

# New management at Tee-pee Deli

By Duran Bobb  
Spilyay Tymoo

Vesta Johnson, who recently took over operations at the Tee-pee Deli, could be considered an over-achiever.

She has degrees in Psychology and Business Administration. She is nearing the completion of one of two PhDs. She's a mom. She works for the Census Bureau, gathering information that might lead to better funding. She repairs manufactured homes and makes them available to those who have housing needs in the community.

"My dad is an over-achiever," Vesta said. "I learned from his behavior to constantly stay active. He has the paddle business, DMJ, the fuel station. When he tells me that I'm doing too much, I have the luxury of looking at him and saying, playfully, 'You don't walk the walk!' I'm like him, and whether I like it or not... I just can't quit."

Vesta's drive is not for selfish reasons. "The main thing in education is that it's not for me," she says.

"It's not completely mine. It has been provided for a reason. This is actually quite a gift that I have been given, I know that, and I make sure to treat it as such. I pass it on to others who may need support while obtaining their own education. What has been given to me, it belongs to the community."



Dave McMechan/Spilyay

Vesta Johnson (right) is the new manager of the Tee-pee Deli. Employees are Dallas Camas, Destry Begay, Debra Lucas and Marvin Nez (not pictured are Mariah Peterson and Victoria Katchia). The drive-up at the deli opens at 6 a.m. for coffee and light breakfast. The deli is open from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Monday through Friday.

This was an important lesson that Johnson has learned from her elders while growing up, she said.

"I look at the people in the organization, and I see how they've inspired me. But just because they have an education, that doesn't mean everything. Our elders had such a high level of valuable life experience that all of us can learn from."

Priscilla Frank has also been an inspiration to Johnson.

"She taught me that everyone has value, and we each have something to contribute that's

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important, regardless of our education level. That's how she has lived her life, and that has driven me to thrive on challenge. She's also big on tribal member employment."

Last fall, representatives

from joint ventures approached Johnson to ask if she would be interested in taking over the Tee-pee Deli.

"I gave it much thought, and then thought some more. Eventually, I just decided, 'If we're going to do this, let's do it. Let's hit the ground running!'"

"What's important to me right now is the idea of creating jobs on the reservation," Johnson said. "Right now, we have five positions, all part-time. With more changes coming up, it's going to create one or two more positions. To me, that's exciting. People like having some income capability on the reservation."

Changes at the Teepee Deli have included a switch in vendors.

"We're trying to use local vendors only. Some vendors have been in place for years, so it's a little difficult to tell them that we no longer need their service. But I think this is good news, in trying to incorporate more tribal members business."

Johnson has shared with local businesses that she does not wish to take business away from them.

"Instead, we want to complement them. That part for me is foundational. I want to work alongside them."

Teepee Deli will keep the community updated on daily specials through Facebook, or call 541-553-2568.

## Hand drum classes

There will be a Hand Drum making class this Wednesday through Friday, March 23-25 in the basement at Culture and Heritage.

The classes, which began on Monday, continue as follows:

Wednesday March 23, from 8:30 a.m.-12 noon; and 1-4:30 p.m.

Thursday March 24, 8:30 a.m.-12 noon; and 1-4:30 p.m.

Friday, March 25, from 8:30 a.m.-12 noon.

This is for youth ages 2-18; 10 and under need parent assistance.

Sponsored by Children's Protective Service.

Call Minnie L. Wallulatum for information or to sign up, 553-3209.

Cosponsored by Prevention Health Education Team (formally CHET), Tribal Court Youth Program; and the Culture and Heritage Program.

## Veterans gathering in April

The Veterans' Family and Healing Gathering will be held at HeHe Longhouse from April 28 to May 1.

Scheduled activities include lighting of the healing fire, hon-

oring of the veterans, flute playing, clown dance, fun and songs.

This is an alcohol and drug free event. For more information, contact Larson Kalama, Sr. at 541-553-3093.

## March fitness, weight loss classes

On Thursdays in March, come get motivated!

Classes on exercise, nutrition, and goals for weight loss are from 5:30-6:30 p.m. on Thursday, 24 and 31.

Classes are in the atrium at IHS.

On Thursday, March 17 at 5:30, the class will be on motivation, held at Mountain View Hospital in the education room.

This is part of the Moving Mountains Challenge.

The University of Oregon Native American Student Union will host the Seventh Annual Basketball Tournament on April 15-17. Location:

Northwest Christian College Morse Event Center, Eugene. For information, call 541-346-3723. Or email: [asuonasu@uoregon.edu](mailto:asuonasu@uoregon.edu)

# Warm Springs Community Calendar

### Wednesday, March 23

There's **Ichishkin Bingo** from 9 a.m. till noon and in the Culture & Heritage basement. **Ichishkin dictionaries** are provided. And from 1-5 p.m. are **language games** with sign language teacher Evan Gardner in the culture and heritage trailer.

There's a **water aerobics** class this morning 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. at the Kah-Nee-Ta pool.

There's a **Red Cross Blood Drive** from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Warm Springs Health & Wellness Center.

### Thursday, March 24

The Diabetes Prevention Program is putting on a **Nutrition, Exercise & Motivation** class at 5:30 p.m. at the Community Center Social Hall.

The **Culture & Heritage Committee** meets the second and fourth Thursday of each month. The next meeting is today. For more information contact Paula Miller at the council office 553-3257.

Culture & Heritage invites you to **fun social dance** time shared by our elders. It's at 5 p.m. at the senior center. Everyone is welcome.

