

TeleCo Corner

New employees, office for teleco

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Progress on the Warm Springs telecom continues at a rapid pace.

With our newly remodeled building nearing completion, new staff hired, technology facilities ordered and regulatory progress made, we are getting closer to the fall date of beginning to offer service on the reservation. Service will begin with test customers to ensure that once offered to tribal members, all problems will be worked out and the telephone and internet services will operate smoothly.

New employees

Two newly hired employees soon will be joining Jose Matanane, operations manager, as full time staff.

Tribal member Danica Greene, formerly the tribal administration Mail and Reception supervisor, has been appointed customer service manager. Danica was responsible for the tribes' land-line and mobile phone service.

Gabriel Walker, presently a customer service specialist at T-Mobile, will join Warm Springs Teleco as the new sales and marketing coordinator. Gabe was responsible for customer retention at T-Mobile.

With the help of Corey Clements and Dana Hurtado, from Job Creation, a search to fill the customer service manager position began in earnest last month.

Fourteen tribal applicants were interviewed for the position, with Danica being hired for customer service and Gabe being hired for sales and marketing.

Both of them are highly qualified with many years of

telecommunications expertise.

They will be on the front lines of sales and service for customers and the face of the company when you walk through the front door of the teleco headquarters.

New staff, including additional customer services reps, will continue to be hired over the coming months. Positions will be posted in the Spilyay Tymoo.

Central office

In addition to the new staff, the new central office and teleco headquarters is nearing completion.

Located in the old apparel factory in the industrial park, the building has been transformed into a beautiful facility that will be the home of the teleco company.

The building will have three main areas. First are the administrative offices for the staff, including the accounting team.

Then there is the customer service area that will enable customers to come into the building to order new services, pay their bills, or discuss problems with their service with knowledgeable staff.

In addition to the administration and customer service sections, the building will house the technology that runs the company.

A new "soft switch" has been ordered and should be installed sometime in October. This switch is essentially the electronic brains of the operation.

Not only will it switch all the telephone calls so that you can call anywhere in the world through these facilities, it also processes data packets for advanced services like Voice Over IP.

We purchased a top of the line switch so that this company will be "carrier class," competi-

ETC certification will allow qualified tribal members to receive phone service at a very big discount.

tive with any top teleco company anywhere in the world. Jose Matanane's office and the technology staff will be housed in this section.

ETC certification

Last but not least important, are the regulatory certifications that are critical for this business.

It is definitely the part of this project that is the least interesting for most people, but is essential.

A few weeks back we filed for the "Eligible Telecommunications Carrier" or "ETC" certification, that when issued, will enable us to receive subsidies from the Oregon Universal Service Fund.

It will also enable us to offer Lifeline/Link-up, so that qualified tribal members can receive phone service at a very big discount.

This certification process is well underway and no companies have protested our application to date.

Later this week, a group will meet with Oregon Public Utility Commission (PUC) staff to answer questions before the application is brought to the Commission for a vote. Fingers crossed this all goes smoothly.

More on the Lifeline/Link-up services once we hear from the PUC regarding this certification.

As you can see, we are moving along and will continue to provide information as we get closer to offering service.

Please, respect community garden



The growers at the community garden are reminding people that the produce that is growing at the garden is for the people who are working on the garden. To participate in the gardening, call Edmund Francis, diabetes prevention lifestyle coach, at 541-553-2460.

Art of Cake Decoration classes start Sept. 12

The Warm Springs Recreation Department will present the Art of Cake Decoration in September.

The class will be from 5:30-7 p.m. on Thursdays.

The first class is Sept. 12, and the agenda include: class registration, introducing decorating tools, cake recipes, icing recipes, cake preparation (baking, leveling, torting), filling the layers, and icing the cake.

The second class is on Sept. 19 and the agenda is: review, make buttercream icing, make royal icing, practice making flowers, practice making leaves, practice making letters.

The third class is on Sept. 24 and the agenda is: review, make decorations, cake preparation, decorate a cake.

The fourth class is on Oct. 3 and include: review, make fondant, color fondant, make fon-

dant decorations, and cover a cake with fondant.

The fifth and final class is on Oct. 10, and the agenda is: review, decorate Halloween cup cakes, receive certificate of class participation.

The class will be taught by cake decorator Yara Santos. To sign up call Carol at 541-553-3243; or 541-460-0939.

First ten to sign up; cost is \$10 per class to cover supplies.

HOPE diabetes program offers twice-monthly classes

The Warm Springs Diabetes Program is now offering diabetes classes, Healthy Outcomes Promoted by Education (HOPE) two times a month.

The same topics will cycle every two months. Classes are the second and fourth Tuesday every month, from 11 a.m. to 12 noon with a light lunch afterwards and a

short walk. Class topics:

Sept. 13: What is diabetes? Complications of diabetes.

Sept. 20: Being active. Coping with diabetes.

Oct. 11: Taking Diabetes Medications. High and low blood sugars, sick day management

HOPE Glucometer class every Monday at 2 p.m., includes high and low blood sug-

ars education.

The Diabetes Awareness Dinner in September will be on Sept. 20. The menu will be: chicken stir fry with brown rice, frozen and canned fruit and crystal light.

Education topic: Fitness at all levels, and how it affects diabetes, presented by Ron Berry and Edmund Francis.

