

# Yazzie running for school board

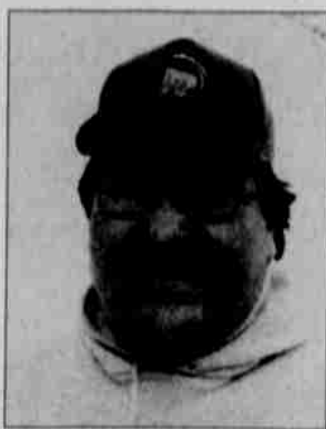
By Dave McMechan  
Spilyay Tymoo

Edison Yazzie of Warm Springs is running for a position on the Jefferson County School District 509-J Board of Directors.

Yazzie lives in Warm Springs, and is a rancher, and maintenance worker for the Bureau of Indian Affairs. He is a 4-H leader, and was the teacher of the recent calf roping class that many youth participated in. He also coaches youth basketball and volleyball.

Edison and his wife Priscilla have two children enrolled in school in the 509-J district. The children are Amanda, a sixth-grader, and Terri, a sophomore at the high school.

This is the first time that Yazzie has run for a position on the school district board. He decided to run, he said, because he believes strongly that education is the way for young people to improve their lives as adults. "Education is the one thing that can't be taken away from you," he said. "It's the main priority, because you only have one life



Edison Yazzie

and one shot at it."

He added, "Young people need to know they can be anything they want to be."

Yazzie's main goal in serving on the board, he said, would be to ensure and help improve the student achievement of state and federal education standards. There are a number of specific issues that Yazzie would like the school board to address toward meeting this goal.

One of the issues is the transition that Warm Springs students have to make from the elementary school in Warm Springs to the middle school in Madras.

The teachers and staff at Warm Springs Elementary School are doing a great job of teaching the students. "The test scores show this," said Yazzie.

But, he said, something happens to some students in the making the transition from the elementary school to the middle school. "They lose something in the transition," he said.

The district should consider a program that would assist the students in adapting to the change from the local school to the larger school in Madras.

There has been discussion and planning in recent years of a Warm Springs charter school. A charter school would be part of the 509-J district, but would operate in a way as to reflect the needs and values of the local community.

Yazzie said such a venture could be a great benefit to many Warm Springs students. "I think a charter school would be good for kids who want to stay here," he said. "It might open more doors for them. Doors that aren't opening for them in Madras might open for them here

at a charter school."

For some students, Yazzie said, the best way to achieve a good education might be to mix with the students at the schools in Madras. A charter school, he said, would provide an option.

These are some of the local issues that Yazzie mentions when discussing his interest in serving on the school board. On the other hand, he said, as a 509-J board member, he would make decisions based on the needs and best interest of the entire district.

Ballots for the upcoming May election are expected to be in the mail from the county clerk's office this week.

## Museum in May to host Science Day, Children's Choir

The Museum at Warm Springs is hosting the annual Seeds of Discovery Day Camp for the 509-J district fourth-grade class from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Friday, May 13.

Science stations will be set up at the west field of the museum, and two stations will

be in-doors.

The Oregon Children's Choir of Eugene will perform at the Museum at Warm Springs at 2 p.m. on Sunday, May 15. The museum is inviting everyone to come and enjoy the music. There is no charge for this event.

## Living Traditions starts this weekend

The 2005 Living Traditions demonstrations begin on Saturday and Sunday, April 30-May 1. These classes feature traditional foods presented by Suzie Stockish.

Classes start at 1 p.m. in the

lobby of the Museum at Warm Springs. There is no fee to see the program.

The Living Traditions program is held annually during the tourist season, and traditional foods kicks of the 2005 series.



Brian Mortensen/Spilyay

Warm Springs dispatchers Joie Simtustus-Chavez, Rebecca Soliz and Charles Hudson (from left) received a cake from their boss, Supervisor of Support Services Teeny Tappo (right) in honor of National Public Safety Communicators/Dispatchers Week. Chief Operations Officer Lauraina Hintsala appeared at the Friday afternoon get-together when the cake was presented. Hintsala read a proclamation to officially thank them for their service. "You are the driving force behind our nation's and our reservation's emergency rescue services," Hintsala said. "You are the vital link for our providers of police, fire and ambulance services." The second week of April each year since 1991 has been designated by the U.S. Congress as National Public Safety Communicators/Dispatchers Week, and at Warm Springs tribal officials so honored its public safety dispatchers April 15.

## Happy birthday wishes...

Happy birthday to my princess Theyliah Vernaya Tonika Suppah, 9 years old on April 23.

I love you so much with lots of hugs and kisses, always and forever, your mommy Tiffany.



Happy birthday to my sister Theyliah. Love you lots, always xoxoxo, Praisa.

Happy 9<sup>th</sup> birthday to my great-granddaughter Theyliah. Love you lots, Metsa and John.

Happy 9<sup>th</sup> birthday Theyliah, from your brother Paul, xoxoxo.

Happy 9<sup>th</sup> birthday Theyliah Suppah. Love you lots from Jeremiah - Stephan and Elijah.

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