

# Adoption election candidates

## Adoption Letter for Nakomis Rivera (Smith).

Nakomis is directly connected to our Tribe here in Warm Springs. I'm his mother, my name is Shasta Smith.

I am a tribal member, born and raised. His grandparents are Frank Smith of the Warm Springs Tribes and Shirley Eder (also a tribal member at another tribe).

His great-grandparents from Warm Springs are the late atwai Victoria Charley Smith and Claude Smith Sr. His great-great grandparents are atwai Wesley Smith and Annie Jackson, and Frank Charley and Clara

Culpus.

Nakomis is an active nine-year-old. He enjoys hunting, fishing, picking berries, digging roots and attending Warm Springs community events, ceremonies and celebrations.

In his young life he has become quite familiar with Sahaptin words. He has a great sense of humor in him with a love for life and laughter. He continues to build a strong connection with his friends and relatives here on the reservation.

Thank you for voting for your relative Nakomis, and please vote for all the other relatives on the list, they are our future!



My name is Kadie Rose Manion and I am a direct descendent of the Brunoe family. My grandmother is Urbana Brunoe Manion, and my father is Edwin Dean Manion. I lived in Warm Springs with my father on 2520 Looksh St. for three years.

My mother, atwai Kelli Ann Muskopf, worked in Tribal Court, Housing, and in computer training here on the reservation for 10 years. I also went to the Early Childhood Education

Center in Warm Springs before starting kindergarten in Madras, where my mother lived.

My sister, Marlanea Lynn Manion, is an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. I am currently living in Eugene, attending the University of Oregon. I am in my fourth year of school, and I am studying Sociology and Environmental Studies. My current address is 532 Lincoln St., apt. A, Eugene, 97401.



My name is Soraya Yvana Mendez. My given Indian name is "Yaxhla." My mother is Joy Ramirez (Soto). My maternal grandmother is Yvonne Tapedo (Arthur), my maternal grandparents were McKinley and Jessie Arthur. I am 17 years old and a senior at Madras High School. I have been lucky enough to participate in the Language Bowl a few years, and also been a part of the Native American Language program, also known as NILI focusing on Sahaptin.

I have participated in cheer leading, and have been involved in the JROTC program during my high school years. One of my accomplishments I would like to share is I am a JROTC Cadet Captain. I have received the National Daughters of the American Revolution for Patriotism, Military and academic excellence. My ribbons in-

clude LET year, drill team, color guard, PT, community service, personal appearance, orienting, JCLC, Varsity Athletics, JROTC Athletics.

I enjoy Jingle Dress dancing at powwows and meeting new people each time. I do beadwork along with my mother, sister, aunt and grandma, and enjoy the time when I find it in my busy schedule. Traveling, photography, contemporary dance, camping and the outdoors are just a few of my many interests. I have worked at the Kah-Nee-Ta Resort for a few years.

Warm Springs is my home and I am always proud to represent Warm Springs in everything I do. If I am able to become a tribal member, it will open many doors for me—through education, and also being able to hunt and fish along with friends and family members.

**Soraya Yvana Mendez**

My name is Lea Sally Littleleaf Kirk. I am the daughter of Charles Littleleaf Kirk, granddaughter of Lolita Greeley and great granddaughter of James Greeley and Merle Scott. Some of my bloodline aunts and uncles are

Roberta Kirk, Olivia Wallulatum, Radine Billy, Maria Godines, Tony Kirk and Elton Greeley.

Becoming a tribal member would give me a chance to learn from, and re-establish bonds with my Native culture and family. I would like to feel more connected to tradition, to understand who I come from, and share who I have become with my family. I would like to feel welcome on tribal land, contribute to community and protect the legacy of our elders and what they can pass on to us in knowledge of our language and culture.

I am 26 years old and grew up in Portland. For the past ten years I have pursued and completed

apprenticeships in different art mediums such as iron forge work, graphic design, clay sculpture, glass artistry and bicycle fabrication. I have presented my art in the Portland art community galleries, national trade shows and online.

I am filled with love for my Native family, with the support of my people behind me, and to be recognized as an enrolled tribal member would help me to achieve my own goals and achieve the future goals of our tribe at the collective level. I am asking for this recognition to pursue education and art, and love for my family.

Please vote for me, and my family. You will find me to be supportive, hardworking and motivated for the future of the Warm Springs people and youth, our history and culture and art.

Thank you for reading.  
**Lea Sally Littleleaf Kirk**

To the community of Warm Springs,

My name is Deon Lorenzo Culpus. I have a sister and one brother. My parents are Julia Culpus and Esten Culpus, both enrolled members of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. My grandparents are Francelia Miller, Esther Kalama and Jonathan Culpus Sr. My great grandparents are the late Dora McBride and Earl Miller, the late Kip Culpus and atwai Hilda Meanus-Culpus, and the late Evangeline Switzler and Ross Ricky Kalama Sr.

I have lived on the Warm Springs Reservation since I was 4 years old, and still reside here. I attended Warm Springs Elementary, Jefferson County Middle School, and Madras High School. I participated in the SMILE Club while in Warm Springs El-



ementary, as well as in middle school. I have lettered in tennis at MHS, as well as made varsity.

I am currently on track to graduate my senior year at Madras High School. I have worked as a lifeguard at Kah-Nee-Ta Resort the last two seasons, and currently I work weekends and holidays during my time in school until summer break, then I will be working full hours. I plan to attend college after I graduate from high school.

**Deon Lorenzo Culpus**

To the community of Warm Springs,

My name is Thalia Rose Culpus. I have two brothers. My parents are Julia Culpus and Esten Culpus, both enrolled members of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. My grandparents are Francelia Miller, Esther Kalama and Jonathan Culpus Sr. My great grandparents are the late Dora McBride and Earl Miller, the late Kip Culpus and atwai Hilda Meanus-Culpus, and the late Evangeline Switzler and Ross Ricky Kalama Sr.

I have lived on the Warm Springs Reservation since I was 2 years old, and still reside here. I started day care here in Warm Springs at ECE, in

which I was a part of the tribal day-care program. I attended Warm Springs Elementary, Jefferson County Middle School, the Warm Springs k-8 Academy, and I am currently a freshman at Madras High School. I have played softball for WSNLL the last four years, as well as made All Stars to help represent Warm Springs in the District and State tournaments. I am currently playing for the WSNLL and the Madras High School JV softball team in my free time. I worked at Kah-Nee-Ta Resort last summer, and hopeful to return again this season.

**Thalia Rose Culpus**

## Please vote yes for us.

Vote yes for my brother Charles Jerome Chaplin and me, Joseph Alex Chaplin... Dawn Osmond is our mother. Grandsons to Delores Dolly Brunoe-Garcia, and Lupe Samuels is our Great Aunt. We are related to the Macys and Brunoes... Love you

Vinson Macy. He is our god father. It's been a lifelong dream of ours to be a part of a great tradition, as we are Wasco. We are descendants of Billy Chinoook. Please vote for us and all on the ballot to make our lifelong dream a reality.

**Joseph Alex Chaplin and Charles Jerome Chaplin.**

*Vote on June 13!*

*The Tribal Adoption Election*



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Adriel Adrian Pineda-Soto