

# Spilyay Tymoo

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## Great time at museum opening

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs were well represented at the opening of the National Museum of the American Indian. There were 50 or more members of the Confederated Tribes at the event.

Among those who attended were 44 elders. Each year the elders make one long outing together, and this year their outing was to the opening of the museum. Accompanying the elders to the museum opening were Lucille Schuster, Lilly Suppah, Wilson Wewa and Lawrence Squiemphen.

Also, Mary Sando-Emhoolah did a radio broadcast from the event. The three chiefs of the Confederated Tribes, Tribal Council and other representatives of the tribes were on hand.

They were among the more than 20,000 Indians who were part of the procession that marked the opening of the Museum of the American Indian. "I think our group did well in representing the Confederated Tribes," said Warren Rudy Clements, director of Tribal Relations.

The opening-day procession was an awesome sight, as Indians of many tribes from across the nation marched in regalia.

Onlookers cheered as the procession made its way to the new museum near the U.S. Capitol, and the air was filled with the smell of burning sage and the sounds of drums, bells and music. Leading the procession was museum director Richard West, wearing a Cheyenne Indian headdress, along with Sen. Daniel Inouye, D-Hawaii, and Lawrence Small, the Smithsonian secretary.

Built at a cost of \$214 million, the sweeping lines represent a communing with nature as the country's tribal peoples did. It houses 8,000 objects from across the Western Hemisphere. Four million visitors a year are expected for the museum's movies and music; paintings, photographs and sculptures; masks, weapons and animals; jewelry and medals; even food and plants.

Dave Anderson, who heads the Bureau of Indian Affairs, said the museum will allow Indians to open a new chapter in the United States.

"I look at this whole museum opening as an opportunity for healing, for optimism," he said.

## Work starting on new youth center

By Dave McMechan  
Spilyay Tymoo

Tribal members are working with the group Extraordinary Young People to develop a youth center and small restaurant in Warm Springs. The center will be located in the building on Hollywood Boulevard that houses the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and Ladies Auxiliary.

The building will be extensively remodeled, with the plan being to open the youth center in March 2005, said Matt Burton, chief ex-

ecutive officer of Extraordinary Young People.

Along with the small restaurant the youth center will include a study room, and a game room with DJ booth. The VFW and Ladies Auxiliary will continue to use the building for their meetings and activities.

The remodeling work on the building is beginning this week. Burton and Jerry Jacoban, district manager of Extraordinary Young People, worked with Tribal Maintenance in assessing the work that will need to be done on the building.

The list of improvement projects is

extensive. Existing walls, windows and counters need to be repaired, painted and remodeled; doors and locks need to be installed; the electrical system needs updated; equipment for the kitchen and game room need to be installed.

When complete the youth center will be open every day, during hours when kids are not in school, and in compliance with the tribal curfew.

Initially, the staff of the center will be from Extraordinary Young People, who will train local residents to become the permanent staff, said Burton. After about six months of operation the

center should be fully staffed by local residents, as employees of Extraordinary Young People and as volunteers, he said.

For now Extraordinary Young People is looking for people who want to help with the remodeling work. For information call Burton at 553-5333.

Extraordinary Young People began in 1999. It is a Christian organization, though religion is not forced on the youth who participate in its programs, said Burton. At first the focus of Extraordinary Young People was to help Portland inner-city youth, he said.

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Jason Pichette runs a fire-proof door through a sander at Composite Products.

Dave McMechan/Spilyay

## Steady growth at Composite Products

There are different ways to measure the success of a business. It is essential for the business to make money, but there is more to it than that. "It's important to see the people working here become successful," said Duane Darnell, chief executive officer of Warm Springs Composite Products.

Composite Products, a tribal enterprise, employs 34 people. The company makes a profit for the tribes, but Darnell sees Composite Products as more than just a money-making venture.

He's seen people who work there

go from not having a checking account, to buying a home.

One of the reasons why the people who work at Composite Products like their jobs is that they are given a lot of responsibility, said Darnell. They're given responsibility, and they're trained at more than one part of the manufacturing process; so boredom isn't a problem. Composite Products is the leading manufacturer of the central component of fire-proof doors. This is a highly specialized area of manufacturing, and Composite Products has carved out a successful niche.

The doors are used in hotels, schools

and other buildings that are used by the general public. Composite Products doors are found in buildings across the U.S. and Canada, and increasingly in Asian countries.

The success of Composite Products was recognized recently by the Portland District Office of the U.S. Small Business Administration. The regional director of the SBA wrote to Robert Macy, chairman of the Composite Products board, that the enterprise had been named the SBA Minority Small Business Firm of the Year. The awards luncheon is this weekend.

## 2005 budget subject of gatherings

The Tribal Council has posted the proposed budget for next year. The process now moves into the tribal member comment phase.

