

Arthurs grow their landscape business

By Brian Mortensen
Spilyay Tymoo

Pedro and Beverly Arthur have the tools, a love for the outdoors, and great plants.

In short, the Arthurs, through their business Arthur Landscaping and Maintenance, will work hard for your yard.

The Arthurs, who have been in the landscape business for four years, have just completed the Starting a Small Business Class through the Warm Springs Small Business Center.

The course takes students through necessary parts of running a business like accounting, helping develop a financial plan, arranging paperwork for gaining grant monies, working with banks to apply for loans.

Beverly Arthur said the accounting portion of the course has been good for her.

"I'm not good with math," she said. "It's been helpful to me."

The peak season for landscaping is April through late fall, but Arthur said she and her husband can stay busy all year through their business, with buying plants and supplies for the business, maintaining their tools, and with more seasonal services they can perform after the peak landscaping season ends, like leaf removal in the late fall and evergreen bough-making for the holiday season.

Pedro Arthur, who has nearly 15 years' experience in landscaping, does most of the yard work,



Beverly Arthur

while Beverly Arthur does what she calls "the paper work and rounding up customers."

The Arthurs haven't advertised using traditional means yet but have advertised by word of mouth and by being seen around the Warm Springs community, as well as in Simnasho.

"I'm a go-getter," she said. "I go out and hustle. Usually, customers, if they see me, they'll ask about what we do, and we'll talk."

Another way of advertising is to park somewhere noticeable, and then walk to where they work. The Arthurs' truck is marked with a magnetic sign that signals their presence nearby.

The Arthurs have a commercial lawn mower, as well as two other lawn mowers, weed eaters, a thatcher, and an array of hand landscaping tools at their disposal.

They are able to clean up a yard, as well as create a different landscape, either using sod

or with rocks.

The Arthurs buy sod and bark dust at local businesses like McPheeters Turf in Culver, but generally shop at nurseries and even roadside stands on the way to the Willamette Valley.

"If someone needs a certain kind of tree, we'll go out and find it," she said.

She said nurseries in the Sandy and Gresham area seem to be less expensive than in Redmond and Bend, possibly because of greater competition in the Portland area.

"And we'll pick up rocks," she said. "Some people want river rocks, and some want mountain rocks."

Both the Arthurs work in the off-season, and Beverly Arthur works full-time during the summer, in Tribal Fire Management. Beverly will still work on her days off during the summer landscaping season.

"We just like being outside," she said. "Sometimes it gets pretty hot, but Pedro likes working in the heat."

Beverly said Arthur Landscaping and Maintenance has contracts to help beautify the Small Business Center and Economic Development on the Warm Springs campus, along with the Forestry area at the Natural Resources complex and Warm Springs Commodities.

For household clients, Arthur said she and her husband charge in three installments while they

perform their work, at the beginning of the job, at a middle point, and then at the end. The three-installment setting allows the Arthurs to pick up necessary supplies or make repairs while they do the work. Often, properties have to be cleared of weeds, garbage or even animal waste before any trees can be planted or sod set, and the clean-up is part of the cost.

While most of the Arthurs' business is centered in Warm Springs and on the reservation, Beverly and her husband would like to expand into Madras but can't yet because they lack the necessary permits.

She said she and her husband might be able to hire another worker during the landscaping season.

Even though the landscaping season ends in late fall, the Arthurs are still available to rake leaves in the fall and create boughs for the holiday season. They cut the fronds from the evergreen trees themselves, which she said can be cold and windy work.

She said she and her husband can always use the help during the short season, and can pick up interested workers on the way to where they harvest the fronds if the workers have no means of transportation. Arthur Landscaping and Maintenance is available at 553-0432 (home number, with answering machine) or (541) 410-9228 (cell).

Events calendar

The Museum at Warm Springs is offering to young tribal members a chance to learn the art of weaving and twining. The class is called Wap-Shal (Weave), Beginning Wapus by Natalie Kirk. This is a one-on-one learning experience for the first six who register, ages 12 and up. There is no cost and material will be provided. March 22-24 (Tuesday through Thursday) from 5 to 8 p.m. Call to register, 553-3331, ext. 412.

Healthy breakfast with Sara and Elsie at the Warm Springs pod kitchen, Warm Springs Clinic, Tuesday, March 22 starting at 8:45 a.m. Everyone young, old and in between is invited to breakfast prepared by Sara with emphasis on tasty, delicious, healthy food. Servings will include healthy biscuits and gravy. Elsie will talk about taking care of your kidneys and what types of food to eat if your doctor told you that your kidneys are in trouble.

On Friday, April 1, the Portland Art Museum and Pacific Gas Transmission Northwest Grant Fund is offering an opportunity for members of the Confederated Tribes to tour "People of the River: Native Arts of the Oregon Territory." The exhibit is at the Portland Art Museum. Transportation will be available for up to 45 interested people. Admission will be provided. Please reserve your space to attend by calling the museum at 553-3331, ext. 407. Transportation will be from the museum parking lot at 8 a.m., April 1. The return will be approximately 6 p.m.

Contest seeks youth artwork

The Warm Springs Housing Authority is seeking artwork from youth of the local community. The coloring contest, on the theme of fire prevention, is in conjunction with Amerind. There will be prizes for the poster winners. Divisions are: K-third grade; fourth through sixth; and seventh and eighth. Artwork can be submitted to the Housing office at 1238 Veterans Way. Deadline is April 22. Paper size: 8 and half by eleven inches. Paper is available at Housing. Any questions, call 553-3250, or stop by.

Twenty-five years ago

From the March 21, 1980 edition of the Spilyay Tymoo.

The Warm Springs Forest Products Industries annual general council meeting was held at the Agency Longhouse.

Very few interested tribal members attended the meeting. Those who were there were given colorful and informative 16-page reports. Five of the WSFPI board members were at the meeting, along with Tribal Council. Board chairman Paul Sanders explained that even though the mill went through extensive renovation last year, it continued to operate "when other companies might have shut down." In other news:

Over 100 Warm Springs people gathered at the Agency Longhouse to see the crowning of 1980-81 Miss Warm Springs, 18-year-old Minnie Yahtin. Minnie was one of

four contestants vying for the title at the Fifth Annual Miss Warm Springs Pageant. Runners up were Martina Heath, Tammy Kalama and Jolene Estimo. Elsewhere:

With the completion of the 1979 Warm Springs Housing Survey, the Confederated Tribes have taken the first big step in documenting information on how much and what type of housing is currently needed on the reservation. The survey makes the following conclusions:

It is evident that those without housing want their own homes.

Rural housing was deemed the most desirable across the board, but financing would be a problem.

There is an interest and need for apartments, especially among singles and young married couples.

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