



Terri Harber/Spilyay

Children enjoy a Native-American dance during a recent Social Dance and Pow wow Drumming Class that meets from 5 to 6:30 p.m. on Thursdays in the Social Hall at the Warm Springs Community Center. Everyone is welcome. No experience necessary. Call 553-3243.

Local students win spelling bee

By Duran Bobb
Spilyay Tymoo

Two local students won a local spelling bee at Jefferson County Middle School.

One of the students, eighth-grader Sierra Patt, went on to represent the middle school at the Scripps-Howard regional contest in Bend, said Courtney Lupton, Talented and Gifted (TAG) specialist at the school.

Sixth-grader Sonya Mendez, 11, also won the local spelling bee with the word "infatuation". However, says Lupton, only seventh- and eighth-grade level students are permitted to compete in Scripps-Howard spelling bees.

Mendez is the current Junior Miss Warm Springs Princess. She's a dancer (fancy and jingle), and she enjoys making *wapas* baskets. "She loves softball," Lupton says, "and she plays Kiwanis basketball and is also active in the Warm Springs language program."

Mendez' mother is Joy Ramirez, who works at the clinic in medical records. Her father



Sierra Patt took 6th Place in the regional Scripps-Howard Spelling Bee in Bend on Feb. 6.

is Jose, an employee of Brightwood.

"My advice to any other student that might want to win this spelling bee in the future is—go for it!" Mendez says.

Sierra Patt, 12, represented JCMS in Bend at the regional bee. Lupton had her fingers crossed for Sierra. "Her birthday was Saturday, the same day as the spelling bee."

Sierra's favorite subject is language arts. "I love to read and

write," Sierra says. Her activities include basketball and softball. "I also have horses, dogs and cats."

Patt says that the most difficult word for her to spell was the word she missed in Bend, where she won 6th place. But she tells students that if they want to win any spelling bee, the secret is: "Don't be nervous."

Sierra's mother is Karla Patt, and her father is William "Hobo" Patt.

Sierra Patt hopes to one day be a photojournalist. "Maybe I can do a photo story at the national contest—if I get to go."

The Scripps-Howard spelling bee began in 1925 by the Courier-Journal in Louisville. It's open to students who have not yet completed the eighth grade, reached their 15th birthday, nor won a previous national spelling bee.

The Scripps-Howard bee was first broadcast on network TV in 1946. It has inspired novels and films such as "Akeelah and the Bee".

Last year's winning word was "Laodicean", spelled correctly by Kavya Shivashankar.

Training offered court advocacy

The National Indian Justice Center will conduct a training session for tribal advocates at Kah-Nee-Ta High Desert Resort and Casino on Tuesday-Thursday, Feb. 23-25.

The training is designed primarily to meet the needs of tribal court advocates and defenders, judges, and administrative hearing officers.

For those who have received approval from the Warm Springs Tribal Court to attend this training, there is no tuition fee. Registration will be limited to 50 participants.

Interested persons must complete the registration form and submit it along with a letter of interest and a description of his or her court or legal experience to the Tribal Court no later than February 12.

Registrants must attend all three days and complete all the

required work, including a moot court exercise, to qualify for a certificate of completion.

Completion of this class does not guarantee that you will be approved as a spokesperson, as all spokesperson-applicants must pass the Warm Springs Tribal Bar Exam as well as meet the qualifications set out in the Warm Springs Tribal Code and Rules of Court, and comply with the American Bar Association Model Rules of Professional Conduct.

Call the Warm Springs Tribal Court if you have any questions at 541-553-3278.

Trainees will receive intensive instruction and perform tribal practice exercises in a mock courtroom environment. Additionally, the session will examine ethical considerations for tribal court personnel. The training methodology of the

National Indian Justice Center utilizes discussion and sample case exercises.

Trainees will receive a comprehensive training manual and certificate of achievement upon completion of the course.

The training session will focus on the roots of tribal sovereignty, tribal jurisdiction, structure of the legal system, roles within the legal system, reading and understanding case law, statutory analysis, principles of legal research and argumentation, and tribal court libraries, among other topics.

Participants are responsible for their own lodging and meals. For more information on the training, call Margaret Colglazier, NIJC, Training Coordinator at (707) 579-5507.

This training is not associated with any other court training that may be offered on the reservation.

AARP gives tax help in Warm Springs

The American Association of Retired People is offering free tax help to taxpayers with low to moderate income with special attention to those 60 and older.

The service is offered from 1 to 5 p.m. on Monday and Thursdays at the Warm Springs Family Resource Center, 1144 Warm Springs St.

The service is also offered from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tues-

days and Wednesdays at the Madras Senior Center, 860 Madison St.

Please visit: warmspringsprogress.net to make an appointment; or call (541) 553-3148 ext. 302 and leave a message with your name, phone number and preferred date and time.

Please bring the following when you come:

Current year's tax forms and

preparation booklet; copy of last year's income tax return(s); W-2 forms from each employer; unemployment compensation statements; SSA-1099 form if you were paid Social Security benefits; all 1099 forms (1099 INT, 1099 DIV, 1099-B, etc.), showing interest and/or dividends and documentation showing original purchase price of sold assets.

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