



Spilyay Ty-moo

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Promising year for new Miss Warm Springs

Asked about some of the things she likes to do, Sisiley Scott says, "I like to make new friends, and I like to smile."

These days Sisiley, 20, has a lot to smile about. She has her job at the clinic, and many interesting hobbies and interests.

She sews and does beadwork, takes photographs, draws with pastels, travels and attends rodeos. Last year, she attended a powwow nearly every weekend, from large tribal powwows to smaller ones at community colleges.

Sisiley is the new Miss Warm Springs, having won the pageant earlier this month.

She first gave the Miss Warm Springs Pageant a try three years ago, when she was 17. She was too young to win the competition, as Miss Warm Springs must be at least 18.

"I did it for the experience," she says. "Then people encouraged me to try it again this year."

Sisiley tried, and won the pageant. "I wanted to go out and reach for something, and not sit and let it pass me by," she said.

Sisiley was the 2004 Lincoln's Birthday Powwow Queen, and the 2006 University of Washington First Nations Powwow Queen.

"Those were a lot of fun," she said. "I liked being with the royalty during the grand entries."

The experience inspired her to try for Miss Warm Springs.

The contestants were judged on their essays, public speaking, and traditional and contemporary talents.

For her contemporary talent, Sisiley showed a pastel drawing she made of Alicia Keys.

For her traditional talent, Sisiley showed a beaded top she just recently finished. She has been beading and



Sisiley Scott is crowned Miss Warm Springs at the recent pageant.

sewing for several years.

"I started beading when I was 12. I learned from my auntie Rosie Tom," she said.

"She showed me how to cut my first pair of moccasins, and make hair ties and berets."

Arlita Rhoan has also helped her

with beading and sewing.

With Arlita's help, Sisiley has now made 18 regalia dresses.

Sisiley is a 2007 graduate of Madras High School.

Her parents are Deborah and Toba Scott. Her mother works at the clinic, and her father makes custom knives.

Sisiley is the youngest of five children. Her sisters are Shelby, JoAnne and Desirae, and her brother is Israel. They live in the Seekseequa area.

At the Warm Springs Health and Wellness Clinic, Sisiley works as a maternal child health assistant, helping nurse Janet Bissell.

On weekends and vacations, Sisiley likes to travel with family to different places.

For the past three years, she has gone to the Fort McDowell Yavapia Nation powwows, where she has placed in the powwows each of those years.

She has been to the Indian National Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas, and she's been to powwows in Connecticut and South Dakota, among many other places.

Sisiley will be busy this year traveling as Miss Warm Springs, representing the tribes at powwows, rodeos and other events.

This weekend she will participate in the Lincoln's Birthday Powwow in Simnasho, and she'll be at the Heart Smart Dinner later this month.

In April Sisiley will compete for Miss Indian World at the pageant in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The year 2009 promises to be a good one for someone who likes to smile and make new friends.

— by Dave McMechan

Powwow this weekend at Simnasho

Simnasho will host the 2009 Lincoln's Birthday Powwow this Friday through Sunday, Feb. 13-15 at the Longhouse.

This year marks the Thirty-Second Annual Lincoln's Birthday Powwow.

Newcomers and re-joiners are invited to the longhouse this Friday, Feb. 13 at 5:30 p.m. Grand entry at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday grand entry is at 1 p.m. There will be a supper break, but no Saturday evening grand entry. Sunday grand entry is at 1:30 p.m.

Contest in all categories. Specials include:

Drum contest. For information contact Mackie Begay at 553-9230.

Junior girls open contest (8-12 years) for the outgoing princess. Contact Joy Ramirez at 777-9220.

One-man hand drum. Contact Kyle Queahpama 553-6908.

Open chicken dance/round bustle (to be announced). Contact Mackie Begay at 553-9230.

Vendors, contact Sandra Greene-Sampson 553-6619.

