

# Officials: recall petition fails to meet standards

By Spilyay Tymoo  
and Tribal Relations staff

In July, the Warm Springs Tribal Council selected three new tribal judges. This prompted a recall effort against all eight elected tribal council members.

The recall petition was initiated by a tribal member from each of the three districts on the reservation.

Although the original petition lists eight concerns, it appears that the impetus for the petition was the selection of the new judges, said secretary-treasurer Charles "Jody" Calica.

Wasco Chief Nelson Wallulatum addressed the recall petition in a KWSO radio interview. Tribal members have a right to appeal Tribal Council

decisions, Chief Wallulatum said.

However, he said the "recall petition" is really a grievance. As a grievance, Tribal Resolution 4279, the policy document being cited by petitioners, does not authorize the action.

He expressed his support for the elected representatives, and encouraged tribal members to actively consult their representatives.

There has never been a recall on the Warm Springs Reservation.

"We have been blessed with wisdom and respect passed from our elders, leaders and other special people," Calica said. There has been no need to develop policies or procedures for that section of our Constitu-

tion." He said the petition seeks to import political strategies from other tribes, and that the petition is based on speculation and misinformation.

Calica said the petitioners work directly with the Tribal Court; some are employees of the court or family members of those employees.

"Their aim appears to be to preserve business as usual," Calica said.

He said that the Tribal Council has been disappointed by the lack of results and reforms desired by the community, and the gridlock between the tribes' Tribal and Appellate courts.

The Warm Springs community was featured in a week-long series by *The Oregonian* newspa-

per, "Where Children Die," in December, 2003.

The Tribal Council at that time requested several special reviews of the police and courts. The BIA, former U.S. Attorney Sid Lezak, and the National Indian Child Welfare Association conducted reviews. All assessments identified common problems.

According to Calica, there was little or no sustained follow-up on most findings and recommendations.

"Over the past years, there has been a growing sense of disrespect and hostility from the Tribal Court directed at the Appellate Court," said Calica. "That antagonism was forcing a tribal 'supreme court' setting by default, as a result of some

cases being delegated up to the Tribal Council for review and action.

"In one case, the Tribal Court issued an order refusing to honor an Appellate Court order. That condition does not properly serve the need for justice to ensure the safety and welfare of our community."

Calica said Tribal Council members have commented several times about ongoing bickering that seemed to defy correction by the chief judge.

At times the Appellate Court was routinely being denied access to trial transcripts to process appeals.

"Juvenile justice and child protection initiatives led by Chief Judge Sohappay struggled to achieve any traction among

tribal programs," Calica said.

Tribal Council was forced to intervene to resolve the circumstances of isolated cases. The service of some off-reservation legal notices and informal hearings were being elevated to criminal charges and an arrest in some examples.

Criticism from the community was repeatedly provided directly to the court over the personal conduct of one judge.

Discussion of these and other concerns failed to produce any meaningful action.

Tribal Council instructed staff to advertise for nine Appeals Court Judges, two Associate Judges and a Chief Judge as early as February.

See PETITION on 8

## Howlak Tichum

Ned Lewis Hurtado Jr.

Ned Lewis Hurtado Jr. passed away July 31, 2005. He was 64.

Mr. Hurtado was born December 11, 1940 at Klamath Falls to parents Ned and Rubina (Scott) Hurtado Sr. He was married to Anna Hurtado on May 17, 1958 at Reno, Nev.

Mr. Hurtado came to Warm Springs in 1969 from Sprague River. He worked as a child welfare specialist for the Walker River Paiute Tribe. He was a member of the Warm Springs Baptist Church. Mr. Hurtado enjoyed his

family and friends, as well as traveling. He enjoyed rodeo and livestock.

He is survived by his wife Anna of Warm Springs; children Raymond Hurtado, Desiree Hurtado, Fay Hurtado and Dana Hurtado-Buffy; grandchildren Trevor Hurtado, Joshua Hurtado, Paige Smith, Dustin Suppah, Shyrelle Hough, Ivorene Hurtado and Paisley Hurtado; brothers Ted Hurtado and Lee Herrera; sisters Naydene Flowers, Faydene Herrera and Weezie Poola.

