

Four generations of barrel racers

Rodeo is a long-time tradition for the Johnson family. At the Pi-Ume-Sha Rodeo people saw four generations of the family in the barrel racing competitions.

There was Marita Johnson, her daughter Jodell Johnson, and granddaughter-in-law Mikayla.

The youngest rider was Marita's great granddaughter Kasamira Johnson, age 5.

Kasamira's grandmother Shana would have been riding too, but her horse was hurt at the time.

People especially took notice of Kasamira: She was riding Jax, her miniature horse, measuring just 32 inches tall.

"She trained the horse herself," Shana says. "No one else could have trained him. He's about the size of a dog."

Kasamira trained Jax to barrel race, pole bend and rope. She'll ride Jax for the rest of this year, and then switch to a regular size horse next year, Shana says.

Kasamira started riding at the age of 2 or 3. An upcoming event for her will be the peewee rodeo at Dufur.

Shana manages DMJ Automotive in Warm Springs, sponsor of the Cowdeo prize saddle. The shop owners are Marita and husband Delford Johnson, who is a calf roper.

— Dave McMechan

Marita Johnson (far right), and Mikayla Camas barrel racing at the Pi-Ume-Sha Rodeo.



Kasamira and Jax barrel racing at the Pi-Ume-Sha Rodeo.

Photos courtesy of Edison Yazzie



Founding CRITFC member elected 2015-16 chair

Umatilla tribal leader N. Kathryn 'Kat' Brigham will be the new chairwoman of the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission.

Leaders from the member tribes—Warm Springs, Yakama, Nez Perce, and Umatilla—chose Brigham to serve as chairwoman for the 2015-16 term.

She currently also serves as secretary of the Umatilla tribes board of trustees.

Kathryn is a veteran of domestic and international salmon management, helping make a lasting impression on Columbia Basin salmon policy. She will be sworn in on July 23, during the commission's meeting in Hood River.

Brigham was introduced to fisheries issues as a young adult, when she would accompany her grandfather, respected tribal leader Sam Kash Kash, to fisheries meetings.

During this time, he instilled in her the need to protect fisheries resources for the next seven generations and beyond. In 1976, Kat was appointed to the Umatilla tribe's Fish and Wildlife Committee.

In 1977, Brigham was one of the founding commissioners of CRITFC. During her tenure at CRITFC, she has been instrumental in the implementation of the 1976 Memorandum of Agreement with the Bonneville Power Administration and the tribes, the *U.S. v. Oregon* Columbia River Fish Management Plans, the Pacific Salmon Treaty, and the Northwest Power Act.

"During my service in fisheries, I have seen Colum-



Kathryn Brigham

bia Basin salmon issues evolve greatly," Brigham says.

"When I started, there were some Columbia Basin salmon runs that were heading toward extinction. Today we are seeing some of the strongest returns in years.

"Some of the largest remaining threats to our region's fisheries include climate change, water quality and coal and oil transportation."

Brigham assumes the position from Carlos Smith, Warm Springs Tribal Councilman. His leadership has guided the commission through a year where the tribes waded into key battles against reckless coal and oil transportation projects, secured important advancements in the renegotiation of the Columbia River Treaty, and saw abundant salmon returns celebrated.

Councilman Smith will serve as CRITFC treasurer for the 2015-16 term.

The other CRITFC officers elected are: Patrick Luke (Yakama), vice chair; and Leotis McCormack (Nez Perce), secretary.

The election of CRITFC

Relay for Life on Saturday

The Jefferson County Relay for Life will be start this Saturday July 11, at 10 a.m. at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds.

Teams raise money that goes to the American Cancer Society.

At 10 p.m. on Saturday

there will be a Luminarias ceremony for cancer survivors, patients, and those we have lost loved ones.

The Relay for Life continues on Sunday, July 12. You can make a Luminaria donation online at: jeffersoncountyrelay.com



2015 COLUMBIA RIVER INDIAN FISHER



8:00a to 4:00p • Friday, July 24
Best Western Hood River Inn

- Tribal Q & A**
 - Fish & Wildlife Committee Q&A sessions
- Fisher Safety**
 - Columbia River boat safety
- Boat Maintenance**
 - Fiberglass repair
 - Engine repair and maintenance
 - Boat design and fabrication
- Quality Handling**
 - Food handling certification class
 - Ways of preserving quality
- Marketing and Business**
 - Connecting with customers
 - Food HuB program introduction
- Trade Show**
- Lunch**

The event and meals are free for all Yakama, Umatilla, Warm Springs, and Nez Perce fishers. For more information and the current schedule, call (503) 238-0667 or visit www.critfc.org.



The July CRITFC commission meeting will be held at the Best Western Hood River Inn on the Thursday before the Expo. Tribal members are welcome to attend. The meeting runs 8 am to 5 pm July 23.

Sports physicals for students

Student sports physicals are set for August 18 at Indian Health Services. A parent or guardian must come with the students and the physical form needs to be filled out before the appointment. Sports physicals are due

every other year for the Jefferson County 509-J school district, and are needed before the student can play sports.

The August 18 physicals will begin at 1 p.m. on a first come, first seen basis.

Boomer golf tourney fundraiser for museum

The Nineteenth Annual Boomer Classic Golf Tournament is coming up at Kah-Nee-Ta on Saturday, July 25.

This is a fund-raiser for the Museum at Warm Springs.

"It's a fun day of friendly competition, supporting our museum's educational programs," said Deb Stacona, museum development director. Registration begins at 9

a.m., shot gun start at 9:30. Cost is \$75 each, or \$300 for a team of four. Lunch included.

Type of play: Four person scramble format. There will be side games such as KPs, LPs, longest drive, and a putting contest. String and mulligans too.

For more information call the museum at 541-553-3331.

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The Madras Aquatic Center summer open swim times are noon to 6 p.m., Monday thru Sunday. For rates and other information call 541-475-4253.