

Basket weaver's art exhibited at Smithsonian

Pat Courtney Gold was among 200 basket weavers chosen nationwide to be a part of the museum's basketry exhibit

By Shannon Keaveny
Spilyay Tymoo

Baskets and a cornhusk hat from four Pacific Northwest tribes were sent out to The Smithsonian Museum of American Indians early last week for an upcoming exhibit.

Among the basket weavers chosen was Pat Courtney Gold, Wasco basket weaver and member of the Confederated Tribes.

The museum commissioned over 200 basketry items from Native Americans across the United States.

The exhibit will open in September in New York City at the Gustav Heye Center.

Other regional participat-



Pat Courtney Gold poses at her home with her finished basket before sending it off to the Smithsonian.

ing weavers were Nettie Jackson of the Klickitat tribe, who wove a Klickitat basket;

Jenny Wright of the Nez Perce, who made a cornhusk hat; and Milly Lagergren of

the Chinook tribe, who coiled a sweet grass Chinook basket.

The exhibit will include a variety of other contemporary baskets.

Gold and four other weavers convinced the museum director that including contemporary visions in the exhibit would benefit the tribes.

"We were worried that weaving would be seen as something from the past. We wanted to let the viewers know that tribal communities are still around," explained Gold.

Gold made her basket, named "Yuppie Indian Couple," using the traditional full-twist twining technique to create the designs. It is a "Sally bag," the basket traditionally used by the Wasco people.

There are many contemporary images on the basket that tie in traditional images.

The yuppie Indian couple on the basket represent many professional Indians who live in urban areas, and fulfill the role of the traditional geometric figures often seen

on Sally bags.

Traditionally, Sally bags have geometric couples to represent the Wasco tribe's ancestors.

The man wears the Wasco diagonal sash and the woman is pregnant, symbolizing the next generation.

The women's heart represents her nurturing qualities. "The urban Indian couple keep their native heritage, but adjust to city life," explained Gold of her adjusted image.

Gold's contemporary basket also has airplanes in place of the large condor bird, once common in the Columbia Gorge.

According to Gold, Sally bags usually have earth and sky lines. Her earth line is the freeway that runs along the Columbia Gorge.

It's busy with car and truck traffic. The skyline includes the Cascade Mountains now dotted with power lines.

The single volcano image serves as a reminder of the 1980s eruption of Mount St. Helens.

The bottom of the basket has

The skyline includes the Cascade Mountains now dotted with power lines. The single volcano image serves as a reminder of the 1980s eruption of Mount St. Helens.

the colors of the U.S. flag, reflecting modern politics and the patriotism that followed the invasion of Iraq.

The Sally bag took Gold about 60 hours to complete.

Commercial yarns were used to emphasize the designs. Other medium used in her basket were cotton, chenille, wool, and beads.

Gold, originally from Warm Springs, now resides in Scappoose. She played an integral part in bringing back Wasco-style weaving techniques.

After the exhibit is completed at the Smithsonian, it will be available as a traveling exhibit. Otherwise, they will be a part of the Smithsonian permanent collection.

Computers

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members the ability to access the world through high-speed Internet connections in their homes."

The process of applying for the grant was greatly facilitated by work already underway as a part of the tribal telecommunications planning effort funded by the Central Oregon Community Investment Board. Engineering design and assistance for the grant application was provided by Portland-based W&H Pacific, an ASCG company.

In May, Agriculture Department Secretary Ann Veneman announced the selection of the first broadband community grants to be awarded through

the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), including the one approved for Warm Springs. The RUS grants total \$20 million with over \$8.2 million benefiting 13 Native American and Native Alaskan communities.

The grants enable communities to participate in the global digital community by accessing high-speed telecommunications systems. Benefits and services associated with these systems include distance learning, telemedicine, enhanced public safety, tele-work opportunities, community television via webcasts, economic development projects requiring broadband, and e-government applications.



Rachelle Begay

Pi-Ume-Sha

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Rhonda and Coby.

My parents are Spencer and Helen Poitra. My grandparents are Grant and Sandra Clements, Lester Poitra and Peggy Williams.

My favorite things to do are going swimming and attending powwows up and down the Western coast. I thank everyone for supporting me by buying tickets. For more ticket information you can call Sandra Clements (541) 553-0489, or Helen Poitra 553-2500.

By Rachelle Begay, senior court candidate:
Hello friends and family, I

am currently running for 2003 Pi-Ume-Sha Treaty Days Powwow Senior Court.

I am 13 years old. I just finished the eighth grade at Dufer school.

My hobbies are basketball and going to powwows and other gatherings.

I am the daughter of Wilson Begay of Celilo and Roxanne Begay of Warm Springs. My grandparents are Rodger Begay and Lucille Jim, and the late Ed Spino and Amelia Spino.

For ticket information, contact Rosaline Moran, 553-2566, Radine Spino, 410-1424, Winona Stwyer (w) 553-1196, or myself,

Rachelle Begay, 296-1016.

