

## Dancing of another culture performed by Leanna during powwow

By Selena Boise

The dancing at Pi-Ume-Sha was a part of my weekend, but the dancing that excited our family was the performance by my daughter Leanna.

While the beat of the Pi-Ume-Sha powwow was echoing through the canyon, we were at the Prineville High School auditorium watching my daughter at her ballet recital.

### Spilyay Speaks

Her ballet dance was called "A Day in Paris." She also danced a jazz number called "Black Cat." These numbers were performed in the evening hours of Friday and Saturday night.

She entered pre-ballet at High Desert Dance Arts when she was 6 years old, and when she turned 11 she began to dance jazz and tap as well.

Her schedule was busy, so to slow down she dropped tap. She was feeling overwhelmed and there were many things going on in her life all at once.

But this coming fall she will be up to the challenges of three classes being added to her schedule again. She looks forward to adding tap dancing again. Her tap teacher, Marcel, says that even though she missed classes she caught on very quickly and was able to perform as well as the other girls.

Also in her ballet class was Marissa Ahern, daughter of Fran Moses-Ahern. Both of Fran's daughters are dancing and have been for years.

Leanna is enjoying her summer break from dance schedules, and is getting prepared for the beginning of next year's classes in October. Then the practice and learning of a new performance for the next recital begins.

While the fancy dancers and traditional dancers are preparing for grand entry, my daughter is getting her dance costume ready for performance. She's not a make-up and curly hair person but we get her made up for the night's performance. Instead of moccasins she is wearing ballet slippers and jazz shoes.

In the future I would like to see her add powwow dancing to her dancing skills.



Leanna Boise and Marissa Ahern perform "A Day in Paris."

## Native way

My name is Robert Boise. I am a tribal member of Warm Springs. I moved away from home almost five years ago. I moved to a place by the ocean. I'm on the Oregon Coast now. My life before I moved was pretty crazy. I've done things I ain't proud of. I was always getting into trouble and going to jail. It got tiring. I wanted to change my ways of living, so I did. It took me moving away from home to realize what needed to be done. I graduated a drug and alcohol treatment program three years ago, and I'm still sober. I started going to powwows. I started dancing and now I'm out there. Every powwow I can make it to I dance at. I also have my own drum group up here. We try and make it to as many powwows as we can. But anyway my point is this. I feel proud today for how my life is going. It took me leaving home for me to change my life. Five years it took me to get my Native pride back, five years to realize that drugs and alcohol will get you nowhere in life. I changed a lot in my life. I am a men's traditional dancer now. Every powwow I go to I represent Warm Springs. I am a member of a powwow drum group, "the Coyote Singers." I lead songs and do the honor beats. I sing long house songs now. I do a lot of things now that I never did before. I could have learned all of these things at home but I never took the time to really pay attention. But here I am today, standing tall, clean and sober, walking that Red Road and feeling proud of who I am and where I come from. I also wanted to thank my whole family for their support and encouragement to stay clean and sober. Thank you all. So I'll end my letter here. **Robert Boise.**

## Redwoods

Wilbert Wainanawit and the staff of High Lookee Lodge would like to give a special thanks to everyone who participated in the fundraiser on June 30 at the Agency Longhouse. All proceeds went to Wilbert for his trip to the Redwoods.

## Appreciation

I am writing this letter to all who helped my family back in 2002 when we lost our mother Josepha M. Crowe to cancer, our brother Walter R. Payne II to a car accident in Yakima, and our sister Dorothy "Pebbles" Meanus George also to cancer. I apologize for taking this long to say thank you, family, friends and relatives who helped us during our loss and hardship. I would like to say a very special thanks to our family who traveled a long distance from Hoh River and LaPush, Wash., to be here for support. I thank everyone for your prayers and songs at that time. Keep my aunts Hilda Culpus, Jeanette Yazzie and my uncles Marvin Meanus, Louie LeClaire and my mother-in-law Priscilla Frank, my sister Linda George, my brothers

Owens Yahtin, Virgil Watson, Rich Payne Jr., Randy Yahtin Jr. in your prayers, and my family also thank you. May God bless each one. From Josie Williams, Wanner Williams Sr., and our children.

