

Nathan's Business Services continues family tradition

By Leslie Mitts
Spilyay Tymoo

Eighteen years ago a local woman used her business skills to start up a business of her own: Nathan's Business Services.

The original founders of Nathan's Business Services are still being honored with their photo on the wall as the busy tax season comes to an end.

Randy Nathan is currently running the business along with Brenda Williams after his parents, Charles and Yvonne Nathan, started it nearly two decades ago.

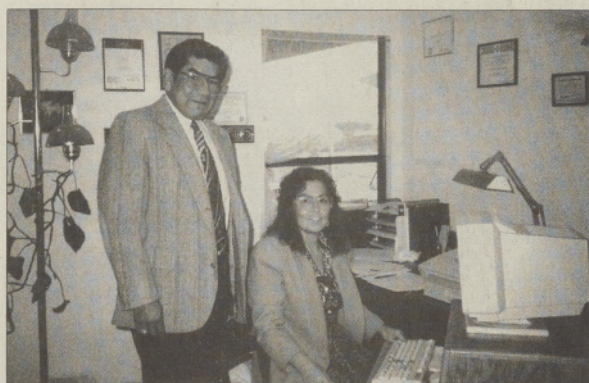
While the originally started the business in their home, Nathan said, "They built it to be a pretty big business."

In following years the business was located near the courthouse until Nathan moved it to the Warm Springs Plaza along with his outdoor adventure company, N8tive Adventures.

It began after Nathan's mother, who often assisted people with tax preparation, bookkeeping and payroll, wanted to start a business.

"She wanted to do something where she could be at home," Nathan explained.

Charles and Yvonne Nathan founded the business themselves by maxing out their credit cards



Charles and Yvonne Nathan founded their business 18 years ago.

and attended ONABEN business classes to learn more about entrepreneurship.

The business later moved to a building on the campus and had four employees. In fact, files from the very start of the business are still available—and the detailed records from so many years ago often surprise clients who haven't had their taxes prepared by Nathan's Business Services in awhile, Nathan said.

Nathan helped his parents start up their business, so it only made sense for him to take over later.

"I saw it start from the beginning," Nathan said. "I feel proud because its something

that my mom dreamt of happening."

Nathan moved to Warm Springs to take over the business when his parents were going to close it due to his mother's ongoing health problems.

Even after that, Nathan said, his mother remained at the business as the office manager until she passed away last year.

"She loved the business," he said.

That's why it's important to Nathan to keep the business in the family.

"I told her I was going to try to carry it on as much as I can," he said, and also part of the rea-

son he started up his supplemental business, N8tive Adventures that he runs during the summer months.

After his mother's death, Nathan said, many community members didn't realize the business was even still running. But Nathan's Business Services remains open for customers who need tax preparation and other services like payroll, business consulting and bookkeeping.

In fact, they can also help teach business how to successfully keep their records.

According to Williams, "We do teach them how to organize their records a lot better."

As for tax services, Nathan said, they offer things like e-filing, refund transfers, instant refunds and more. They can do business taxes and can even help people with self-prepared returns who need to e-file.

They also have a lot of experience with tax items that deal specifically with Native Americans. "We try to keep up to date with all the Native American tax issues," Williams said, and the attend a training every year that deals specifically with those issues.

In addition to local customers, she added, they also serve clients from Madras.



Randy Nathan and Brenda Williams currently run the business.

"It makes us a little bit unique," Williams said. "We're a family business and we try to treat our customers like families too."

"We're familiar with the people in the community," Williams added. "It's really nice being a small business in a small community. You really feel a part of everyone's lives."

A benefit of the business, Williams said, is that it allows them the freedom to do other things, like run their outdoor adventure company during the summer.

Because of the summer business, and the rush during tax season, Nathan said, they stay busy almost year-round, except for a break during the holiday season.

As for the future of the business, though Nathan shows no signs of being ready to retire anytime soon, the business will most likely remain in his family when that time does come. "It could probably easily pass to another family member," he said.

The Stag



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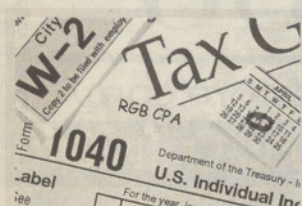
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