Remembering Warren "Rudy" Sta-Xo-Iai" Clements

(Note, this article was scheduled for release on Dec. 28, 2010, but due to my hospitalization, it didn't happen. Anna.)

December 28, 2010 marked the fifth anniversary of the late atwai Rudy's passing. The family, Anna, Shayla and Jake would finally like to share our feelings and deepest appreciation and sincere gratitude for the many memorials and tributes that were given Rudy by all the people, friends and relatives expressing themselves.

First of all, thank you KWSO for remembering Rudy on Dec. 28, 2010, as I tuned in early that morning by comments, song and tribute. The loss of our beloved had touched many people, not just family. As many of you know, Rudy touched and befriended many people. Since his departure, the tremendous number of people who knew and cared about him have come forward with condolence cards, letters, phone calls and comments, as we met in different places. There were so many, it was overwhelming. I truly thank everyone for their kind and generous thoughts, and during the funeral for donations, food, material items, financial help, cooks, drummers and singers. Thank you to the late Alvis Smith Sr. for the 10 bell count, a boxing tradition, as Rudy boxed as a youngster. And many wonderful words expressed by many speakers.

Because he touched so many people's lives, many asked for



Photo courtesy of Anna Clements.

special honorings and tributes of him. Many of these special honorings and tributes were as follows, listed by year, date and event.

Jan. 2006, Cascade Locks Memorial Service. Thank you to the community of Cascade Locks and Mayor Hesgard. We

have been richly blessed by honoring Rudy in such a special way. Welcome by Roger Freeborn, remarks (wonderful words) by Roger Wheatley, Sandra Kelly and Carol York. Quartz Creek Drum for honor/tribute song, along with empty chair placed with Pendleton blanket.

Feb. 2006, Billy Chinook Days at Pelton Dam. Rudy was remembered, as he was always called upon each year as a speaker and presenter of Indian culture and traditional ways. We would like to thank the Wasco dancers for the tribute.

March 2006, Round Butte Dam Overlook Park, Eagle Watch. We truly thank Paul Patton, coordinator, a close friend of Rudy's, who paid tribute with wonderful and special words and with an honor song by Quartz Creek drum. Also, thank you Paul for the gift of an Eagle Watch jacket.

June 25, 2006, Kah-Nee-Ta Resort. The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, and the state of Oregon—Gov. Kulongoski, Proclamation and Resolution setting June 25 as a "Remembrance Day of Warren Rudy Clements." This was overwhelming and one of the highlights of special tributes. Gov. Vic Atiyeh, a close friend of Rudy's, did the honors of presentation with a very moving speech. This was truly powerful. A wholehearted thank you to governors Atiyeh and Kulongoski, the state of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes, and other who paid tribute, honored and remembered Rudy.

Thank you Carlos Calica for drumming and singing the Eagle Dance Song for William Clements, and Jake Frank for special honoring and tribute to Rudy.

Nov. 2006, Bend, All-Indian Holiday Bowling Tour-

nament. We the family sponsored the bowling Ladies doubles and men's singles championships in loving memory of Rudy and Trudee Clements and Becky Quinn, as they had great love and dedication to the sport of bowling. Awards to winners were: embroidered Pendleton jackets, \$1,000 to Ladies Doubles, \$500 Men's Singles. Winners of Ladies Doubles were from Carson City, Nev., Sharon Wood; and from Susanville, Calif., Marissa Hoff.

Winner of the Men's Singles was our local Don Bagley. We sure appreciate all participants. Turnout for the tourney was great.

The Special Honorary Award went to two special people, one lady and one man. The lady winner was Norene Greene. She gave support and encouraged Trudee throughout her growing-up years. She received an embroidered Pendleton jacket. The winner of the men was the late Biff Johnson. He was truly close with Rudy as a friend and relative. They called one another cousin, bowled together many times. Biff received an embroidered Pendleton blanket.

Feb. 7, 2007, Simnasho Memorial and Monument (marker) Unveiling. Thank you Vic Atiyeh, speaker, who had the honor of unveiling the monument. Gov. Atiyeh received a Pendleton blanket. Thank you Joe and Keno Tuckta for wearing and showing of Rudy's traditional buckskin outfit with War Bonnet and Washt outfit during the memo-

rial grand entry. This was a beautiful memorial with showing of the DVD "Life of Rudy," which tells the story, beginning as a baby, throughout his education years, after graduation from college, employment in different areas, many activities, working for his people. Thank you everyone for the contributions of food and help. Thank you to the cooks, the Washat drummers and singers, and the Quartz Creek drum for the memorial song.

Feb. 9, Simnasho, Lincoln's Powwow. Drum and singing contest in loving memory of Rudy and Trudee Clements. Awards: \$6,000 drum contest, plus first-place received Pendleton vests. Winners were Wild Rose drum from the state of Washington; and the Southern Express drum from Calif. There was also a War Bonnet dance and ceremony to pay tribute and honor Rudy. Each of the 12 participants received a gift, beautiful and outstanding bonnets and outfits; ladies shell dress to honor Trudee. Each of the 25 participants received a gift. There was a good turnout with a very colorful display of dresses and hats. Thank you Kenny Scabbyrobe as a speaker, on behalf of the drum contest, and receiving the Pendleton blanket from the empty chair. Wonderful words as usual memorializing Rudy.

(Note: This remembrance will continue in the next Spilyay.)