The first district meeting in regard to the 2005 budget is set for Wednesday, Oct. 6. This is a meeting of the Agency District at the Agency Longhouse.

The next meeting will be on Monday, Oct. 18. This is a meeting of the Simnasho District. The Seeksequa District will meet on Wednesday, Oct. 20. For these meetings dinner is at 6 p.m. and the meeting begins at 7.

The budget process this year has been a somewhat less stressful time so far, because the tribes are facing an improved economic forecast.

For instance, the market conditions affecting Warm Springs Power Enterprises and Warm Springs Forest Products Industries have been favorable for the tribes, secretary-treasurer Jody Calica commented recently.

Also, the tribes and the federal government have resolved two lawsuits regarding lost timber revenue. Resolution of the long-standing HeHe and McQuinn lawsuits, filed by the tribes against the federal government, gives the tribal budget some additional revenue.

The cases were filed in regard to lost tribal revenue from sales of reservation timber.

After discussing the posted budget with the tribal membership in October, the Council by the end of November will finalize a budget for 2005.

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## Getting sober, staying sober

### Creston Smith shares his experiences of addiction and recovery

By D. "Bing" Bingham  
Spilyay Tymoo

*Alcoholism is a disease that crosses every political, economic and racial boundary. Recovery is difficult but not impossible. Tribal member Creston Smith recently shared his thoughts about his struggles with addiction:*

I'm a recovering alcoholic (Smith said during a recent interview). I partied around a lot in high school. In my teen years I started drinking around. In eleventh and twelfth grades it got worse. I graduated in 1988. I've had a lot of DUI's and drivers license suspensions. It was all because I wanted to have fun. I learned the hard way that it's a really big deal when you lose your license. It took me seven years to pay off something like \$9,000 in fines. Now, I've finally got my license back. I was lucky to be able to do that.

All I wanted to do was go out and

have fun, party with the boys. I didn't know what was good for me. I should have known, because I was raised by my grandparents. But I really didn't pay attention to my grandparents all that much. It's why I ended up like that.

My grandma, she used to cry in her chair when she was trying to get her whole family to quit drinking. She used to grab me by the hand all the time. I wasn't disrespecting her, she raised me like a mother. I would sit there with her and pray. We did that over and over and over for about the 200 or 300 days out of the year that I was drinking. Finally it hit me. I've been in treatment twice. I went to treatment in 1992 at Puyallap Tribal Treatment Center.

My grandmother passed away in 1994 and everything got really hard after that. I was really attached to that side of the family, her and my grandfather. They taught me a lot about how to support yourself and support a family and support friends. How to pro-

vide and be responsible. I wish I'd have paid closer attention to that. I didn't and I'm still learning today. There's a lot to learn from your elders.

My drinking got so bad (Smith continues) that I'd black out at parties. I'd drive off from the party and my friends would try to take my keys away, and I wouldn't let them. Later on down the road I'd be off in the ditch across from the gravel pit on Highway 26 coming towards Madras, just as you cross the Deschutes River Bridge. I was off on the side and the only thing that was holding me from going in the river was a two or three foot boulder sticking up on another rock. Any slight movement could have rolled me into the river, but I woke up. I had been passed out and I woke up and said, "What am I doing here?" I looked down and the river was straight below me. I opened the door slowly and jumped out.

*Question: Did you ever hurt yourself or anyone else?*

I never got into fights or hurt anybody (Smith says). I used to get carried away and be irritating with some of the stuff I used to do. I used to play instruments. I'd love to be a musician because I love playing the saxophone, clarinet, flute and a few other instruments. I think I just hurt people who cared for me when I started drinking again. It really affected my grandmother, because I started drinking at a young age.

*What was it that made you realize you were in trouble?*

I heard it from friends every other day: "You need to slow down on your drinking. We see you out partying every day. You're either in jail and detox or passed out or you locked yourself in a car with the heater going and the engine running." And I got a few more tickets. In Jefferson County I think I got about two tickets and then I was referred to a diversion class. The counselor I was referred to was pretty

serious about me quitting drinking. He wanted me exposed to all the victim impact panels, so my grandma drove me and she said, "This is what could be happening to you," and it just went in one ear and out the other.

One time when it really hit me was when she came over to a recovery session with my counselor, she told the counselor that I had a problem and they talked before I went in. Soon as I walked in the door, he sat down and said, "Your grandmother has something to say to you." They both grabbed one of my hands and started praying. We prayed for about three hours. It took that long for me to realize I had a problem. I felt real bad. By feeling bad I ended up going out drinking that night. It made me feel even worse. Even though I was scheduled to go to the treatment center at Puyallap the next day, I went out and partied. I woke up at a friend's place.

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