## Unemployment

Good morning, it's a good day. They're all good days, some are gooder. Warm Springs is my life, my life is Warm Springs. I'm just thinking how blessed we are to have what we have. I know I'm surely blessed to be created skin. We have each other and this piece of land we call home. We are a good, kind, sharing people. We have our Rez problems but it's all good. Why do you think all these guests come to visit and end up staying? I like to think it is because we are a kind, sharing people maybe too kind and sharing to a fault sometimes. But that's the way our elders taught us to be: share what you have in a good way. These are crucial times. We have to protect what we have or had?

Respect, honor, integrity, empathy for all peoples no matter what color, as we are all creation's children. These virtues will far exceed all the money, land, riches.

I agree with Victor Moses. This is a man that put his life on the line in Vietnam to protect our freedom and I respect all you men. Randy, Bone, atwai Milan Smith Jr., Larson, Snuff, Ross, etc. etc. Then they come home to our Rez and are treated bad. No freedoms, civil rights, employment rights as the owners of this Rez.

Seventy percent unemployment means that out of every 10 employees, seven are outsiders, thieves, doing nothing but sucking the life blood out of our people. It is time to send these tramps, crooks, thieves back to where they're from. We've allowed them to steal us blind. No more, go home sell-out, but they know you.

Clean up the corruption, hire honest tribal people. Integrity, man in the long run integrity beats any amount of blood money. I have high hopes for our new Council. Integrity, honesty, somebody willing to stand up and do right by our Warm Springs people.

Back in the 70's, 80's and 90's, I used to sponsor community meetings to try to stop the blatant corruption stealing from our own families, lower than whale poop.

Seventy percent unemployment for our tribal members. Crooks, outsiders, sellouts, drug dealers, boys and girls that have no, no, no vested interest in our people. This is why they hire outsiders and thieves. Milk boys all, because they don't care about our people.

We need jobs. I've fought for our people's Rez, for all my life, 56 years, and I don't believe I should have to picket for a job again, like I had to do at High Lookee Lodge.

Somebody, anybody, chiefs, councilmen, committeemen, secretary, stand up and say no, it is very, very wrong to steal from our own children, families. Somebody with a little integrity. Man I've been wanting this per-

son since atwai Vernon Jackson left us. Please, please, please set aside your sick greed for once. You will not regret investing in our people.

This is not personal, this is business for those who understand. I hope and pray our new Council will stop the corruption.

All our people. **Bobby Eagle Heart.**

## Condolences

To the Tuftis and Govenors, A sad and hard time for you all. My condolences for the loss of family members. A short apology letter for my absence in your days of mourning. But I just couldn't make it. Just so you know, I will miss my cousin and uncle very much. "I pray that they will be guided, as they walk the spirit trail, to their serenity and tranquility. I pray also for the families of these beautiful and special people. May Grandfather, Great Spirit, bless you and your families. All my relations, Amen." May this prayer find your hearts in a good, strong way. Sincerely, Tyree Stormbringer and family.

## Nice fields

We wanted to thank Roy Spino, Chico Holliday, Jason Tohet and the volunteers for contributing their time and energy to reshaping the fields. They look amazing and it wouldn't have been done without your determination to keeping our kids safe and happy. We're looking forward to next year. **Coaches Raydine Spino, Amelia Spino, Berni Jackson and the Warm Springs Angels.**

## Sister

Haz, I thank you for the great gift you gave me. I'm not talking of the car. But your gift of a loving sister and always being here for me. I can't thank you enough. Just keep being my sis. Lots of love. **SLJ.**

## Thank you

A belated thanks to Franny and his brothers S.R.C.I. This is from the family of atwai brother Gaylord. We're very glad to know that you were with our brother in his last days and let him know he wasn't alone and that you all cared for him in your own way and helped take care of him. How we wished that we, as a family, could have brought him home and shared those last precious days with him and let him know how much he meant to us and how much we loved him. We're very grateful for you all, being there, praying, singing songs for him, all your kindness. We know he took all that with him.

We would like to thank each and every one of you in person but that can't be done. But our hearts go out to each and every one of you. Again, thanks and our prayers go with you. **The Heath and Chase families.**

## Belated thanks

A very special belated thanks to Richard, Delvis, Shirley. It took awhile, but our hurt is still strong with us. But the family would like to thank you for

bringing our atwai brother home and to his resting place. And special thanks to Neda for buckskin and all the drummers who came to the Heath house before and after atwai brother came home. And to Lisa for bringing the food for the last meal, and to the cooks, and the dancers. **The Heath and Chase families.**

## Student athlete

My name is Jaylyn Suppah. I am 17 years old and a member of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. I reside on the reservation in Simnasho. I will be entering my senior year in high school in Madras this year. I have been on the girls basketball team for the Madras High School for the last three years. I was recently inducted into the National Society of High School

Scholars. My goal is to play college basketball and attain a degree in law.

