



# Spilyay Tymoo

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## Pi-Ume-Sha to mark its 34th year

By Dave McMechan  
Spilyay Tymoo

The Pi-Ume-Sha Treaty Days celebration is just around the corner. The powwow this year is the weekend of June 27-29.

The weekend of powwow activity will mark the 34th Annual Pi-Ume-Sha celebration in Warm Springs.

While the powwow organizers are preparing for the weekend, the Pi-Ume-Sha Court candidates are busy selling raffle tickets.

The candidates wanted to make the following statements.

**By Nathena Jim:**

Greetings to all my friends, family and visitors. I am 10 years old. My tribal affiliation is Warm Springs and Yakama. My parents are Tonia Hall of Warm Springs, and the late Nathan Jim Jr. of Yakama.

My paternal grandparents are Ella Jane and the late Nathan "8 Ball" Jim Sr. of Warm Springs. My maternal grandparents are Naomi Polk of White Swan, Wash.

I enjoy going to powwows, traveling, root digging, huckleberry picking, most of all dancing at powwows.



Roshanda Clements Poitra and Nathena Jim are candidates for the Pi-Ume-Sha Junior Court.

**By Roshanda Clements Poitra:**  
Hello tribal members. I am

7 years old and I am running for Pi-Ume-Sha Junior Court. I am in the first grade at Warm Springs Elementary School.

My teacher is Mrs. Comingore. I have three sisters and one brother, Janie, Laura, See **PI-UME-SHA** on page 10

## Computer center plan gets boost

A U.S. Department of Agriculture grant for \$695,832 will help transport the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs into the digital age of telecommunications. The recently awarded grant will enable the tribes to bring broadband telecommunications access onto the reservation via a microwave link from Quantum Communication's point of presence in Madras.

Once the broadband signal reaches the reservation it will be distributed via fiber optic cable to key tribal agencies. Broadband Internet access will also be made available to tribal residents and businesses via a fiber optics cable or through a fixed, point to multi-point, wireless system.

A key element of the project is the creation of a Telecommunications Community Center. The center will house 24 desktop computer stations connected to high speed Internet.

The center will be open seven days a week and will be free to community members for the first two years of operation. Plans are to locate the facility next to the Warm Springs Wellness Center.

"We believe this grant will allow our community to enjoy a level of telecommunication capability that is rare in Indian Country," said Secretary-Treasurer Charles Jackson. "The impact will be far-reaching, from adding new jobs, to enhancing tribal enterprises, to giving tribal

See **COMPUTERS** on 10

## Tribes to conduct alternative census

By Shannon Keaveny  
Spilyay Tymoo

A census core group, consisting of a representative from most departments on the reservation, met for the third time last week in Warm Springs to discuss plans for a tribal census.

The first step will be a challenge to the most recent U.S. census.

The tribal census, a two-year project funded by federal grant money, begins this summer. Winning the challenge with an accurate demographic profile of the reservation population could provide millions of dollars more to programs like Housing and Urban Development and Indian Health Services. In the immediate future the project will provide over 20 temporary positions for tribal members.

The tribal census will provide information regarding population, poverty, housing, income levels, and other factors of the community and families as a whole. The purpose of a tribal census is also to provide information to the chief operations officer, secretary-treasurer, Tribal Council, general managers, so decisions can be made with valid data.

The tribes believe the U.S. census is inaccurate, especially in regards to the amount of available housing. The U.S. Census Bureau has admitted the last census undercut Oregon's population by 63,000, according to an Associated Press report.

At the recent local meeting Rick Anderson, owner of Tribal Data Resources, presented his company's computer program that the tribes plan to utilize to record accurate census figures. Anderson's services will help provide the valid data necessary to challenge the U.S. census.

"This program will give us the means to tell the government, we don't think you did a good job and here's why," explained Anderson.

See **CENSUS** on page 10

## Gallery opens at Kah-Nee-Ta

Hundreds of guests attended the weekend opening reception of the art gallery at Kah-Nee-Ta High Desert Resort and Casino.

The gallery features works by tribal member artists.

Some of those whose work is exhibited include Pat Courtney Gold, Lillian Pitt, Roxanne Chinook, Richard Rowe, Willie Stacona, Aurel Stinson, Reba Johnson, Charles Littleleaf, Natalie Kirk, Winona Garrison and Apolonia S. Santos.

