

Editorial E COOSH EEWA: (The way it is)



Letter to the Editor

To The Editor
Dear Tribal Member:

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and my family to your family. My name is Elina Langnese and for nearly a year now I have been working part time as a secretary in the Head Start program. I enjoy working there and being around the children and staff. I have met many of the community people since I began working there and I have enjoyed what time I have spent on community activities. I am looking forward to spending more time in these activities in the future.

My husband Walter, a tribal member better known by most as Spud, and I have lived in Warm Springs for five years. As a child he lived with his Aunt Priscilla and Uncle Dan Macy off and on during summer vacations and worked at Dan's store. We began our married life living at the Hamlet. Spud has been employed at the Warm Springs Police Department during these five years beginning as a patrolman and most recently as an investigator. For the past two and one half years we have made our residence in the Dry Creek Subdivision in our mobile home.

Our child Eric is three and is enrolled in the Head Start/Day Care trailer. He enjoys attending the preschool and talks of his many classroom friends. He also attended the Child Development program as a Toddler and then as a

Strider. Graduation from Day Care was a big moment in his life because now "I'm a big boy," he says. Eric also has a new sister, Tama Fawn, who is three months old and she also attends the Child Development Center.

Eric's Indian heritage includes: Decendent of Billy Chinook, Greatgrandmother Jeanette Brunoe and Grandmother Lupe Garcia (Samuels).

Eric, already at only three, is very interested in the Indian ways. He participated in Pi-Ume-Sha and a powwow at Kah-Nee-Ta. He was very shy and only stood there in his ribbon shirt and moccasins while everyone coaxed him to dance. The will was there. He loves Indian music and is always asking his dad to play it so he can get his hoop (macrame hoop) and dance. As he gets older and with our help, I hope he keeps up his interest in his culture and can help bring pride and esteem to the Confederated Tribes.

I hope this letter of introduction will encourage you and your eligible family members to "get out and vote" on November 15, 1979 for my son, Eric and all the other children and adults that are up for adoption. Thank you for your cooperation. The time you have taken away from your personal lives to help us out is truly appreciated.

Warmest Regards,
Elina Langnese

From the high school counselor More about attendance

by Ron Pinkham

I would like to clarify several items for students and parents concerning attendance, pink slips, and class studies.

Attendance procedures at the high school are: (1) five-day letter sent by individual class teacher, irregardless of excused or unexcused absence; (2) 8½ or 10 day absent conference with parent, student, myself or Vice Principal Henry to show seriousness of absenteeism; (3) Parents of Indian students will receive a copy of a letter sent to the juvenile officer for those unexcused absences; (4) 15 day letter sent for a class absence will result in removal from class to study hall; (5) 15 day full day absences per semester will result in expulsion.

Oregon state laws requires that a student must be in class 85% of the time in order to learn subject matter. A student should perform all class tasks and thereby credit is computed by number of clock hours student is in class.

Therefore, the tribal council and courts feel that students should be in class obtaining the education necessary to further tribal education goals. The

tribal education goals are far more strict than those of Oregon state.

Pink slips or progress reports were issued one and ½ weeks ago. The purposed of these slips are for parent information. Also, the slips let the counselors know who is in academic difficulty. Reasons for many pink slips are varied but all students must be responsible for his academics. Whenever assistance is needed one must ask the teacher, request a parent/teacher conference or see a counselor. All avenues are open to the student, and we would like academic success from all students.

Every 4½ weeks after the quarter begins a pink slip is sent to the parent, then quarter grades are sent. Quarter grades are not permanent. A student has another quarter left to bring up his grades. Fair and ample warning is given the parent and student concerning class progress. Each student is aware of his individual class progress, homework, daily assignments, and other information concerning his class.

Legislature '79

Lawmakers do little on energy policy, nothing on Worker's Compensation

(Editor's note: This is the fourth part of a series in which our State Senator, Ken Jernstedt of Hood River, analyzes the major action of the 1979 Legislature. In this installment, Jernstedt discusses Energy Policy and Worker's Compensation Reform.)

by Ken Jernstedt
State Senator

The Legislature faced four major problems when it convened in January. They were:

- Property tax relief;
- Deterioration of our roads;
- Worker's compensation reform;
- And State energy policy.

The Legislature took major action on property tax relief and highways, but it accomplished little in the way of energy policy, and it accomplished nothing in the area of Worker's Compensation reform.

