



Spilyay Tymoo

Coyote News, est. 1976

May 29, 2024 – Vol. 49, No. 11

May – Xawit'an – Spring - Wawaxam

PO Box 489
Warm Springs, OR 97761

ECR WSS
Postal Patron

U.S. Postage
PRSR STD
Warm Springs, OR 97761

Jefferson Greene wins Chieftain vote

Jefferson Greene received the most votes, with 204, during the recent Wasco Chieftainship special election of the Agency District.

Wissie Smith received 117 votes. Alvis Smith III received 93 votes, followed by John Katchia Sr. with 64 votes. Garland Brunoe had 48 votes; and Leona Ike and Dan Martinez each tallied 29 votes.

The Election Board of the Confederated Tribes presented the results of the May 15 special election to the Agency District Tribal Council members.

There were a total of 585 ballots counted from both absentee and in-person voting. There were two questions on the ballot.

The first question was for selection of the Wasco Chief, results above. The second question on the ballot passed with 333 'yes' votes to 232 'no' votes. This quesiton asked:

"If in the future, the duly elected Agency District (Wasco) Chief should be absent from the Tribal Council for a period of 60 days, or fall ill or otherwise become unable to fulfill his official duties, or resign from the position of Agency District Chief, then the duly elected Agency District Tribal Council representatives at that time may appoint the surviving candidate from this election that received the most votes to act as interim Agency District (Wasco) Chief to serve on the Tribal Council for a period not to exceed 18 months, or until a permanent successor is selected by the Agency District Wasco people."

Coming up at Tribal Council

The following are some of the items coming up on the Tribal Council agenda during the month of June, subject to change at Council discretion:

Monday, June 3

- Invocation
- 9 a.m.: Bureau of Indian Affairs update with the acting superintendent.
- 10: Bureau of Trust Funds Administration update with Kevin Moore.
- 11: Legislative update calls, federal and state.
- 1:30 p.m.: Tribal attorneys updates.

Tuesday, June 4

- 9 a.m.: Warm Springs Police Department update with Nancy Seyler, Public Safety.
- 10: Kah-Nee-Ta update with Jim Souers, Warm Springs Economic Development.
- 11: Telco update with Tim York.

Council Agenda continues on 6

The 2024 Student Language Knowledge Bowl

Culture and Heritage and the Warm Springs Academy hosted the 2024 Language Knowledge Bowl last week at the Academy.

The event was in two sessions, the first for the younger students, and the second session for older language students.

The Language teachers of Culture and Heritage teach the traditional languages at both the Academy and the high school; and the Language Knowledge



D. McMechan/Spilyay

Bowl is a chance to see how the students are progressing.

At the beginning of the day, Dallas Winishut of Culture and Heritage gave the Opening Song, and Radine Johnson gave the welcoming remarks. Lorraine Suppah was the moderator. (Look for the results of the Language Knowledge in the next Spilyay).

The teams answered questions in small groups around the Academy gymnasium.

Museum to host Portraits in Red exhibit

The Museum at Warm Springs in June will present *Portraits in Red: Missing and Murdered Indigenous People Painting Project*.

The exhibit will open at on Wednesday, June 5. This is a national traveling exhibition, sharing in June with the Confederated Tribes and the museum 40 paintings by Nayana LaFond, focusing on missing and murdered Indigenous relatives.

The public is invited to the opening reception on June 5, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

About the exhibition

Behind each of the paintings is the voice of an Indigenous person who has suffered the impact of violence.

Ninety-eight percent of Native people experience violence during their lifetime. Native women face murder rates 11 times the national average.

These crimes are under-reported by media and under-prosecuted by law enforcement. Ms. LaFond's project brings visibility to this ongoing crisis.

Her painting project began in 2020 with one painting, *Lauraina in Red*, created for the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls. The day is observed on May 5 and now known as Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons Awareness Day. Since 2020 Ms. LaFond



Shayla in Red by the artist Nayana LaFond. The exhibit is coming to the Museum at Warm Springs, honoring Missing and Murdered Indigenous relatives. Shayla is from Little Black Bear First Nation in Canada. Acrylic on canvas. Photograph was a collaboration between photographer Wayne Slinn and Indigenous makeup artist JJ Vester Penny to help bring awareness to the issue. Courtesy Nayana LaFond.

Painted more than 50 commissioned portraits. As of February of this year, she has shown 110 completed paintings.

Every portrait is of someone who is missing, was murdered, sur-

vived, a family member or friend, or an activist-hero fighting for the cause.

Ms. LaFond hopes to make sure the missing and dead are never forgotten, to raise awareness about

this serious issue, and to provide help with healing to the families.

About the artist

Nayana LaFond is a full-time multi-disciplinary artist and activist who resides with her child in Western Massachusetts.

She attended Greenfield Community College for Fine Art, and Massachusetts College of Art for Photography, then dropped out to become a full-time painter.

Her paintings and sculptures can be seen in galleries and museums around the world. Her project, *Missing and Murdered Indigenous People Painting Project*, has gained her international acclaim. The project is currently on display in museums around North America, including a Pacific Northwest Coast tour, a tour through the Institute of American Indian Studies Museum and more.

Nayana has also been a curator and community arts organizer for more than 20 years, including serving as the former founding chief curator for The Whitney Center for the Arts in Massachusetts.

She sits on the boards of several arts organizations, including as executive board member of Artist Organized Art in New York City. Nayana is a citizen of the Métis Nation of Ontario, Canada.

Academy weather balloon launch

Students at the Warm Springs Academy helped launch a weather balloon. For the project they worked with Academy teacher Karen Young, and students from Sisters High School. The older students were with the RISE—Research in Sisters Environments—program. The balloon project was funded by a grant from Batelle. The balloon reached more than 85,000 feet, into the stratosphere. It flew for two hours



D. McMechan/Spilyay

Students, teachers and support staff last week assisted with the launch of a weather balloon, equipped with meteorological equipment.

before coming back to earth. A chase team was sent to retrieve it. The event was also supported by Steven Peterzen, of Istar based in Bend, who guided the older students in mentoring the younger ones.

The students learned about the durability of stratospheric weather balloons, the importance of the data collected, and how science and engineering can be applied outside of school.

With the guidance of science teacher Karen Young of the Academy, the eighth-grade students explored a wide array of food-based science experiments, including skittles, marshmallows, and lunch meat that they sent up on the payload.



8th Annual Car Show

JUNE 15TH • 10AM - 3PM



2023 Best In Show • '33 Ford Roadster • Wally & Judy Belt • Salem, OR

REGISTRATION FORMS AT [IndianHeadCasino.com](https://www.IndianHeadCasino.com) or **Players' Club!**