

There is someone to turn to—

Two new Legal Aid advocates are there to help

by Marsha Shewczyk

A juvenile is in trouble for vandalizing a parked automobile. He may be innocent or he may be guilty. Whatever the truth is, he's alone. He's left helpless, he believes, before the law. Who can help him now?

Legal Aid exists precisely for the purpose of being that someone to turn to. It exists to aid adults and juvenile alike. Its function, according to municipal branch manager, Rudy Clements, is "provide legal assistance to people who are being arraigned for violating a law and to see that those arraigned are treated fairly."

Hidden away behind the old administration building in Warm Springs, Daisy Ike and two new legal aid advocates are finally catching up on the case load. Anita Jackson is fast becoming an expert on juvenile cases and James Armstrong is taking care of the adult criminal case load along with Daisy. With three legal aid advocates clients are getting the case research they deserve and more people can be helped.

Anita is the newest legal aid officer. She is from Warm Springs and recently, she had been living in Portland. She attended Portland State University for a while and worked as technical secretary



Anita Jackson and James Armstrong are the newest members of the Legal Aid team. They are there to assist tribal members who might need legal service or advice.

for the Housing Authority. Her only complaint about her new job is not having enough office furniture. But, it's on its way.

Winning is the best part of the job according to Anita. "To see that the kids get off." She is interested in seeing the kids rehabilitated rather than punished. She tries to search out the source of their problem. Sometimes it is not only the

child who is at fault. She may discover a need for counseling in the family, or education about drugs or simply a change of attitude may be necessary. There are times, also, when parents may be the ones who really need help. It may be their attitude that is causing the trouble. They may see the child as "guilty until proven innocent," or they may not be

giving a child enough attention or just not caring.

Initially, the kids feel that no matter what they say no one will believe them. But Anita is there, believing them. She says, "if the kids need it, Legal Aid will help." She goes to all the arraignments involving juveniles to offer her help. If she knows about a preliminary hearing she'll be there, too. "I like to go to them all," so "they know I'm there to help." While at an arraignment she will often advise a juvenile to plead not guilty hoping to research the case thoroughly enough to find the root of the problem and the circumstances of the incident. She watches out for biases on the part of the judges and tries "to make the juvenile feel at ease."

The major part of Anita's case load deals with truancies and runaways. If the problem gets to the point where legal aid is necessary, she wants juveniles to know that Legal Aid is available; "I hope that more kids come."

Adults in need of legal assistance are also invited to Legal Aid for counsel. James Armstrong has been with Legal Aid since November and he lightens Daisy's work load by sharing adult criminal cases with her. His case load consists of disorderly conduct complaints, contempt of court cases, divorces, traffic violations and driving while under the influence of

intoxicant violations.

Like Anita, James researches the cases to see what he can do to help defend a person. Each case is handled individually taking into consideration the circumstances. He is interested in learning the cause of the violation. It may be family problems, marital discord, or drugs. It could be something "that can be helped not by throwing them in jail but by counseling," comments James. In some cases it may be necessary to work with the prosecutor to reach a compromise and a solution for the problem.

James is also a tribal member but left Warm Springs when he was 6 years old. He was gone until two years ago when he came back "to meet people and to see my family whom I've never seen." He said he's been "pretty much of a counselor on and off for the past 10 years." When he came back to Warm Springs he requested a job as youth counselor and activity director at the Group Home. The aspect of the Legal Aid job that he likes best is working with the people. He says "I get a chance to look at the community. I see more and more of what's happening."

Both Anita and James stress a concern for Warm Springs and for anyone who might need legal assistance. Anyone who would like to talk to any of the Legal Aid advocates are welcome to do so.

Tribal Council minutes

Tribal Council Minutes 1/14/80

1. Present were Eugene Greene, Chairman; Rita Squiemphen, Orin Johnson, Delbert Frank, Nick Kalama, Amos Simtustus, Jacob Frank, Larry Calica.

2. Request of Madras High School Indian Club to attend Council meeting on the 28th approved for the morning session only with suggestion they attend on the 29th, during management reports, instead.

