



Spilyay Tymoo

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Miss Warm Springs 2012

By Yvonne Iverson
Spilyay Tymoo

Chloe Lynn Suppah was crowned 2012 Miss Warm Springs at last Thursday's pageant, held at the Agency Longhouse. Chloe is the daughter of Erland Suppah and Sally Whiz of Warm Springs.

The evening began with a video that looked back over the past year with outgoing Miss Warm Springs Tamera Moody, with a giveaway that followed. "Be yourself and have fun," Moody advises her successor.

Representing her late daughter during the announcement of past Miss Warm Springs, Anna Clements had a few words to share. "Always smile, even when you don't feel like it," she said.

"As the Miss Warm Springs coordinator, I would do an orientation for the girls," Anna said. "I would tell them to not pay attention to the negative words of others"

After receiving the crown, Chloe addressed those who attended. "I am glad to represent everyone here. It is an honor," she said.

"I am currently employed at Warm Springs Market, and still in high school," she added.

Chloe needs two and a half credits to graduate. "I never gave up," she shared, as the crowd cheered.

The evening ended with an honor dance and lots of congratulations for the new Miss Warm Springs.



2012 Miss Warm Springs Chloe Lynn Suppah

Yvonne Iverson/Spilyay

Casino opening Feb. 4

The new Indian Head Casino will open on Saturday, February 4. A tribal dedication ceremony for the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs will start at 1 p.m. on that date outside the casino.

The program will include drumming, dancing, and remarks from designated guests, including master of ceremonies former Gov. Victor Atiyeh.

A ribbon cutting will follow, opening the casino for members at 2:30 p.m. Complimentary appetizers will be available from 2:30-5:30 p.m. in the casino.

Tribal members can stop by the Player Club for a free souvenir, and to pick up a new Players Club card to earn points for \$500 cash drawings that will be held beginning at 9 p.m.

Lucky Seat Drawings will also be held beginning at 4:30 p.m.

The casino will open to the public at 6 p.m. and remain open for business 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

See INDIAN HEAD on page 5

Telecom dedication

The Warm Springs Telecom ribbon cutting ceremony is this Friday, Jan. 27, starting with greetings at 11 a.m., opening prayer and songs at 11:30. The Telecom offices are located by the industrial park, at 3240 Walsey Lane.

Wasco Dancers, and lunch start at 12 noon, with speakers beginning shortly after. The keynote speaker will be Dallas Tonsager, Under Secretary, Rural Development U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Introduction of the Warm Springs Telecom staff, and the ribbon-cutting are at 1:30. "I am so excited," said Danica Greene, Telecom customer service manager. "I'm excited that we'll be providing this service, working one-on-one with people."

With the service provider on the reservation, she said, "I think that gives people a sense of comfort."

See WS Telecom on page 5

Spring ballot likely for k-8 Warm Springs school

The Confederated Tribes and School District 509-J are moving forward with a plan to build a new school in Warm Springs.

The proposal is to build an 80,000-square-foot school—about the size of the Jefferson County Middle School—in the Greeley Heights area.

The school would be for grades k-8. Total estimated cost is roughly \$18-to-20 million.

The proposal is for the school district and the tribes to share the cost evenly.

School district officials are considering a bond levy proposal that district

voters could see on the May ballot. The entire reservation is included in the school district.

Meanwhile, meeting last week, Tribal Council members said the tribes will hold a referendum on the proposal, asking whether the Confederated Tribes should also issue a bond.

There are several reasons why the Warm Springs community is in need of a new school:

The current Warm Springs Elementary School is decades old, some parts dating back to the 1930s.

See WS SCHOOL on page 5

Rodeo action at fairgrounds

Friday and Saturday will bring a rare chance to see live National Finals rodeo action, featuring two Warm Springs teams, at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds.

The Professional Team Bronc Riding National Finals are Friday and Saturday, Jan. 27-28, in the fairgrounds Corwin Arena.

The competition is for the top honors in the nation in Team Bronc Riding, also known as Wild Horse Racing, one of rodeo's original events.

Competing from Warm Springs, the Jason Smith Team members are Jason Smith, Jesse Rhinehart and

Brad Barcraft. Also from Warm Springs, the Atcitty Begay Team members are Atcitty Begay, Dustin Suppah and Pat Vargas.

In team bronc riding, three-person teams try to reel in a wild horse, saddle the horse, and ride back to the finish line. Each team includes a shankman, mugger and a rider.

The action on Friday, Jan. 27, begins at 7 p.m.; and on Saturday at 6 p.m. The event will also include senior colt racing, junior colt racing, bull riding, saddle bronc riding, bareback riding and a businessman cow race.

See RODEO on page 6

IHS area director's career began 35 years ago in W.S.

Dean Seyler began his health care career 35 years ago as an emergency medical technician with the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. Seyler is now the director of the Indian Health Service Portland Area.

As director of the IHS Portland Area, Seyler oversees the health care delivery system for more than 100,000 Native Americans, mostly members of the 43 federally recognized tribes in Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

Seyler consults with tribal leaders, and keeps the tribes informed of new legislation, policy changes, management actions and available resources.

In addition, each service unit in the Portland Area maintains a close working relationship with the local tribal health board.

His work includes administrative responsibility for clinical, dental, preventive health, nutrition, behavioral health, environmental health, public health, and facility construction services.

The most rewarding part of his job, he says, "is having a positive impact on the healthcare provided the tribes within the three states that make up the Portland Area, in addition to providing input and supporting the director of IHS in propelling the agency priorities."

Worked as EMT

Seyler has more than 34 years experience working with federal agencies, tribes, and local governments.

He began his health care career in 1976 as an EMT with the Confederated Tribes.



Dean Seyler

Over the next 16 years, Seyler gained experience in emergency medicine and law enforcement with the tribes and the city of Prineville.

From 1992 to 1995, Seyler held positions with the Bureau of Indian Affairs Great Plains Region and with his Confederated Tribes.

Then in 1995, he began his career with IHS, as the deputy service unit director for the Portland Area Warm Springs Service Unit.

In 2000, he transferred to the Whiteriver Indian Health Hospital, working as the administrative officer. He was named acting chief executive officer in 2002, and was appointed CEO in 2004.

During this time, Mr. Seyler was detailed for six months to the Phoenix

Area Office as deputy director, where he managed service unit operations.

In 2006, Seyler returned to the Portland Area as the Public Health emergency manager.

He was named the Portland Area executive officer in 2008. He was then named the acting director in early 2010, and then appointed to be the permanent director in December of 2010.

1976 MHS graduate

Seyler grew up in Warm Springs, in the Miller Heights neighborhood, and is a 1976 graduate of Madras High School. He now has a Bachelor of Science degree in healthcare administration from the University of Phoenix. His parents are Cecil and Aradonna Seyler.