

# Candle Caused Fire that Destroyed Home, Injured Children

Three young boys were hospitalized for burns, smoke inhalation and lung damage following an early morning house fire November 26 that was believed to have been started by a candle.

Harold Thomas, Jr., 12, Jarod Thomas, 10, and Garret Suppah, 10, were rushed to Mountain View Hospital in Madras after their narrow escape from the burning house belonging to their grandmother, Hazel Suppah.

The Thomas boys were transferred to Emmanuel Hospital in Portland where they are in serious condition with second and third degree burns. Garret is in good condition at Mountain View with first and second degree burns.

Mrs. Suppah and five others sleeping in the West Hills house when the fire started were not injured.

An investigation by State Fire Marshal Bob Berney and interviews conducted by B.I.A. Enforcement Officer Mark Werner have determined that the

blaze was accidental. Apparently the boys had left a candle burning in the basement bedroom where they were sleeping, igniting a mattress. According to Berney the fire must have smoldered and burned for two or three hours before it was detected.

Occupants fled the split-level house through the front and rear doors as flames swept up the stairwell, which acted as a chimney. Next door neighbor Lowell Thompson reported the fire by phone at 3:38 a.m.

When volunteer firemen arrived seven minutes later, the ventilated house was engulfed in flames. It was not until after 5:00 a.m. that the fire was blacked out.

The home, which Mrs. Suppah had purchased only two months ago, was totally destroyed for a loss of \$45,000. Insurance covered the house but not the contents, which were estimated to be worth \$15,000.

A fire shower was held Wednesday for the family.



State Fire Marshal Bob Berney took pictures of Hazel Suppah's house which burned early November 26. Fire started in the rear basement bedroom and spread up the stairwell in the West Hills Split-level.

Spilyay Tymoo Photo by CDS

## Be Fire Safe Over The Holidays

To Keep the holiday season merry, keep fire hazards out.

1. Select a firm, fresh tree, and put it at once in a cool place with its base in water. Before setting it up, cut about an inch off the base to help the tree absorb water, then place the tree in a sturdy stand containing water. To be sure the water level stays about the cut, check it daily.

2. Locate the tree away

from heat and where it won't block exits. Take it down as soon as possible after Christmas. The more it dries out, the more of a hazard it becomes. Don't rely on do-it-yourself flame-proofing treatment.

3. Never use lighted candles on a tree or near any evergreen decorations.

4. Check sets of electric lights closely, for worn insulation, broken plugs, loose bulb

sockets, and use only sets that carry the label of a leading national testing laboratory.

5. Never hang sets of lights on a metallic artificial tree. To avoid shock hazard, use only indirect spot lighting instead. If artificial tree has built-in electrical system, it should be "listed" by a recognized national testing laboratory.

6. Turn off all indoor tree and decorative lights when leaving the house or retiring for the night. Outdoor lights should have special wiring intended for outside use.

7. Use decorations which are non-combustible, such as glass, or which are flame-retardant. Keep natural evergreens and polystyrene decorations away from candles, fireplaces and other open flames.

## Secretarial Course Delayed until January

Space will not be available for the CETA Clerical Training course until January 8, 1979, said assistant CETA director Benson Heath. They are waiting for Tektronix to move into their new facility, freeing up the old plant for the classes.

The eight-month course, to be taught by Trend Systems, Inc., will feature individualized training for both employed and

unemployed secretaries. Evening classes are open to those employed students who cannot get away from their jobs during the day (6-9 p.m.). Daytime classes will be held 9-4.

Interested people are encouraged to apply at the CETA office as early as possible as there are only fifteen slots available.

## Shop Has Beadwork Surplus

The gift shop at the information center has done its job a little too well, according to manager Faye Waheneka. They are flooded with local beadwork and will not be able to buy any more small items until March 1.

Shoppers will find some beaded merchandise on sale between now and Christmas.

Faye said that the shop will be buying beaded moccasins, handbags, and large coin purses,

however. Other handcrafted items that are needed for the inventory are Indian suitcases, cornhusk bags; willow and Klickitat baskets, and porcupine roaches.

Buying will be done on Wednesdays and Thursdays only from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the information center. "I prefer not to buy at home," said Faye.

The information center gift shop is open seven days a week, 9-6.

## People's Opinion

**Question:** What do you think of the early snowfall this year?

**Shirley:** I loved it, I think we really needed it, all right, I think it puts in the holiday spirit to everyone.

**Kate:** It was all right, it's winter and I think we needed it.

**Madeline:** I don't think that there were very many prepared for it. There were a lot of people sliding around on their way to work as the roads were slick. It didn't bother us very much because we bought our snow tires about a month before.

**Jeri C.:** It was devastating,

our carport was not ready for it and caved in. They are still trying to fix it.

**Cheryl T.:** It's spoiling my trip to Salt Lake City, but we are going anyway. Otherwise it's fine, doesn't bother me. Gives me a chance to stay in my warm house.

**S.S.:** I knew it would snow just about the time it did and I was glad to see the first snow flakes for this year. Gives me a good feeling toward the holiday season. You know this only happens once a year. Might be a good year for skiing.

## Police Report

### Kah-Nee-Ta Craft Shop Burglarized, Stolen Items Valued at \$6300

At least eight adults and youths were involved in a 1:00 a.m. break in at the Kah-Nee-Ta Village Craft Shop Saturday, November 25. Jewelry and other gift items with a retail value of \$6300 were stolen after the shop door was kicked in.

Much of the jewelry, found strewn on the ground and stashed under the footbridge, has been recovered. About \$200 worth of valuables were discovered on a youth when he was apprehended by Kah-Nee-Ta security guards shortly after the incident.

The youth, a tribal member, was interviewed and released. A second juvenile suspect implicated seven others in the burglary.

The F.B.I. is conducting the investigation.

#### BUMPER CARS

"It was like the Keystone Cops," said assistant tribal po-

lice chief Dick Montee of a November 26 chase involving driver Tony Aguilar, State Policeman Elmer Wulf, Tribal Patrolman Ray Shike, and a Warm Springs paddy wagon.

Early Sunday morning Wulf called Warm Springs for assistance in the pursuit of Aguilar, who was traveling on Highway 26 from Madras and refused to stop. Ray Shike got as far as the wide spot across the river when Aguilar sped past. Reversing direction, Shike chased Aguilar to milepost 101 north of Warm Springs where Aguilar made a U-turn back toward Warm Springs.

In front of the Chevron Station Aguilar stopped suddenly and Shike rammed him. Shike then pulled in front of Aguilar and they bumped bumpers several times before Shike jumped out. Aguilar locked his door and

Shike attempted to break the window with his flashlight but was unsuccessful as Aguilar escaped.

He was pursued to the trailer court where Aguilar abandoned his vehicle and set out on foot. Shike apprehended him, ending the chase. Aguilar was taken to Madras and charged with driving while under the influence and driving with a suspended license. He was jailed and released pending the hearing.

Shike plans to charge Aguilar with eluding a police officer.

#### STOLEN CAR

A 1969 Pontiac reported stolen in Culver was recovered by Warm Springs patrolman Dean Seyler Saturday morning November 25. Discovered near the tribal garage, the car was registered to Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Crocker of Culver. Police have no suspects.

## Spilyay Tymoo

Coyote News



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