Rodeo, softball

Pi-Ume-Sha this year will see contest payouts totalling approximately \$20,000.

The weekend will include the Pi-Ume-Sha All-Indian Rodeo. For information on the rodeo, call Delford or Marita Johnson at (541) 553-3282, or Jodell at 553-5209. For information on the weekend softball tournament, call Sandra Greene and Jerry Sampson, 553-6619 (h), 553-3601 (w).

The master of ceremonies of the powwow will be Thomas Morningowl.

Census: Planned for summer

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With Anderson's program, the information will be more accurate and more current, he said.

The program will need to be reviewed, and re-evaluated every three years but it also constantly updates information. It is a standardized system that can be utilized by all tribes but has a setup that allows each database to be unique, according to the needs of each tribe.

Government guidelines can

be changed according to the year and the database will adjust all numbers accordingly. One example where this would be a benefit is if the federal income level for poverty changed.

"This has been a huge stumbling block in the past," explained Anderson of programs without this ability.

The census project will be administered in six segments — project planning, U.S. census challenge, community awareness and promotion, address lists and

maps, survey phase, and data management.

The tribes last conducted a census in 1992. Accurate records for the tribes were maintained until 1996, which will make this census easier to do, said Anderson.

In the first year, about \$135,000 in grant money will be used for the census. In the second year, about \$45,000 in funds will be available to the project.

The tribes have received notice that they have been approved for the grant, but are still waiting to receive the funds, causing a slight delay in beginning the project.

Jolene Atencio, from the Planning Department, anticipates data collecting will begin in late summer. At that time temporary employment for tribal members will be available. Temporary employment will last about two months. A data specialist will also be hired.

Two weddings planned

There will be a double wedding starting at 1 p.m. on Friday, June 27, at the Agency Longhouse. The couples to be married are Ramon Greene and Plyza Big Lake; and Jason Tohet and Jamie Chief Moon.

Jason and Jamie live in

Warm Springs. Jamie is originally from Canada, while Jason is of Warm Springs. Ramon and Plyza live in Montana. Ramon is originally from Warm Springs.

Friends and family are cordially invited to the weddings.

Notice of Construction equipment sale

The Warm Springs Construction Enterprise is soliciting bids for the sale of a variety of equipment. Construction is advertising to tribal members only until June 26. After this date the bid invitation is open to the public.

The equipment is described as follows:

Cat D8 46A hydraulic tilt cylinder, \$500.

Mayco HR35 concrete pump, \$7,000.

Miscellaneous crusher screens, \$500.

700 gallon fire tank with

hose, best offer.

Air compressor (bad motor), best offer.

Welder (bad motor), \$50.

Diesel generator, \$100.

Ten 2GSX 25 loader tires, best offer.

Flatbed semi trailer (damaged), best offer.

Four-inch water pump on trailer, \$200.

300-gallon water trailer, best offer.

Two trailer frames, best offer.

Bid requirements: Bids must be completed on a bid

form provided by Construction. These forms can be picked up at the new Construction Enterprise office, located at the old apparel factory, No. 4202 Holliday St. (Industrial Park.)

Successful bidder must produce a cashier's check within 10 days of official notification.

You may contact the Warm Springs Construction Enterprise office to set up appointments to view the equipment. Questions regarding the equipment should be directed to Glenn Carpenter or Lyle Katchia, 553-3207. All sales final, equipment sold "as is."



James Halliday and Bessie the Cow.

Bessy the Cow recycles milk jugs

At last week's science fair at Warm Springs Elementary, Bessy the Cow was among the visitors.

She serves as a recycling bin for milk jugs.

As part of a \$10,000 Department of Environmental Quality grant to promote plastic recycling, James Halliday, solid waste manager for Utilities, created the cow to make recycling fun for kids.

At the school Halliday demonstrated to the young students how to clean a milk jug before dropping it in the recycling bin. Children received a blue ribbon in return and were able to ring Bessy's

bell.

Halliday says the cow might "hit the road," promoting plastic recycling in other parts of Jefferson County and maybe other reservations.

"Recycling saves space and money," explained Halliday.

Warm Springs, he says, faces an overflowing landfill unless other alternatives are utilized.

Bessy the Cow will be situated next to the Old Road Annex so tribal members can recycle number two plastic bottles and jugs.

"The number is on the bottom of the jug," explains Halliday.

Warm Springs has had a re-

cycling program for the last five years. In that time, Halliday has seen increased recycling on the reservation.

Plastic, newspapers, cardboard, motor oil, and car batteries are among the items that can be recycled on the reservation.

Newspaper bins can be found at the BIA Roads Annex, behind Warm Springs Market, the old girl's dorm and in Simnasho.

Cardboard bins can be found at High Lookee Lodge, IHS, Texaco, and Warm Springs Elementary. Motor oil can be taken to the vehicle pool.