

## Pi-Ume-Sha Court candidate

My name is Kasheena Louise Stevens. My Indian name is Sulk-Sulk. I am Warm Springs, Wasco and Aleut.

My parents are John and Lisa Webb, and Orlando "Wubs" Stevens. My grandparents are Roma David, Lucinda Greene, Tommy and Lori Fuentes and Mark Stevens Sr.

I am running for Lil' Miss Pi-Ume-Sha because I think I am a good role model and would represent my tribes well. I enjoy attending powwows with my family, picking huckleberries, digging roots, medicine dancing, and am learning to sing Washut songs and ring the bell. Thank you for your support.



Kasheena Stevens

## Sisters: planning for big changes

(Continued from page 1)

So that's where things stand. The sisters are making up for lost time.

Cece has been hired as a waitress at Martina's Market. Marta's family has made Cece one of their own, and their grandmother is spending more time at Marta's family's restaurant. She's not eating anything yet, but both young women expect that'll change soon.

In fact, Marta's father Jose is doubly pleased. Not only did he gain a daughter he barely knew out of the deal, but with Cece working as a cashier more reservation folk are stopping by his restaurant. A win-win situation.

Marta Rubio and Cece Herrera are thrilled with all the new family they

have hanging around, but they know it's only going to be for a short time.

This fall, for the first time in many years, all of Marta's children will be in school. She will be free to follow her passion in nursing school while she continues to work nights for her father at Martina's Market.

She understands it won't be easy or quick, but she'd like to end up in the nursing business around a hospital.

"Kids change your point of view. They make you want to work for the future instead of settling for less," says Marta. "My priority is to be a nurse. I like working with people, talking to people and joking around with people. I like getting to know new people."

Marta isn't the only one making major changes in her life. About the same time, Cece is leaving for Lawrence, Kansas, where she'll be attending Haskell Indian Nations University. She plans on getting her teaching degree. When she's finished, she has her sights set on a job somewhere at Warm Springs Elementary. But that's not all: "My life-long goal is to put a high school on the reservation," she says.

So five years from now Cece Herrera will be returning home with a teacher's diploma to hang on her wall. For Cece, that homecoming will probably be much better than the last one. Her sister Marta will be here to help make sure of that.

## Estate planning at no cost to tribal members

This tribal estate planning project is a new program facilitated through the Native American Program of Oregon Legal Services.

The program reaches out to all enrolled members of federally recognized tribes interested in creating, changing, or adding to a will, or creating a living will, a document giving authority for medical decisions if you become unable.

There is no cost to anyone who wishes to utilize this service.

Anyone over 18 years old who is of sound mind may create a will or living will. Wills are recommended for those:

Who have minor children and need to appoint a guardian;  
Who have trust property and wish to prevent it from breaking into smaller shares;

Who would like a non-family mem-

ber to receive property;

Who have heirlooms or artifacts that they want to go to specific persons;

Who want to leave instructions regarding burial procedures, cultural customs or giveaways, and

who want to make their intentions known to family members to prevent possible fighting or hurt feelings.

For additional information or to ask any questions about the program or the services provided please contact the Native American Program of Oregon Legal Services (NAPOLS) at 1-800-546-9483.

To make an appointment call the NAPOLS office toll free at 1-800-546-0534 and ask for Kristy, Alison, or Trish. The program also makes regular visits to the reservation for presentations, appointments, and to answer any questions.

All conversations and information exchanged are held in the strictest confidence between NAPOLS and the client.

The program is implemented in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho through a grant from the Indian Land Tenure Foundation. The funding has been approved through March 2005.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs offers estate planning for trust property, but does not address personal property (like cars and home furnishings), appointment of guardian for a minor child, real property owned off the reservation, or medical and burial wishes. Individuals need to take responsibility to assure that their wishes will be followed.

This program offers the ability to address all of these issues at the same time, at no expense to you.

## Discover Mortgage

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Featherstone Mortgage, a Portland area firm specializing in creative lending, has positioned itself as a resource for Native American Indian Housing Authorities.

Liz Hamilton, herself a Native American Indian, will focus on working with first time homebuyers utilizing down payment assistance programs when available, and current homebuyers wanting to refinance and do debt consolidation or lower their current interest rate.

Credit is no problem; we can work with challenged credit or good credit, bankruptcies, foreclosures, unemployment, self-employed, etc. Properties can be owner occupied, non-owner investment or commercial. We have no income/no asset programs and no appraisal options available.

Most pre-qualifications are done in 24 hours and there is no charge for the initial call. Featherstone Mortgage is an equal opportunity lender and can originate home loans in any state where licensing laws allow. Getting started is easy! You can contact Liz Hamilton at (503) 397-9769, or (503) 437-2549.

Coming soon we will be teaching a no cost seminar on how to repair credit, start getting credit and how to set yourself up for home ownership. *If you have a qualified Good Faith Estimate from another lender, bring*

## Fire-resistant plants can help protect homes

By Master Gardeners

Tina Burnside and Edith McBean

With the fire season approaching, do you know if the plants surrounding your home are considered fire-resistant vegetation?

A new publication authored by Stephen Fitzgerald and Amy Jo Waldo from the Redmond OSU Extension Service office can provide some of the answers.

Stephen, an area extension forester and associate professor, and Amy Jo, an area Extension horticulture agent and assistant professor, have researched this topic and produced a booklet entitled *Fire-Resistant Plants for Oregon Home Landscapes*.

Complete with color pictures of the recommended groundcovers, perennials, shrubs, and trees, the booklet contains many useful tips to minimize or reduce the fuel and fire-hazard around our homes.

As we know, Oregon has many wild-fire prone areas and fires are a natural part of the changing landscape. Flammable plant material in your landscape can increase the fire-risk around your home, as we recall the 1991 Oakland, California Hills Fire where the Eucalyptus trees acted as fuel and contributed to the intensity of the wildfire.

What are fire-resistant plants? These are plants that don't readily ignite from a flame or other ignition sources.

Although they can be damaged or

even killed by fire, their foliage and stems don't contribute significantly to the fuel and, therefore, the fire's intensity. Remember that fire-resistant does not mean fire-proof. Characteristics of fire-resistant plants are:

Leaves are moist and supple.

Plants have little dead wood and tend not to accumulate dry, dead material within the plant.

Sap is water-like and does not have a strong odor.

Remember, most of the recommended plants require some level of irrigation to survive during the dry summer months in central Oregon. Even fire-resistant plants can burn, particularly if they are not maintained in a healthy condition.

For instance, a beautiful home landscape could include groundcovers such as Yellow Iceplant (*Delosperma nubigenum*) and Purple/Pink Iceplant (*Delosperma cooperi*) combined with perennials *Coreopsis* and *Penstemon*. Add in some deciduous shrubs such as Vine Maple (*Acer circinatum*) for brilliant autumn color and Redosier Dogwood (*Cornus stolonifera*) that looks fantastic in winter with red twigs.

If you desire evergreen shrubs, Oregon Grapeholly (*Mahonia aquifolium*) is a good choice. Tree options range from deciduous Aspens (*Populus* species) to evergreen Ponderosa Pines (*Pinus ponderosa*). There are many other plants listed in the booklet.

Before purchasing any plants, be sure they are approved for your neighborhood.

If you would like to know more about these plants or other gardening questions, please come to the OSU Extension Service Office in Warm Springs or call the Master Gardeners at 553-1520. Edith and Tina are in the office every Monday and look forward to meeting the gardeners (or would-be gardeners) in Warm Springs.

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