

Kah-Nee-Ta Employee of the Month

Cashier job makes Lillie feel rich

As a relative newcomer to the working world, Lillie Johnson says firmly, "I like it." For the last three years, Lillie has juggled job and family, enjoying both. It is especially gratifying to her to know that Kah-Nee-Ta values her work enough to give her the June Employee of the Month award.

Lillie was recently promoted to Head Cashier after almost a year as a data entry operator. She now accounts for and deposits all the cash coming into the various departments. When asked what she likes best about her job, she responded quickly, "Money! I'm rich every day!"

"At first I didn't think I could handle being responsible for all that money. But I caught on fast and I'm doing pretty good. I handle the money like it's my own."

The cashier also likes the independence of her work. "I'm my own boss," she said, adding that she can arrange her schedule and her days off to suit herself. This makes it possible for her to respond to her two children's needs. Supervisor Charles Nathan commended Lillie for her "conscientiousness" both on the job and at home. "She may have to take her child to the clinic during the day but she'll come in later today her work," he remarked.

Despite her responsibilities at home, Lillie estimates she puts in about 50-60 hours each week at Kah-Nee-Ta. "The Child Development Center helps a lot," she said. Some of



Lillie Johnson

hours are on the weekend, which can be tough, she admits. But she enjoys being at Kah-Nee-Ta and seeing new people

all the time.

It is hard for Lillie to understand why some people dislike working at Kah-Nee-

Ta. "I've heard a lot of things, like they don't pay enough. But it's up to the individual -- they pay good if you work good," she commented.

Her attitude toward Kah-Nee-Ta and her work are obvious. "She always has a smile on her face," said Nathan. Besides being a pleasant co-worker, Lillie is also "very, very reliable," he said. "She's always on time and always calls in when she's sick. And when she finishes her work early she asks if there is other work to be done. This is the kind of person we need because we do get behind."

Before coming to Kah-Nee-Ta Lillie spent a year as a clerk-typist for the B.I.A. forestry department and a year as a keypunch operator in the Tribes' data processing department. Several months at the L.A. Business School prepared her for the working world.

Lillie, a Navajo Indian from Shiprock, New Mexico, graduated from Riverside, a boarding school in Anadarko, Oklahoma, but Warm Springs feels like home. When Lillie isn't working she spends time with her children--Leif, 4, and Cheryl, 6-- attends physical fitness classes (she has lost 50 pounds this year!), and is involved with the Baptist Church.

"Everyday a miracle happens," she remarked. "I think I was meant to be here." Lillie plans to live--and work--in Warm Springs for some time. "I love it!"

Spilyay Tymoo
Indian reps
to look at
solar energy

Representatives from American Indian tribes and the Indian business and development community throughout the United States will meet in Tucson, Arizona, June 21-22, to learn how solar electric technology can benefit American Indian people.

The National Conference on Solar Electric Applications for American Indian Communities is designed to provide basic, practical information about solar electric systems and uses, potential opportunities for American Indian business enterprises and possible Federal funding support for solar electric projects on Indian lands. The two-day conference is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy, the American Indian Science and Engineering Society, and NASA's Lewis Research Center in Cleveland, Ohio.

For many rural American Indian communities, which are remote from a central utility system, this solar technology can bring the benefits of electricity. At Schuchuli, Arizona, a small Papago Indian village 120 miles west of Tucson, solar electric technology is already at work. Since last December, the 15 families of Schuchuli have been using electricity from the sun to provide for water pumping, lighting, refrigeration and other basic needs--the first village in the world to do so!

A highlight for people attending the conference will be a field trip to Schuchuli, where they will receive a unique, first-hand view of this system in operation.

Media representatives are invited to attend either or both days' activities.

For additional registration and program information, contact: Elaine Quayle, NASA-Lewis Research Center (216) 433-4000, Ext. 6135 or Jerry Elliott, American Indian Science and Engineering Society (713) 483-5226

Tribal Court gets more than a facelift

Tribal Court has a new look these days. Bright orange partitions offer a visual clue to some staff and organizational changes that have been made to streamline court business.

Winnie Miller, who is the probate clerk, has been moved to the front desk where she will serve as receptionist and telephone operator as well as dealing with probate matters.

Bernice "Bunny" Werner, who was transferred from the

accounting department May 1 to serve as secretary to juvenile judge Hamilton Greeley, will now be private secretary for Judge Wells and Judge Greeley.

Norma Smith, who is court administrator, has been relieved of her heavy secretarial duties so she can concentrate on her supervisory responsibilities.

Vicki Still is presently the investigator/coordinator but

by next month that position will be extinct. Vicki, as well as all other court personnel, will be versatile, working in different areas of the court.

In fall 1978, Tribal Council requested that a task force be assigned to study the court system. The task force, upon completion of their study, recommended that two new court positions, a legal advisor and a juvenile coordinator, be

added. Both positions will be advertised pending Tribal Council approval.

All those working in the court feel the changes taking place are making their work easier and more efficient. "Now when someone has business, they won't have to stop at each desk," said one employee. "They can finish their business more quickly and confidentially."

On American Heritage Tour
Eighth graders heading east
for 2 1/2 week trip

Five Warm Springs eighth graders are eastward-bound for an American Heritage tour of the country's historical landmarks.

Lillie VanPelt, Cheryl Sutterlee, Roman Suppah, Lucille Gilbert and Willie Bagley, will take off from Portland June 19 with 35 other Oregon junior high schoolers on a two and a half week tour of the east coast.

Of the forty students making the trip, 17 are from the Madras/Warm Springs area. They were selected for the trip on the basis of faculty recommendations to the American Heritage Board. Although sponsored by American Heritage, the students are responsible for

their own costs. Each of the tribal members received \$400 from the tribal council to help with expenses.

The students will first fly to Washington D.C. where they will meet Senators Hatfield and Packwood. While in D.C., the students plan to purchase a wreath to lay upon the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

The students will continue their tour by bus and travel to New York City, Philadelphia and Boston. The Boston Pops, a factory tour and a possible baseball game are on the agenda, as well as the usual tourist attractions.

John Scheideman and Lola Freeman, teachers at Madras Jr. High, will be chaperones on the trip.



For a friend

George Clements presented Rev. and Mrs. Allen Elston with a painting done by Art McConville at a special surprise dinner honoring the Baptist minister. "Mr. Elston Night" was planned as a big "thank you--we love you" for Rev. Elston who has lived in and served Warm Springs for 19 years. Spilyay Tymoo by Stowell