Tara Loree Tufti

Tara Loree Tufti passed away August 1, 2005. She was 14.

Ms. Tufti was born December 13, 1990 at Madras to parents Thurman Tufti and Tina Fuller. Ms. Tufti was a lifetime resident of Warm Springs. She

was a student at Jefferson County Middle School.

Survivors include her parents Thurman and Tina of Warm Springs; brother Vernon Squiemphen of Warm Springs; and sisters Jasmine and Lacie Tufti of Warm Springs.

## Our princess, our angel

By Tina Aguilar

Our princess, our angel, our baby,  
Our girl got called home today.

We're going to miss her,  
What a huge price we have to pay.

Fourteen years, God lent her to everyone here.

Family and friends is what she held most dear.

She asked we not stand at her grave to weep or cry.

We have that promise we'll see her again in the sweet by and by.

She loved children of all ages both girls and boys,

Joining in the fun and sometimes making much noise.

Her beautiful smile and happy giggles we will surely miss.

But most of all, the hugs and sometimes a big, wet kiss.

Her life was cut short with such a senseless cruel act,



But God's promises of no pain, no sorrow,  
We know are all true facts.

Jesus was waiting with arms opened wide,

To take our princess, our angel, our baby, our girl

Through the pearly gates inside.

Do not cry, nor weep because she's finally home.

She joins many loved ones with Jesus, no more to roam.

## Learning experience this summer at the paper

By Ashley Aguilar  
Spilyay Tymoo

After school was over in May I went to work for the *Spilyay Tymoo*. It has been another fun summer for me. My job there has brought me a broader insight to journalism, life, and the workplace.

I improved my work by taking the extra initiative to find stories and adding more length and meat to the stories. This is the third summer I've worked for *Spilyay*, and with each experience I have become more knowledgeable of how things are run and the pressure of being your best on the job.

I first found my niche for writing when I was a junior in high school. My English teacher, Michael Meader, believed that I could write, and he helped me work on my technique.

After a positive experience

with my high school paper, I thought I'd go and see how the other newspapers are run.

My love for writing isn't the only reason I chose to work for the *Spilyay* - it's more because of the people. I work with bright minds. The editor helps me with my writing and sometimes offers me assignments to do. The management successor Selena Boise offers her support and friendliness. Working around positive people and a positive atmosphere makes someone love their job. When you like what you're doing, and live what you like, you'll find that is the place you need to be.

Having two kids at a young age is hard, and I know of many who can say the same. Work has been kind of a getaway for me. I'm not stressing about what the kids are doing, because they're with someone I trust, and that

in itself is a relief. I love my kids. A couple times I found myself bringing them to work, where I learned fast that work is no place for children to be.

One of the main parts of my job is writing the Young Achiever stories. I think that these are the best short stories I write, because it gives a chance for the whole reservation to see what bright kids we have here. Most of the subjects I write about

come right off the top of my head. Sometimes I get good comments and other times bad, but at least I know people are reading them.

Another summer at the newspaper flies by so quickly, and here I am again going off to school.

Every time I leave for school I know I have something to come back to, a family, a job, and support from my readers.

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## Births

James J. Craig and Sharisa C. Thompson are pleased to announce the birth of their son Kayoree Antwon Craig, born August 3, 2005.

Grandparent on the father's side is Kathy George of Wapato, Wash. Grandparents on the mother's side are Dennis and Linda Thompson of Warm Springs.

Gerald Lee Tias and Neda Rose Sam Tias are pleased to announce the birth of their son Janathian Tracy Ray-Lee Tias, born August 11, 2005.

Grandfather on the father's side is Vernon Tias Sr. Grandparents on the mother's side are Robert Sam Sr. and Marella R. Sam.

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