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June - Atixan - Summer - Shatm

Management change at Indian Head

The Indian Head Casino Board of Directors is in the process of hiring a new general manager, as the previous manager Jeffrey Carstensen has taken a new position at Rolling Hills Casino in Corning, California. Mr. Carstensen was with Indian Head Casino for several years, starting as the chief financial officer before becoming the general manager.

As general manager he oversaw the casino operation, and also the development of the Plateau Travel Plaza, as approved by the gaming board and Tribal Council. And over these past two-plus years Castensen has managed the casino through the many turbulent pandemic episodes. Mr. Carstensen thanked the tribes and community for his years here with the gaming enterprise. In turn, board members wished him well and thanked him for his service.

As the board considers candidates for the new lead management position, a number of other positions at the casino are also available. Openings are advertising for positions from cage cashier to cooks, custodial, finance positions, bartender, Players Club Ambassador and security to name some. As an idea of what it might be like working at the casino, here is an employee testimonial from Samuel Wolfe, Security supervisor:

"I started my employment here in 2004. I love my job, as it gives me years of experience and develops strong relationships I believe are the foundation of everything I do, both professionally and personally. My job comes with a good benefits package, retirement and accident insurance.

"Since I have been here I have met a lot of new customers and coworkers who are local and from out of state. If you are looking for a career meeting people and being part of company that takes care of each other, then come to Warm Springs Casino Enterprises. I'll be seeing you soon..."

You can learn more at indianheadcasino.com

Pelton-Round Butte Fisheries Workshop now in 28th year

The Twenty-Eight Annual Pelton Round Butte Fisheries Workshop is coming up this summer.

The 2022 workshop will be hosted in person at OSU-Cascades in Bend, as well as virtually on Zoom. This event is an opportunity to hear the latest updates directly from biologists, restoration project managers and other experts in the Deschutes River Basin.

This will be a co-presentation of the Confederated Tribes' Power and Water Enterprise, and Portland General Electric.

See the website for information and to register: portlandgeneral.com

MHS, Bridges graduations on Saturday

Two years ago this month there was no graduation ceremony at all for the graduating Class of 2020. Last year the ceremony was a kind of drive-by event, where the students one by one would drive up in the family vehicle, get out for a minute or two, receive the diploma and return to the vehicle. All of this, of course, was because of covid.

This year finally Graduation Day will be a return to normal, with family and friends invited to the milestone event in the lives of the graduating Class of 2022.

The Madras High School and Bridges High School graduation ceremonies will be this Saturday, June 4. The ceremony will start at 9 a.m. at the school athletic field. Graduates need to arrive at 8 a.m. at the Performing Arts Center to prepare.

Gates for guests will also open at 8 a.m. The graduation ceremony will also be live-streamed and recorded for family and friends to enjoy. The Warm Springs Community Parade honoring all Head Start to college graduates is coming up on Sunday, June 5 starting at 11:30 a.m. (see pages 4 and 5 for more).

Senior receives prestigious scholarship

A Madras High School senior will be heading to the University of Oregon after receiving a scholarship from the Ford Foundation.

Christina Thomas was born and raised in Warm Springs: She is one of only 130 students selected to receive this scholarship, which will cover 90 percent of unmet college costs.

"I was super excited and I feel super blessed obviously," Ms. Thomas says. "I am very grateful and fortunate for it."

Throughout her time in the Jefferson County School District, Christina has been an active student. She is involved with the National Honor Society, Leadership, Yearbook, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Key Club and Art Club.

As a student-athlete, she played volleyball all four years at the high school, and played tennis for the last two. Before picking up the racket, she was part of the track team.

Ms. Thomas also served as the student representative to the district school board. She would give the monthly reports to the



Courtesy 509J Communications

Christina Thomas will be going to the U of O on scholarship.

board, letting them know everything that was happening at Madras High School.

"At college I think I'm going to miss the support I have here," she says. "All my teachers know me, and I know all my teachers. I'm going to miss my family."

She plans on going the pre-med route and studying biochemistry while attending Oregon. Once she finishes that, she plans on attending medical school at the University of Washington.

"I want to become a physician, and I want to advocate for

more rural, Native American families, like the ones in my community," she says.

"There's just not a lot of representation in the medical field, and I think it's really important to be a role model, to kind of set a standard."

Ms. Thomas credits a number of teachers and staff members who have helped her along the way. She mentions especially Sam Loza, who runs the MHS Future Center. And above all she gives the credit to her mom, Shirelle Thomas.