I have been invited to play in the Native American Basketball Invitational Tournament in Phoenix, Ariz., which is being held July 20-24. I will be playing with a team from Reno, Nev. I am seeking donations to help finance my expenses for this trip.

I enjoy playing basketball and see this as a tremendous opportunity, as this tournament usually attracts a number of college basketball recruiters. I am hoping this will help me attain my goal of getting a college education.

If you are interested in donating to help pay my expenses, I can be reached at (541) 553-6134 (h), or 553-2416 (w). Any donations will be appreciated. Thank you.

## Apologies

On April 21, 2004, I was arrested for drug possession and drug paraphernalia by Sgt. Webb. I pleaded guilty on June 25. I understand there's a drug problem on the reservation. I apologize for the incident. **S. Rae Wilson.**

I, Elmer C., am writing this apology letter to Vera Thomas for the 20<sup>th</sup> day of April. There is a lot of things I could have done than drink then come home and done what I have done. Sometimes I wish I would have got picked up before it had happened. But I have learned my lesson, not to do that again. Cause I know that I might lose you and the girls. So that made me think. So once again I apologize to you and the girls for my mistake and it won't happen again. Thanks. **Elmer Charley.**

To the Warm Springs community, I am writing an apology letter for driving under the influence of intoxicants in the fall of last year. I assure you it will not happen again, and I am sorry the trouble that I caused. **Rod Wesley.**

Dear Warm Springs community and Brennon and Darien, First of all I would like to apologize to my two children Brennon and Darien for driving under the influence of intoxicants on March 28, 2004. I endangered your lives by driving while under the influence.

I would also like to say sorry to the community of Warm Springs for being under the influence and driving. Sorry for my actions and this will not happen again. Sincerely, **Matthew Smith.**

## An unfortunate mistake

In the last edition of the Spilyay there was a bad typographical error on page one, in the first paragraph of the article on Pi-Ume-Sha. The article states that Pi-Ume-Sha this year marked the 135<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of 1865.

Actually, Pi-Ume-Sha happens each year on the anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of 1855. There is an important difference between the two treaties, and this is why I was particularly humiliated by the misprint.

The Treaty of 1855 established the reservation and guaranteed to tribal members rights to natural resources off the reservation within the large area known as the ceded lands. The "Treaty of 1865" was an attempt by the federal government to take away the tribal off-reservation rights.

The document actually states that Indians are not to leave the reservation without written permission from the agency superintendent.

In the 1990s, before leaving office, Sen. Hatfield introduced legislation that would have officially nullified the 1865 document. Then-gover-

nor Kitzhaber opposed the bill, saying it would give the tribes a legal claim to large water rights throughout the ceded lands. At the time the tribes, the state and federal governments were in negotiation regarding settlement of tribal water rights.

Hatfield wanted the 1865 document officially nullified because it is scandalous and an embarrassment to the U.S. government. Even without passage of his bill, the 1865 document is invalid. There was no agreement by the tribes to the 1865 document, so it is not really a treaty.

Usually I have the whole newspaper proofread by at least one other person besides myself before it goes to the printer. That is not always possible, though, because of our deadline. After the last edition of the paper came out, many people - government affairs director Louie Pitt, Council Chairman Ron Suppah, and Chief Delvis Heath, for instance - noticed the 1865 mistake and brought it to my attention.

Thank you, and I'm sorry. I hope everyone had a good Pi-Ume-Sha. **Dave McMechan**

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## Happy birthday and other wishes...

Happy 1-year anniversary (July 2) to William Spino and Berni Jackson. Congratulations on your engagement. Love, your family.

Happy birthday to my son Ethan Noah. Have fun on your day July 8<sup>th</sup>. It seems like just yesterday you were in diapers, now you are a teenager. I Love you with all my heart. Your Mom Irwina.

Happy 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday to William Spino (July 10). From Berni, Allec, Pauline, Celestine, "Grandma," Tonto, Douglas, Sundown Snipe and Allen Jr.

Happy birthday to my big brother Ethan Noah. Love, Alina Iris Pearl.

Happy birthday Ethan Noah. Love, Dad Batman.