3. Education Report:

P.L. 81-874 funding to 509-J discussed and the new (P.L. 95-561) law revising 874 concerning expenditure of these funds which says Indian Tribes, particularly Indian parents, will be involved in those decisions. Copies of the Policy and Rules & Procedures to involve Indian parents in district educational programs were distributed and also discussed.

Financial impact on 509-J because of the Warm Springs Reservation preliminarily reported; joint meeting scheduled with School Board on January 28th in Madras.

Chairman of Title I, Johnson O'Malley and Title IV, Part A committees reported their concerns, activities of their respective programs and how they are working with 509-J.

4. Use of the Simnasho Longhouse approved for January 19th by Charlotte Herkshan for a going-away dinner for her son.

5. Larry Calica, Zane Jackson, Delbert Frank and Nelson

Wallulatum (Energy Task Force) authorized to attend FERC hearing in Washington, D.C. on February 18-22 regarding Pelton Dam adjustment.

6. Jury list as submitted by the Tribal Court for 1980 approved.

7. Delbert Frank authorized to attend meeting in Seattle on January 16 regarding "definition of an Indian," which is important in legislation particularly in regards to appropriations.

Tribal Council Minutes 1/15/80

1. Present were Delbert Frank, Rita Squiemphen, Larry Calica, Nelson, Wallulatum, Nick Kalama, Amos Simtustus.

2. Amos Simtustus and Nelson Wallulatum approved to participate at Native American Student Union symposium in Eugene, January 24 and 25.

3. Fish & Wildlife Committee members and any Council member who can attend approved to attend Oregon Wildlife Federation meeting in Corvallis, January 19 and 20.

4. Health & Welfare Committee members approved to attend Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board Meeting, Portland, January 22, 23 and 24 with use of the T/C wagon for travel.

5. Travel request for the Fish & Wildlife Committee to attend the Tri-State compact hearing on fisheries in Vancouver on January 17 reconsidered and Nelson Wallulatum approved as a delegate.

6. Tribal Council priorities then discussed: Range, Law & Order, Education, Enrollments: concerns, problems, possible solutions, goals, objectives.

7. Use of the Agency Longhouse on January 16 by the Career Exploration Program approved for a luncheon meeting of supervisors and program directors.

Tribal Council Minutes 1/16/80

1. Present were Eugene Greene, Chairman; Rita Squiemphen, Nelson Wallulatum, Nick Kalama and Jacob Frank.

2. All day discussion on Council's concerns re: Training program policies and what they would like to see incorporated in the Warm Springs Training Program.

3. Resolution No. 5634 adopted, appropriating \$6,225 for school bus stop shelters and amending 1980 capitalized budget.

Tribal Council Minutes 1/17/80

1. Present were Eugene Greene, Chairman; Rita Squiemphen, Delbert Frank, Nick Kalama, Larry Calica, Amos Simtustus and Jacob Frank. (Nelson Wallulatum attending a meeting in Vancouver, Washington.)

2. Progress report on hydroelectric project activities

3. Joint meeting with Celilo Wy'am Board (Roger Jim, Chairman, Shirley Iman,

Executive Director; Ron Halfmoon, Umatilla Representative; Wilford Yallup, Yakima); others present were Jim Normandeau, COR; Donna Lopez, Celilo CHR; Uren Leonard; and Dale Hile, Umatilla Planner.

Funding sources for continuation of administrative staff at Celilo discussed, as well as historical significance of the area and responsibility for Celilo.

Celilo Wyam Board check in the amount of \$1,509.50 presented to Confederated Tribes in full reimbursement of advanced funding.

Motion to approved Celilo Board's action on requesting extension of FY 79 contract.

Agreement that the three tribal planners should work with Shirley Iman to pull all social and economic data

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Trend Student of the Month



Student of the month for December at the Trend Business College was Jessica Kirk. She was named out of 14 students for her achievement in four areas; academic performance; adaptability, attendance, and appearance. Instructor at the college, Carla Knapp, presented the award to Jessica.

Spilyay Tymoo photo by Shewczyk