box 870, Warm Springs, Oregon 97761. Our fax number is 553-3539.

Please feel free to call if you have story or photo ideas, questions or comments. Our phone number is 553-3274.

Finally, please heed our deadlines - Friday the week before publication for all submitted materials. Thank you.