Workers Compensation

The Worker's Comp question, for the third session in a row, was at the top of the list of priorities for the Legislature. And, for the third session in a row, there was no reform.

The need is obvious. Oregonians presently pay the highest rates in the nation—by far. The state ranked second pays 48 percent less than Oregon.

Not only is our system the costliest in the nation, but it is likely the most cumbersome, confusing and complicated as well. There is absolutely no relationship between price and the performance.

The only action taken by the Legislature which could be described as reform was the passage of legislation, requested by the governor, which places the State Accident Insurance Fund under the control of a five-member Board of Directors appointed by the governor.

Two of the board members must be chosen from the public-at-large, while the remaining members must be contributing employers or their employees.

The governor believes this step will improve the management of SAIF—and the legislature, by overwhelming support, agreed.

While it is agreed this step will save some money, the Legislature approved another measure which will cost employers more by increasing compensation for each "degree" of injury from \$85 to \$100 for those injuries awarded by schedule.

It is uncertain at this point what it will take to get the Legislature to act on the

question of real reform of the Worker's Compensation system. It may be that the impetus for reform will come through an initiative campaign—just as the drive for property tax relief came through the process.

In addition to the loose-ends of Worker's Comp, the next Legislature also will be faced with resolving the energy policy questions which were left dangling by the 1979 session.

Energy action

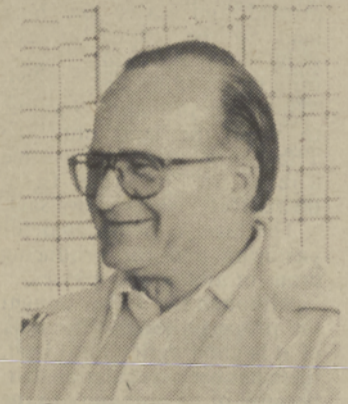
The Legislature's main accomplishments in the energy area came in the form of tax breaks and incentives for development and use of alternative sources of energy.

One measure gives a local property tax exemption and an income tax credit of up to \$1,000 for small-scale energy programs such as geothermal, wind, water or methane gas generating systems. Benefits apply to renters and homeowners, and are also permitted for joint neighborhood projects with the tax credit split among the investors.

Another measure creates a low cost loan program for small-scale local energy projects using renewable resources. This plan would require the issuance of state bonds up to a limit of \$230 million, and it will appear on the ballot in the primary election next May.

Another incentive grants a state tax credit to lending institutions making low-cost loans (6.5 per cent interest) for alternative energy devices costing less than \$10,000.

All these actions will help in conserving energy and in developing alternative sources, but any overall state energy policy must wait until the next session, at which time the Legislature will receive the recommendations of an



Senator Ken Jernstedt

Alternate Energy Development Commission created by this past session.

As a footnote, most of the energy headlines from this past session concerned the question of nuclear power as an energy source. During the course of the session, we faced proposals which would have closed down the Trojan Plant and which would have prevented the construction of the Pebble Springs plant.

Neither of these extremes was adopted. Instead, the Legislature placed a moratorium on future nuclear plant construction until November of 1980.

The battle for the minds and hearts of the citizenry on the nuclear question will likely take place in the November general election, with anti-nuclear forces determined to place an initiative measure on the ballot.

This might be a repeat of the 1976 election—when Oregonians refused to approve a ballot measure which would have had the effect of closing the door forever to the use of nuclear power as an energy source to meet Oregon's expanding needs.

(Next: State Government under the Atiyeh Administration.)

Tribal Council Agenda

October 22 Tribal Council Meeting, 9:30 a.m.

WSFPI Board Meeting/Kah-Nee-Ta

October 23 Tribal Council Meeting

1. 8:30 a.m. Field Trip/Forestry

October 24 Tribal Council Meeting, 9:30 a.m.

1. 10:00 a.m. 509-J- Darrel Wright

2. 1:30 p.m. Realty

3. 3:00 p.m. Credit Union-Bob Finch

October 29 Tribal Council Meeting, 9:30 a.m.

1. 10:00 a.m. Education Needs Assessment

2. 3:00 p.m. 1980 Administrative Fees Budget-Ken Englebretson

October 30 Tribal Council Meeting, 9:30 a.m.

1. 10:00 a.m. Management Report

To be scheduled: Veterans Memorial & Committee Task Force Report (November)

General Councils to be scheduled:

Fish & Wildlife

Health & Welfare

N.C.A.I. Delegates Reports