

## Composite Products gives \$250,000 to tribes

Warm Spring Composite Products this week presented a check for \$250,000 to the Tribal Council. This is the first dividend that Composite Products has paid to the tribes.

The money goes to the general fund. Composite Products began in the early 1990s, and initially produced a diverse range of products.

In more recent years, the enterprise is focusing on production of Tectonite cement. The Composite Products plant, employing 25 people, is located in the building that previously housed the Warm Springs Forest Products Industries plywood mill.

At the Tribal Council meeting on Monday of this week, Composite Products board chairman Robert Macy provided an overview of the finances of the enterprise. The council congratulated Composite Products for having a profitable and productive year.



Composite Products supervisor Jake Coochise presents a check for \$250,000 to Tribal Council Chairman Olney Patt Jr.

## University breaking ground on Native American Center

A ground-breaking ceremony for a new Native American Center at Portland State University (PSU) is scheduled for Friday, April 5. The event will happen on the PSU campus at S.W. Broadway and Jackson Street in Portland.

Tribal members are invited to attend and participate in the day's events.

The Portland State Native American Center will be the only facility of its kind in the Portland area, home to approximately 14,000 Native American people.

The Native American Center will offer a variety of learning and cultural opportunities for the community.

The center will serve as a

cultural home for Native students, supporting their enrollment at PSU, and enriching their academic studies.

The center will also provide a resource room equipped with computers for students, meeting and conference spaces for tribes, and an opportunity for all who visit the center to learn about Indian people, their history as well as contemporary Native American issues.

The April 5 ground-breaking begins at 10 a.m. with a blessing ceremony, followed at 11 a.m. by grand entry and ground-breaking program.

For more information, call Rose Hill at (503) 725-5348.

## Loan program for Indian farmers, ranchers has new liaison

### Roberta Kirk serving Oregon tribes

By Dave McMechan  
Spilyay Tymoo staff

Agriculture loans have been available to Native American farmers and ranchers through the national Farm Service Agency (FSA).

In the past, however, tribal member growers have not used this service very often.

To address the situation, the

FSA, working with the National Tribal Development Association, recently began an outreach program.

Roberta Kirk was hired as the Outreach Liaison for the tribes of the State of Oregon.

Kirk has her main office at the Vernon Jackson home at the campus area of Warm Springs.

She will be working closely

with farmers and ranchers of the Warm Springs Reservation, but her job will also require her to travel to the other reservations around the state.

She is available to provide information to tribal member growers who may be interested in seeking credit through the FSA.

Credit applications can be complex, and Kirk will be helping farmers and ranchers through the process.

The formal title of the program is the National FSA American Indian Credit Outreach Initiative.

The program first began among the tribes of Montana, and proved to be very successful, said Kirk.

Based on the success in Montana, the FSA is expanding to other states, including Oregon. Kirk is the outreach initiative liaison for all of the tribes of Oregon.

A summary of the outreach initiative is provided in a brochure publication from the FSA and the National Tribal Development Association. The summary states:

### Gang awareness forum set for April

A gang awareness and prevention forum is scheduled for April 12 and 13 at the Agency Longhouse.

Guest speakers will Waunetta Lonewolf, Kevin Cox and Wali Murraray.

For more information, call Char Herkshan at 553-3205.

More information on the forum will be in the next edition of the Spilyay.

### 25 years ago in the Spilyay

From the March 18, 1977 edition of the Spilyay Tymoo.

Attention. Grand Opening. March 23 will be the official grand opening of the Information Center and Gift Shop.

In other news: The fate of the proposed Simnasho-Schoolie Flat water system is uncertain at this point, since the pre-application for a HUD (Housing and Urban Development) grant was turned down last month.

And in other news: Satch Miller was voted into the Hoopa Basketball Hall of Fame on March 12.

Miller was chosen on the basis of his record as a ball player and his contributions to his community through the years.



Roberta Kirk

This project is a creative approach designed to address the unique agriculture credit needs of the American Indian community.

The project incorporates outreach, education and loan application preparation services to ensure American Indian farmers, ranchers and youth have access to the full range of FSA credit opportunities.

As outreach liaison, Roberta Kirk is ready to assist potential American Indian borrowers in the development of a complete loan package.

This program has a proven track record of meeting the agriculture credit needs of American Indian farmers, ranchers and youth by using

*Kirk is ready to assist potential borrowers in development of a complete loan package.*

individuals from the Native American community to provide the specific credit services.

The ultimate goal of this project is to establish a cooperative working relationship with the local FSA service providers to guarantee adequate resources are accessible to this, as well as future generations of American Indian agriculture producers.

Roberta Kirk can be reached at 553-0101; or over the internet at the following address: rkirk@coinet.com.

### How the initiative helps

How does the outreach initiative help the potential borrowers? In the following ways:

By providing trained outreach liaisons who will help during the FSA loan process.

By providing the borrowers with up-to-date information about the availability of Farm Service Agency agriculture credit programs.

By offering one-on-one credit application preparation assistance.

By accompanying the potential borrower to the FSA county office to help facilitate communication. (For the Warm Springs area, the office is in Redmond.)

By bridging those cultural barriers that exist between American Indian borrowers and the FSA.

By providing on-site presentations to schools and other youth organizations about the availability of the FSA Youth Loan Program.

## Announcements

The Spilyay encourages organizations and individuals to send notices of events that are of interest to the Warm Springs community.

The preferred method of delivery is via e-mail to spilyaytymoo@wstribes.org.

You also may drop announcements in printed or

computer disk format at the Spilyay office, 1100 Wasco Street. Or send them to Spilyay Tymoo, P.O. Box 870, Warm Springs, OR 97761. Fax number is 553-3539. Please feel free to call if you have story ideas, questions or comments. The number is 553-3274.

# Spilyay Tymoo

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<http://www.warmsprings.com/community/news/index.htm>

## Student of the Month

Sponsored by Warm Springs Power Enterprises



Sallie Polk-Adams is a freshman at Madras High School, where her favorite teacher is Ms. Serena Langley. Her favorite subject is physical education and her favorite activities are cheerleading and leadership. Leadership allows her to take an active role on committees, and help prepare for school dances, along with other student body projects. She was selected as student of the month for March, because of her positive, energetic attitude in and out of school. Sallie's future plans are to become a comedian or choreographer. She is particularly fond of dancing. Sallie will receive a \$5 gift certificate to Dairy Queen and a \$5 gift certificate to Hollywood Stars Video courtesy of Warm Springs Power Enterprises.

Each month an outstanding student is selected by 509-J tribal liaisons to appear in this ad. Students are selected on the basis of outstanding performance at school.