

A Memorable Referendum



Jayson Smith/Spilyay

The Election Board of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs showed remarkable dedication during the December 17 referendum. The election saw a record turn-out of voters; and the Election Board team worked over-time, skipping meals, and staying on the job from

early morning into election night. Board members Beulah Tsumpti and Arlita Rhoan met with Tribal Council after the referendum. With the increasing number of tribal member voters, they said, the board may need some help with future elections, and Council agreed.

Musician bringing home unique talent

Musical marvel Jeremy Doney will perform in March at the Welcome Home Veterans event.

Jeremy, 26, is an amazing pianist. He has been blind since birth, and has been playing piano since he was 9.

He first began playing while at the Oregon School for the Blind.

When Jeremy's natural talent became evident to the school staff, they provided him with formal lessons from professional teachers.

Jeremy is the son of Lenora Starr and Orlando Doney. He lived



Courtesy photo.

Jeremy Doney at keyboard

in Warm Springs until moving to Salem. His first public performance

was in 2001, at the Disability Employment Awards Ceremony at the State Capitol in Salem.

Over the past 15 years he has played many concerts, including at the Arlene Schnitzer Hall in Portland.

The CD of Jeremy's piano music is *In the Garden*.

If you are interested in contacting Jeremy about his performances, or to obtain a CD of his music, contact Susan Guerin.

Or call Elizabeth Reed Owens at 503-428-8457.

Fitness winners

The November Fitness Challenge was a great success. This year the event was organized by the Community Wellness Team and the Diabetes Prevention Program. The team announced the awards at the Dec. 11 luncheon. The first-place winner was Team Platypus from Early Childhood Education.

Second place went to Finance from tribal administration. And third went to Social Services. Everybody who participates is a winner for getting active and healthy.

"We thank you all for participating—keep it up," says Montell Elliot, of Diabetes Prevention.

Community meeting on Tesoro-Savage

Shayleen Macy invites the Warm Springs tribes and community members to join the fight against "big oil" by attending the Tesoro Savage Oil Terminal hearing in Vancouver, Wash.

The hearing will be on January 5 at the Clark County Event Center, at the fairgrounds.

Shayleen is coordinating carpools to attend the hearing.

She will host a community meeting on Monday, Dec. 28 starting at 6 p.m., at the community center social hall. She explains the points of discussion:

"The Tesoro Savage Oil Terminal project, why we are against it, how the public hearing works, what's offensive about the project to our treaty rights, and the logistics of travel for those who wish to carpool."

Shayleen adds, "Our voices will have more of an impact if we attend in large numbers, and tell officials how this project directly affects our ability to protect salmon habitat, and by reminding them that our treaty rights are in opposition to the Tesoro-Savage oil terminal project's interests."

The Tesoro-Savage project is proposed for the Port of Vancouver.

The project would import 360,000 barrels of crude oil per day, to be transported to refineries on the West Coast.

"That's more oil than everyone in the entire state of Oregon uses. To be clear, this is not oil that is needed for our consumption in the Pacific Northwest. Oregon and Washington already have our oil for consumer use imported."

New Year's Eve at Simnasho

Simnasho will host a New Year's Eve Celebration and Powwow, Thursday, Dec. 31, at the Simnasho Longhouse.

Potluck dinner starts at 6 p.m, with Washat (one-seven), and opening the floor.

The traditional powwow and social dance, and games start at 7:30 p.m.

Specials are a Mother and Baby in Baby Board Recognition; Men's Round Bustle—3 places; and Musical Bench Championship of the World.

A Clown Dance Contest is at 11 p.m., with the cash prizes for first-, second-, and third-places.

Midnight—time to welcome the New Year, with song and new foot prints around the longhouse.

Everyone is welcome to this family event, sponsored by the members of the Simnasho Community. For more information contact Captain, 541-553-7014.

Language award: teaching from k- through college

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Her grandmothers Madeline McInturff and Gladys Thompson were fluent speakers. Val heard native speech from other elders in the community as well, Maryann Meanus, Beatrice Scott, Adeline Miller and Millie Colwash, for instance.

As a child Val would hear the Kiksht words and phrases—"be careful," as an example—and then later, while studying the language, she again came upon these

same words and phrases.

There are no longer any fluent speakers of the Kiksht language. But Culture and Heritage has hundreds of hours of the spoken language, and there are teachers who are dedicated to preserving Kiksht.

They teach the language at the Warm Springs Academy, Madras High School, and at Central Oregon Community College. Among the three schools, there are about 90 students of the language.

On the Warm Springs Reservation, the Numu language has maybe one fluent speaker, though there are speakers among the Burns-Paiute. The Ichishkeen language has about 45 fluent speakers.

While away at school, Val learned that many tribes in the U.S. have no trace of their languages. And this has helped inspire her work at Culture and Heritage.

Val first came to the Culture and Heritage Department in 1996. She began as a

computer programmer, became a teacher, and then language coordinator. "But I quickly found that I didn't have all the knowledge to write successful grants," Val says.

So she went to Haskell Indian Nations University in Kansas, and then earned her Master's Degree in Global Indigenous Language Studies at the University of Kansas. Val then came back to Warm Springs, where she is director of Culture and Heritage.

Referendum

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The idea is so new that the tribes will be making precedents as the project goes along. The federal response will be a key question.

The tribes really are just asking to be treated equally, said Councilmen Reuben Henry.

The people of the state of Oregon voted to legalize marijuana, and federal offi-

cial are respecting that decision, Councilman Scott Moses said. Now the people of the Confederated Tribes have voted, and the same rule should apply, he said.

Councilman Kahseuss Jackson, and Councilwoman Evaline Patt commended Ventures, Election Board, volunteers and tribal voters for their participation in the referendum.

Baseball

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He was batting fourth or fifth during the most recent World Series tournament.

Andy is the adolescent after-care specialist and recovery mentor at Community Counseling. This is his sixth

year on the job. Before that he worked at the Recreation Department for 24 years.

For now he has some time to think about making a run at another Championship. The 2016 season starts in April.

A Birthday Wish...

We wish our daughter, sister, auntie, cousin Delberta Priscilia Williams a Happy 14th Birthday. God has blessed us with you, you're special to us

all. Love, Mom, Dad, Hilbert, Harriet, Raymond, Warner Jr., your whole fam bam.

4202 Holliday St. Call 541-615-0555

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