Rare academic achievement for Master's grad

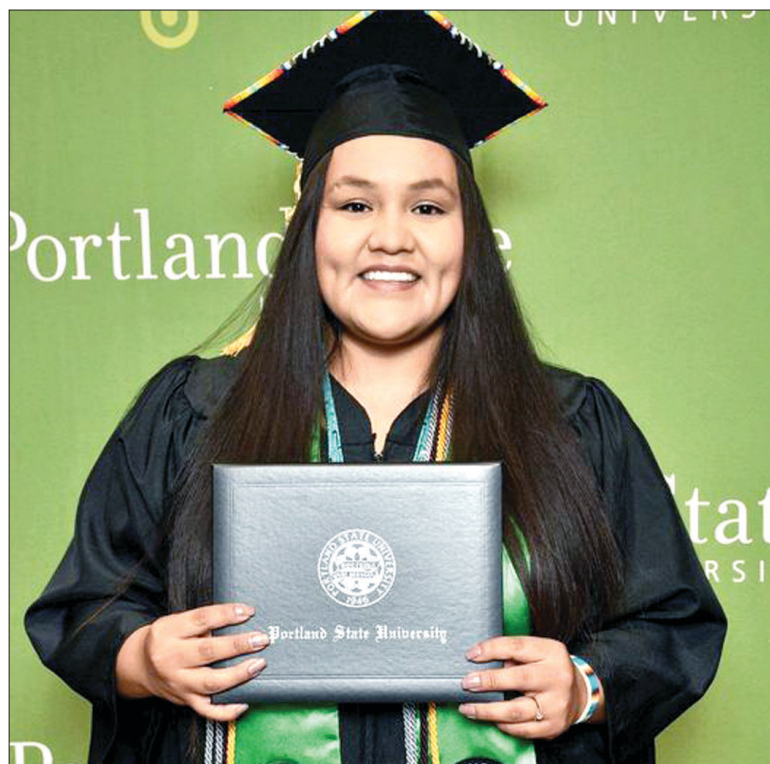
Amanda Squiemphen-Yazzie was initiated recently into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society.

Ms. Squiemphen-Yazzie was initiated at Portland State University, where she is receiving her Master's in Social Work Degree. Phi Kappa Phi membership is by invitation only, and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership.

Upon the occasion Amanda comments to family and friends:

"I want to send my deepest gratitude to you and say 'Kwalánuushamatash tlaaxw inmíma naymuma'—which means 'Thank you to all my relations.'"

"I cannot say thank you enough for all the support you have unselfishly shown me



Courtesy PSU

Amanda Squiemphen-Yazzie, Phi-Kappa-Phi inductee.

while I was going through grad school. Your words of encouragement, love, and prayers are what

got me to this point." She continues:

"And as I reach this next mile-

stone in my life, I cannot help but reflect on my lived experiences and what it took for me to get here, and I can't imagine getting to this point without you.

"There are not enough words to show my appreciation and gratitude to each of you who has made such a profound impact on my life and supported me through this journey."

Family, friends and community members are invited to attend the Sunday, June 12 Portland State University Commencement ceremony. You can find tickets at:

pdx.edu/commencement/
Amanda's initiation into Phi Kappa Phi is a rare academic achievement, as noted by Carroll Dick, tribal Higher Education coordinator.

"Congratulations to Amanda and all her hard work and dedication. We are very proud of her!" Carroll said.

See **ACHIEVEMENT** on 2

Tribal Council agenda items for the month of June

The following are items coming up on the June 2022 Tribal Council agenda (subject to change at Council discretion):

Monday, June 6

9 a.m.: Bureau of Indian Affairs update with Brenda Bremner, BIA superintendent.

dent.

9:30: Bureau of Trust Fund Administration update with Kevin Moore.

10: Realty items with Carmen Parkins and James Halliday.

10:30: Legislative update calls, federal and state.

11:30: Covid-19 update with

the Response Team.

1:30 p.m.: Tribal attorney updates.

3:30: Indian Health Service update with Hyllis Dauphinais, clinic CEO.

4: Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission invoicing and discussion with Laura Gephart of the commission.

Tuesday, June 7

9 a.m.: Warm Springs Power and Water Enterprise update with Mike Lofting, interim general manager.

9:30: Museum at Warm Springs update with Liz Woody, director.

10: Warm Springs Composite Product update with Jacob Coochise.

See **COUNCIL AGENDA** on 2

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Total cash & prizes in June. See Players' Club for details.