

Tribal Garage

Horse shoes to brake shoes

by Pat Leno

From horse shoes to brake shoes—the building was originally built by the Bureau of Indian Affairs in the early 1900's as a blacksmith shop. It was a place to have horses shod and buckboards repaired. The building gained a colorful past during its many years as a part of the Warm Springs community. To many it became known as the tribal garage.

Serving as a blacksmith shop was a short lived function with the arrival of the horseless carriage. The work in the shop began its transformation from horses to motor vehicles. It became a garage for vehicles owned by the BIA.

In 1954 the building was turned over to the Tribe and a tribal motor vehicles department came into existence. The Tribe hired a man from Madras to operate the motor pool. Wilber Erb ramrodded the newly formed enterprise. An area was transformed in the shop to a parts room and another employee was hired to handle parts. Joyce Erb began her career with the Tribes. The tribal garage began to offer services to the people of the Warm Springs area.

The tribal garage offered pretty much the same services as any garage in the central Oregon area. Mechanics were on the job for major car repairs, tires could be bought and changed at the garage, a service station offered gas and oil.



A FRONT ROW SEAT—Shawn Culps and Stacey Squiemphen had the best seats in the area to watch heavy equipment push the old tribal garage into a pile of rubble to make way for the new parking lot for the brand new garage.

Spilyay Tymoo photo by Leno

Perhaps to all local people it was well known and well used. A tourist once in need of a part for his car was directed to the garage. The man drove past the garage several times and not being able to locate the garage had to stop a policeman only to discover he was parked right in front of the tribal garage.

As it happens with all things the business grew to the point which it needed more room. So the idea of building a new, larger garage was discussed.

Plans for the new building were drawn up by Brun, Moreland and Christopher of Portland. The construction contract was given to the tribal construction department.

Since the garage business was doing a lot of business the new building was started next to the old building. In July of this year the larger facility was ready for the garage personnel to begin moving into the building. As the new building took shape, incorporating all

the equipment and employees, the old building became a mere shell of what had been once a center of activity. Standing next to the new building the old blacksmith shop was almost completely shadowed by the giant new tribal garage.

So, after many years of serving the community the old garage gave the room needed for shrubbery and a lawn.

The new building offers 6000 square feet and cost in the neighborhood of \$420,000. "It

is without a doubt the most modern service station in central Oregon." Stated Les Yaw, Contracting officer. It features fuel tanks which hold 5,000 gallons which is a far cry from the old tanks. The new fuel pumps are electronic and there are now 7 pumps with which service the public. A tank and pumps for diesel has been included in the new facility.

With the new building comes a new and larger parts department. The garage will now be able to stock more parts and there will be less time in getting the work done. The old garage had a parts department but often the customer would have to wait until the part could be delivered. The whole idea now will be to give the customer better service for his money in a shorter period of time.

At the time of this article the garage is giving service to the people of Warm Springs while the work is being completed. The driveway should be paved during the month of August. The landscaping should be started shortly with the planting of a lawn and shrubs. And last, but not least, will be the stocking of the parts room. After these have been completed an open house will be held for the general public to get a first hand look at the new facility.

You can no longer get new shoes for your horse at the building but you are able to get new brake shoes for your car or pickup from the new tribal garage.

Rogers elected to COCOA post

The yearly election of officers for the Central Oregon Council on Aging (COCOA) were held on July 22 at the Prineville Senior Center.

Gayle Rogers, of Warm Springs was elected to the position of Parliamentarian. Rogers is an employee of the Confederated Tribes, he is the supervisor of Social Services program. He had served on the

board of directors for COCOA after he had been selected to fill a vacant post. He is a representative of Jefferson County for COCOA.

COCOA is a non-profit organization which is designed to deliver services to senior citizens of the tri-county area (Jefferson, Crook and Deschutes) as defined under the Older Americans Acts.

Hurtado attends national FFA conference

Buffy Hurtado, daughter of Ned and Anna Hurtado of Warm Springs, recently attended the National Future Farmers of America conference in Washington, D.C. July 18 to 25, 1982 about 25 students attended the annual conference.

The Madras chapter usually sends two or three members to the conference each year but

with the limited budget this year only one was able to make the trip. Buffy helped raise funds by working with some money making projects, and along with some personal funds she was able to attend this year's conference.

The workshops focused on leadership skills for more effective leadership roles within the chapter and the community, said Tom Wright, the local FFA chapter advisor who also made the trip.

The National Future Farmers of America headquarters is located in Alexandria, Virginia, which is near Mt. Vernon, where the meeting is

held each year. This gives the conference attendee's a chance to tour the nation's capitol and sites of interest in the area.

Some of the highlights of the trip were a visit to the office of congressman Mark O. Hatfield of Oregon, and the historical sites such as the Arlington National Cemetery, the Smithsonian institute, the Jefferson Memorial to name a few. The trip to Washington, D.C. was interesting and educational for Buffy.

This past year Buffy's project was raising a brahma heifer which she keeps at the 4-H lot. She plans to raise cattle in the future.

BIA publishes regulations on Pribilof Islands membership rolls

The Bureau of Indian Affairs has announced that it is publishing in the **Federal Register**, July 21, 1982, regulations to govern the preparation of a membership roll of the Pribilof Islands Aleut Communities of St. Paul and St. George. The roll to be prepared will serve as a basis

for a per capita distribution of judgement funds awarded to the communities by the U.S. Court of Claims.

For additional information, contact the Enrollment Coordinator, Enrollment Coordinating Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pouch 7-1971, Anchorage, Alaska 99510; telephone 907 271-3761.

Conference on aging set for Aug.

"Indian Elders: A Tribute" is the theme for the fourth annual Indian conference on aging which will be held at the Reno, Hilton, Reno, Nevada, August 23-25.

The conference will focus on the strengths and uniqueness of the elders and their culture,

their experience, their role as the repository of the Indian tradition and culture.

Attending this year's conference will be elders from the Warm Springs tribes and members of the Allied Health branch.



CHEESE DISTRIBUTION—Five-pound blocks of cheese distributed to low income families throughout Warm Springs by Allied Health Services. The surplus cheese was given to state welfare offices for distribution by the federal government. Warm Springs received 150 blocks. Hazel Tewee takes one of the blocks of cheese handed out by Fritz Patt.

Spilyay Tymoo photo by Shewczyk