

# Author continues career with Master's degree

By Duran Bobb  
Spilyay Tymoo

Elizabeth Woody remembers an article that she read some time back, in which the BIA Superintendent was giving a tour to government officials.

One of the officials commented on the lives of Indians—that it might be a good idea to get some of them off of the reservation to see how the real world operated.

“The one Indian turned around and said, ‘See, sonny, I’ve met your queen and I’ve climbed the Eiffel Tower. Now tell me where you’ve been.’”

In 1990, Elizabeth won an American Book Award for her book *Hand Into Stone*. At the time she was a professor of creative writing at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Sante Fe, New Mexico.

But her story doesn't end there.

She is now on the board of directors for Soapstone, a Willamette University Advisory Council for Native Programs. She advises the Evergreen State College Native Arts Council.



Elizabeth Woody recently earned Master's degree.

She has worked as the director of the Indigenous Leadership Program at Ecotrust of Portland.

She is a k-12 program coordinator.

Last week, Woody graduated with her Master of Public Administration degree at the Hatfield School of Government at Portland State

University.

These are amazing accomplishments, for a former student who was expelled from Madras High.

### Luck and hard work

“Four weeks before graduation, I was given the choice of either apologizing for something that I didn't do, or

*“The wisdom of our ancestors is always there, and I try to listen to that...”*

leaving,” Woody says. “So I left.”

That year the 509-J superintendent commended the principal on having a student like Elizabeth Woody. At the time, English teachers asked her to submit entries into an Oregon writer's workshop contest.

“I sat on the back porch of our HUD house in West Hills and wrote some poetry,” she said. “And that was right before I got kicked out of school.”

Since then, Woody has worked hard to earn her place. But every now and then luck plays a key role.

Her first manuscript, *Hand into Stone*, was stolen from her car just before she submitted it for publication.

“I went to give someone a ride, and when I got back to my vehicle I found my briefcase was gone,” she says.

“We scoured the neighborhood and looked in dumpsters. I was heartbroken! Things were tough, and I was living in a single-occupancy dwelling at the time.”

Shortly after, luck came.

“I got a call telling me that someone found my manuscript in an empty lot,” Woody said. “The police had put the pages back together, and there was a big boot print on the front... like the police stamp of approval.”

Woody says that's just how her life is...unusually amazing.

Earning her MPA is just another step towards reaching her goal. “I've learned that there's always going to be people who don't want you to do what you're doing—whether that's family or friends or your town or your high school. But the wisdom of our ancestors is always there, and I try to listen to that, to guide me towards the right thing to do. It's not always easy.”

Elizabeth Woody hasn't climbed the Eiffel Tower yet. “But it's on my list!”

## Beading class at museum

The Museum at Warm Springs is offering a beadwork class for young adults. The class will be for youth ages 12-21, featuring bead artist Mercedes Miller. The classes will be from 1-5 p.m. in the museum lobby on July 10-13.

For registration call Rosalind Sampson, museum Education coordinator, at 541-553-3331 ext. 407. Or come by the museum to sign up.

Warm Springs Fire Management is wishing everyone a fun and safe Fourth of July next Wednesday.

Fire Management reminds young people: Use fireworks outdoors only.

Always have water handy (a garden hose or bucket of water).

Only use fireworks as intended. Don't try to alter them or combine them.

## Baby board in unique category

“All baby boards are unique,” Bobby Smith says. “But this one is extra special. It's in a special category.”

Smith is talking about a baby board that Terry Stradley made recently for a friend who has a new-born.

Earlier this year, the grandfather of the child presented Stradley with the fur from a bobcat. She then used some of the fur to decorate the board.

The cradle board also has a rodeo theme, beaded in black and white. The father of the new-born, Spud Smith Jr., is a wild horse racer.

Stradley works as the weigh master at the Warm Springs Forest Products Industries log scale station. She does beadwork in her spare time, and has entered items in shows at the Museum at Warm Springs.

She worked about two months on the baby board with the bobcat fur.

— by Dave McMechan



Terry Stradley with board; and detail of rodeo beadwork.

## Births

### Furious TickBelly Spino-Lucei

Erickson Lucei Sr. and Crystal Spino of Warm Springs are pleased to announce the birth of their son Furious TickBelly Spino-Lucei, born on June 18, 2012.

Furious joins brother JR, and sister Raylyn.

Grandparents on the father's side are David Lucei of Madras, and Flora Frank of Warm Springs.

Grandparents on the mother's side are Trudy Thompson of Crescent City, Calif.; and the late Wesley Spino of Warm Springs.

### Logan Riley Wason

William Wason and Effie Goodlance of Warm Springs are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Logan Riley Wason, born on June 15, 2012.

Logan joins brothers Ivan and Pete, and sisters

Cherise, Kayla and Adison. Grandparent on the father's side is Teresa Thomson of Madras.

Grandparents on the mother's side are Bruce and Barbara Jim of Warm Springs.

### Ella Danielle Caldera

Aaron Ray Caldera and Nakia Marie Caldera of Warm Springs are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Ella Danielle Caldera, born on June 12, 2012.

Ella joins brother Kristopher, and sister Anna Marie.

Grandparents on the father's side are Rebekah Main and Raphael Caldera.

Grandparent on the mother's side is Roman Suppah.

### Ronnie Isaac Culps Jr.

Ronnie Culps Sr. and Skyla Thompson of Warm Springs are pleased to announce the birth of their son Ronnie

Isaac Culps Jr., born on June 12, 2012.

Ronnie joins sisters Sparkles Willard and Keisha Culps.

Grandparent on the father's side is Jerome Culps Sr. of Madras.

Grandparents on the mother's side are Corinna Sohapp and Morris Holiday, both of Warm Springs.

### Koda Emmett Boise

Young Phillip Boise and Sasha Raelynn Caldera of Warm Springs are pleased to announce the birth of their son Koda Emmett Boise, born on June 4, 2012.

Grandparents on the father's side are atwai Leah Boise and David Montiel-Valdez of Madras.

Grandparents on the mother's side are Angel Wells and Lawrence Caldera Jr., of Warm Springs.

## Memorials

To family, friends and relatives,

A memorial and grave site services will be held on June 30, 2012 starting at 7 a.m. at the Warm Springs Shaker Church. The memorial and grave site services will be for:

Julian Silas Williams, guest speakers JR Smith and Geri Jim.

Roberta Jean "Bird" Bruce, guest speakers Larry and Neda Wesley.

Albert Comedown.

Lucille "Lucy" Williams, guest speaker William Sam and Jennifer Smith.

Nathan "Big N" Williams, guest speaker Tom Strong and Bobbi Suppah.

Spencer Ward "Magoo" Poitra, guest speaker Levi Herksban and Leslee Poitra.

(Guest speakers, please contact the family if you cannot be there. Thank you.)

Bare with us in the small space, as the Agency Longhouse was already booked.

After the gravesite services, we will return to the Shaker Church for a Shaker Song and to shake hands.

A dinner will be served by our honored cooks, Janice Clements, Millie Colwash and their willing assistants.

Giveaway to follow.

Respectfully, Williams families, Alberta Comedown and family, Maggie Silva and children, Lester Poitra and children.

Legal Aid Services of Oregon provides free assistance to low-income Oregonians in many civil cases. Speak with an attorney during drop-in hours 1 to 4 p.m. on the first Monday of the month at the Warm Springs Community Action Team building, 1136 Paiute Ave, Warm Springs. Or call 385-6944.



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