Look in the next Spilyay for a feature on the new gallery.

## Tribes: dam breaching is an option

Columbia Basin treaty fishing tribes say they are encouraged that four Northwest governors are pushing for more accountability by the Bonneville Power Administration.

But the tribes believe the governors have retreated from a comprehensive fish recovery effort.

Tribal representatives are concerned that governors Ted Kulongoski of Oregon, Dirk Kempthorne of Idaho, Gary Locke of Washington and Judy Martz of Montana, in a letter to Pres. Bush, are rejecting the alternative of breaching lower Snake River dams. For this reason the tribes believe the letter is "polarizing and divisive."

The letter, which included a series of recommendations for federal agencies, was released

recently at the Idaho State Capitol in Boise.

"I'm glad the governors support the tribes' efforts to require Bonneville to meet its trust responsibilities and fulfill its obligations to fish and wildlife recovery projects in the basin," said Olney Patt Jr., newly hired executive director of the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission.

"But rejecting dam breaching as an option is irresponsible, especially when BPA insists it will cut funds," said Patt.

He added, "I would like to know the science that supports such a stance. There's plenty of evidence that supports taking out these dams."

Patt pointed to a report released last year by RAND, an independent research institution,

"There's plenty of evidence that supports taking out these dams."

Olney Patt Jr.

which found that breaching dams, while diversifying the Northwest's electricity mix through increased conservation and renewable energy use, would have little impact on the economy.

In fact, according to the report, salmon recovery would provide a net economic benefit for the region. According to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, their state ranks first in the Northwest, and eighth in the nation, in spending by sport fishers.

See **FISHERIES** on page 7

## Partners form tribal business venture

By Dave McMechan  
Spilyay Tymoo

Warm Springs tribal member Aurolyn Stwyer-Watlamat and her business partner Natalie Charley, of the Quinalt Tribe, have developed a new business venture.

They plan to market the software services of Cort Directions, a Bend-based company recently purchased by the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

Stwyer-Watlamat and Charley, through their company Red Skye, are planning to market the Cort Directions services in Indian Country.

Cort Directions, founded in 1975, provides software to medium- and large-sized organizations that face complex payroll and human resource tasks.

Current clients are from diverse sectors of society. They include Harvard University, Boeing, the Denver Broncos and Tribune Publishing.

Stwyer-Watlamat said that the services of Cort Directions are also well suited for use by tribal

organizations and enterprises. One long-time client of Cort Directions, for instance, has been the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

Because of the potential for Cort Directions to serve other tribes, Stwyer-Watlamat and Charley approached Cort Directions with the idea of representing the company in Indian Country.

"We are highly impressed with Cort's software and what it can do for tribes and their enterprises," said Stwyer-Watlamat. "We've established a good working relationship with Cort's management team. They're professional and very receptive to the Native world."

Stwyer-Watlamat is no stranger to business ventures. She has a master's degree in business administration. She was the first manager of Indian Head Casino, the first woman tribal member to run an enterprise of the Confederated Tribes.

She grew up in Warm Springs, and currently lives and works in

Washington. She is also studying for her PhD. She is a mom with three sons, ages 16, 17 and 22.

Despite the busy schedule, she and her friend Natalie Charley, through their company Red Skye, are eager to begin their work with Cort Directions.

"Red Skye will represent only top-notch, quality products and we can tell this one's a winner for tribes," said Charley.

"For example," she said, "the payroll system is easy to use and it handles complex payroll issues with ease."

Charley, like Stwyer-Watlamat, has extensive business background.

She has a bachelor's degree in business administration, and has held positions of marketing director of the Quinalt Beach Resort and Casino, and general manager of Quinalt Pride Seafood.

As part of their new job working with Cort Directions, Charley and Stwyer-Watlamat will travel quite a bit.

See **RED SKY** on page 7

## Museum celebration

Delvina Heath (left) enjoyed the recent Tenth Anniversary celebration of the Museum at Warm Springs.

Delvina was among the tribal members who took part in a Horse Parade at the museum on the morning of the anniversary event. The Horse Parade was followed by a Veterans ceremony, and formal recognition of everyone who has helped in the development of the museum.

Honored guests included the architect and builder, Tribal Council and other tribal leaders, museum board members, and former Gov. Vic Atiyeh.

More on the museum anniversary on page 5.



Dave McMechan/Spilyay

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