Lodging is available at Kah-Nee-Ta Resort, 1-800-554-4SUN. Mention you are coming to Lincoln's Powwow for special rate, limited rooms.

Controversy may lead to resignation of advisory committee

The representative of the Confederated Tribes on the Jefferson County Economic Development Advisory Committee is planning to resign from the committee.

The committee advises Economic Development of Central Oregon (EDCO), and its program Jefferson County Economic Development.

EDCO promotes business development in Jefferson, Deschutes and Crook counties.

Jefferson County Economic Development, formed by agreement between EDCO and the county board of commissioners, focuses on Jefferson County business development, including Warm Springs.

The tribes are among the funding partners of Jefferson County Economic Development.

Ray Potter, the tribes' chief financial officer, represents the tribes on the Jefferson County Economic Development Advisory Committee.

Potter said he is planning to resign from the committee due to a disagreement with EDCO and the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners.

The disagreement concerns the hiring by EDCO and the board of commissioners of the Jefferson County Economic Development executive director, Madras area resident Wayne Pearson.

Pearson was hired in December. Potter and others on the advisory committee subsequently determined that sufficient diligence was lacking in checking the accuracy of Pearson's job application resume, said Potter.

Fish passage facility nearly complete

By Dave McMechan
Spilyay Ty-moo

Tribal Council last week toured the new intake tower and fish passage facility that is under construction at the Round Butte Dam on the Deschutes River.

The facility includes a 273-foot tall underwater tower, and a fish collection station.

Successful operation of this project will reopen 226 upstream miles to salmon and steelhead migration, which has been blocked since 1972.

Total cost of the fish passage project is \$108 million, including \$83 million for construction.

The tribes are paying a third of the cost, through revenue generated by Warm Springs Power and Water Enterprises.

"For the tribes to maintain our way of life, fish passage above the dam is critical," said Tribal Council Chairman Ron Suppah, "For that reason this project is worth the investment."

The tribes and Portland General Electric are co-owners and managers of the dams, which are partly on the reservation.

PGE and the tribes are developing the fish passage facility as part of the 50-year Pelton-Round Butte relicensing agreement, approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

The plan is for the fish facility to be



Tribal Council, management, PGE and Corps of Engineers officials last week toured the intake tower and fish passage facility that is under construction at the Round Butte dam.

fully operational by April 15, said Jim Manion, manager of Warm Springs Power and Water Enterprises.

The goal of the project is to create a downstream current in Lake Billy Chinook behind Round Butte Dam.

The dam was built just below the area where the Deschutes River merges with the Crooked River, and then merges with the Metolius River.

Since construction of the dam, the current on the surface of the reservoir travels down the Deschutes and then up the colder Metolius. Meanwhile, cold water from the Metolius is drawn into the power-generating turbines near the bottom of the reservoir and dam.

The result has been the loss of direction for juvenile fish that would otherwise migrate downstream, eventually

to the Columbia River and the Pacific Ocean.

The 273-foot tall selective water withdrawal tower and fish collection station are designed to correct this problem.

The tower will create a downstream current on the surface of the reservoir, rather than on the bottom.

The juvenile migrating fish will be drawn into a collection facility, floating on top of the selective water intake tower. The fish will be sorted and then transported by truck downstream of the dam.

In the long term, biologists predict that at least 96 percent of the juvenile fish collected at the water withdrawal tower will be safely transported downstream of the project.

Also, the tower's draw of warmer water off the surface of Lake Billy Chinook will keep the reservoir cooler in the summer, creating a healthier environment for fish.

The water temperature of the lower Deschutes should remain as cool as, or cooler than the pre-dam temperature. Since construction of the dam, the temperature of the lower Deschutes has at times exceeded the pre-dam temperature, which is unhealthy for fish.

All of this will be accomplished while maintaining the power generating capacity at the dam.

An estimated 20 new jobs will be created when the project is fully operational, said Chad Kroft of PGE.