



# Spilyay Tymoo

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## School district seeks Impact Aid input

Is there a program you feel the Jefferson County School District 509-J should consider, in order to better serve tribal member students? Or is there a program that you see as not necessary?

The district is asking for input on questions such as these from parents and other interested residents of the reservation.

There are a number of ways you can share your thoughts with the district board members and the superintendent.

The board is scheduled to host the Impact Aid hearing in Warm Springs this Wednesday evening,

Oct. 28. This meeting had been scheduled for Monday of this week, but was delayed due to the recent losses in the community.

### Impact Aid survey

Another way to comment on Impact Aid is to visit the school district website, and fill out the survey form. You can find the survey by going to [jcsd.k12.or.us](http://jcsd.k12.or.us)

The Impact Aid survey asks for input on these education topics: unmet service needs, unnecessary programs, positive programs, and other comments.

The Impact Aid survey is new

this year, as an added way for tribal members to share their thoughts with the district board, said 509-J superintendent Rick Molitor.

The district is asking for survey comments to be submitted by December 9. Some people had already submitted comments as of earlier this week, Molitor said.

Impact Aid is federal funding that replaces money school districts does not collect from tax-exempt property, such as the reservation.

### Payment varies

The Impact Aid funding to 509-J varies from year to year. Last year,

the district received \$2.16 million in Impact Aid; the year before, the payment was \$1.58 million; and the year before the payment was \$2.9 million. So the average over the most recent three years has been \$2.25 million.

For comparison, property taxes for the district general fund are about \$3.8 million. This does not include taxes levied for construction projects, such as the Warm Springs Eagle Academy, the \$20-million cost of which the tribes and district are sharing.

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## Art Show opening

The Museum at Warm Springs is celebrating the Twenty-Second Annual Tribal Member Art Show, opening this Thursday, Oct. 29 at 5:30 p.m.

Before the show opening, the musical enterprise OneBeat will host a student workshop at the museum, starting at 3:30 p.m. All are welcome.

OneBeat will be at the museum again on Friday afternoon, Oct. 30, at the same time.

## Winning Day at the Cowdeo

Isaiah Florendo had a winning day at the Cowdeo: He won four prize buckles, and the All Around Cowdeo Saddle.

The Jefferson County Fair Complex hosted the Forty-Seventh Annual Cowdeo this month at the fairgrounds rodeo arena. Young cowboys and cowgirls from around the Northwest arrived for the competitions.

Isaiah won the Calf Riding, Goat Un-Decorating and the Horseless Roping. For winning these events, he won the All Around Buckle and the Saddle. He rode his horse Wup-Sin-Nee in the Cowdeo.

Isaiah says one of his favorite Cowdeo events was the Goat Un-Decorating, where the contestants ride from the start line toward the goat, get off the horse, and untie a ribbon from the goat's tail. Fastest time wins.

Isaiah, 8, is a student at the Warm Springs Eagle Academy. He and his family live on a ranch at Charley Canyon.

He's learned riding and rodeo skills from elders in his family, starting from his great-grandfather. Isaiah says one day wants to be in the cowboy business. Meanwhile, he's practicing and looking forward to a new rodeo season in the spring.



Isaiah with four trophy buckles and All-Around Saddle.

## Ten going to Indian National Finals Rodeo

Jenna Johnson is the highest qualifier in Ladies Breakaway Roping at this year's Indian National Finals Rodeo.

She won the 2015 INFR Tour in Ladies Breakaway, judged this year by money won on the Tour. Jenna is top among the 32 overall qualifiers. She traveled to the Tour rodeos with boyfriend Brooks Dahozy, who qualifies near the top in Team Roping.

Another eight people from Warm Springs will be competing at the 2015 Indian National Finals Rodeo,

coming up Nov. 3-7 in Las Vegas: Qualifying in Team Roping are Mike Holyan and Justin Tom; and Ty and Casey Green.

Casey Green and Mike Holyan also qualified in Calf Roping. Lee Tom will be competing in the Senior Team Roping.

Clint Bruised Head will compete in the Steer Wrestling; and Sammy Bruised in Ladies Breakaway. Their daughter JB Bruised Head will make her first appearance at the INFR competition in the Junior Barrels (story on page 5).

## UAV program focus for new manager at Ventures

The incidence and size of wild fires in the West are growing. And fire agencies are looking for new technology to address the problem.

Unmanned aerial systems (UAS), drones, hold great potential in the future of fire fighting.

The applications are many, from day and night surveillance, to the actual dropping of water and other fire retardants. The Confederated Tribes are now in a position to make the most of this opportunity.

Warm Springs Ventures and Tribal Council worked to have the reservation designated by the Federal Aviation Administration as an unmanned aerial systems test area.

The reservation is one of three approved test areas in the state. Three sites on the reservation are now designated for UAS testing.

The next step in developing this potential is to work with companies and agencies, and bring them to Warm Springs. This is an employment and financial opportunity for the tribes.

To make it happen, Aurolyn Stwyer joined Ventures as the enterprise business development and marketing manager, focusing mainly on the UAS program.

The idea, Aurolyn says, is to make the reservation a Center for Excellence in the unmanned aerial system industry. Part of the plan is to develop a UAS training center at Kah-Nee-Ta.

Partnering with the tribes is SOAR Oregon, an economic development group focusing on the UAS industry in the state.

Another partner is VDOS, the nation's first FAA authorized UAS inspection company. Another interested party is Sandia Laboratories, a Lockheed Martin company working in national security technology.

Central Oregon Community College is partnering with the tribes. COCC has a degree program in the UAS field. Any tribal member interested in this program should contact the Warm Springs Ventures office.

The Cascade Chapter of Association for Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI) is another resource for the tribes.

Aurolyn came on board at Ventures at a good time, as AUVSI hosted a UAS conference last week at Newport.

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## Talk scheduled on cannabis initiative

KWSO 91.9 FM will host a talk show with individuals who have been studying the economic potential of cannabis for the Confederated Tribes. The show is currently set for noon this Friday, Oct. 30.

The financial and jobs potential of the still-new cannabis industry are the driving force behind the interest in the tribal cannabis project.

According to research so far, a cannabis growing operation on the reservation would generate more revenue than the other tribal enterprises combined. A conservative estimate sees \$13 million in revenue

the first year of operation.

Warm Springs Ventures and Tribal Council first began discussing this project in 2014, after the state voted to legalize cannabis. A team appointed by Council developed a report on the potential economic benefit to the tribes of a cannabis growing operation.

The idea is for the tribes to own, operate, regulate and manage a cannabis cultivation and extraction facility. The product would be for retail sales off the reservation.

The Warm Springs Ventures team visited with business and agriculture

staff of Strainwise, in Colorado. They talked with a lending company that is interested in working with the tribes and Strainwise on a development project.

Over the course of the year, Ventures and the exploratory team met with federal and state officials regarding the legality of the idea. They found the tribes can legally own and operate a cannabis growing facility on the reservation, and have access to the same markets as off-reservation growers.



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