If you are a Moving Mountains participant, there's a **Water Aerobics** session just for you today from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Madras Aquatic Center. Swimming experience isn't necessary.

The month of March there will be an **Evening Men's Support Group** every Thursday 6-8 p.m. at VOCS.

### Friday, March 25

Don't miss the **Tanan Movie Marathon** and Ice Cream Social. Movies will be shown in the Culture & Heritage basement - 9 a.m. to noon cartoons, *Smoke Signals* will be shown at noon, more cartoons from 1-4 p.m. and the ice cream social is at 4. All youth are invited to come and enjoy Native American cartoons and movies.

The Jefferson County Library **Community Film Center** is showing *The Princess and the*

*Frog* for Family Night this Friday at 7:30 p.m. in the Rodriguez Annex. All films are free and refreshments served.

### Saturday, March 26

The one-year **Canoe Dedication Anniversary** will be held at Indian Park. Canoes will enter the water at Pelton Park and paddle to Indian Park for the day's celebration. For information contact Jefferson Greene 541-553-3331

Warm Springs **Community Garden** Spring Workshops are Saturdays in March. It's from 9 to noon at the Education Building. Healthy snacks are provided.

### Sunday, March 27

The Jefferson County Country Quilters Tenth Biennial Quilt Show will be held at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds in Madras from 10am until 3pm. Interested exhibitors may contact Susan Gardner at 475-3661.

### Monday, March 28

Warm Springs **Tribal Council** is in session today - on the morning agenda is the April agenda. In the afternoon is a legislative conference call.

There is a **Glucometer class** from 2-3 p.m. this afternoon at the Health & Wellness Center kitchen conference room.

**Cultural Classes** are Monday thru Wednesday each week from 5:30-7 p.m. in the basement of the Education Building. Monday is Wasco "Namegiving." Tuesday Warm Springs "Baby Boards." And, Wednesday is Paiute "Give-away." Classes are open to community members.

Victims of Crime will hold its weekly **Women's Support** meeting Monday from 6-8pm. Call 541-553-2293 for details.

### Tuesday, March 29

Warm Springs **Tribal Council** is in session today, on the agenda are legislative committee reports.

Warm Springs Recreation is offering a **shawl making class** with Rita Squiemphen. It starts

at 5:30 at the community center and is open to the first 10 to sign up. You will need 2 yards of wool material and 1 spool of fringe. Contact Carol at 541-553-3243.

### Wednesday, March 30

There's a water aerobics class this morning 10:15 to 11:15 at the Kah-Nee-Ta Pool.

A **Cascade Crossing and Biomass Project** Scoping Meetings will be held from 5-9 p.m. at the Simnasho Longhouse. And on March 31 from noon till 4 p.m. at the Agency Longhouse.

### Thursday, March 31

Culture & Heritage invites you to **fun social dance** time shared by our elders. It's at 5 p.m. at the senior center. Everyone is welcome.

The Diabetes Prevention Program is putting on a **Nutrition, Exercise & Motivation** class Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. at the Community Center Social Hall.

Are you taking part in the **Moving Mountains Slim Down Challenge**? There's a Yoga class especially for you tonight from 5:30 til 6:30 at the Madras Aquatic Center.

The month of March there will be an **Evening Men's Support Group** every Thursday 6-8 p.m. at VOCS.

**Native Vendors** are wanted for the Northwest Basket Weavers Gathering being held at Kah-Nee-Ta in October. For more information about table costs and requirements contact Kelli Palmer at 541-325-6535.

### Friday, April 1

It's **Blue Folder Friday** at Warm Springs Elementary. Parents, remember to check your student's blue folder and return it on Monday.

### Saturday, April 2

A **pet vaccination clinic** will be held from 2-4 p.m. in the old ambulance bay (across from the post office) in Warm Springs. Accepting cash only for shots & licenses. They will have vouchers for spaying and

neutering.

### Monday, April 4

There is a 2-hour late start today for 509-J schools.

There is a **Glucometer class** from 2-3 p.m. this afternoon at the Health & Wellness Center kitchen conference room.

**Cultural Classes** are Monday thru Wednesday each week from 5:30-7 p.m. in the Basement of the Education Building. Monday is Wasco "Longhouse Etiquette." Tues-

day Warm Springs "Beadwork." And, Wednesday is Paiute "Whipmen." Classes are open to community members.

Victims of Crime will hold its weekly **Women's Support** meeting Monday from 6-8 p.m. Call 541-553-2293 for details.

### Tuesday, April 5

A meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. to discuss a **research project** involving Warm Springs Military Veterans. It will be held at High Lookie Lodge.


Warm Springs Recreation is offering a **shawl making class** with Rita Squiemphen. It starts at 5:30 p.m. at the community center and is open to the first 10 to sign up. You will need 2 yards of wool material and 1 spool of fringe. Contact Carol at 541-553-3243.


Positive Indian Parenting Class is 5:30 till 7 p.m. at the community counseling center. The topic this week is "Traditional Parenting."

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# KAH-NEE-TA

## Welcomes






JIM RUEL



JR REDWATER




SHISHONIA


Special Guest Gilbert Brown

## Thursday, March 24th at 8pm

Doors open at 7pm. Tickets just \$15 and available at lodge front desk or at [kahneeta.com](http://kahneeta.com). 21 and over.

541.553.1112 • [kahneeta.com](http://kahneeta.com) • 800.554.4786

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