

# Students learn health care in nurses's aide training

by Marsha Shewczyk

The care of people occupies many professions. Sometimes that care means merely providing meals for an elderly person but many times what is required is direct medical assistance. Providing that care properly and professionally is important.

The nurses aide training course offered by Central Oregon Community College through the Warm Springs community education program is concerned with teaching the basics of nursing assistance. The principles learned can be applied to patients in acute care facilities such as Mt. View Hospital in Madras or in the homes of those needing care.

Many of the students enrolled in the nurses aide training class in Warm Springs are not interested in working in a hospital although they are trained for that. Some feel the knowledge gained through the course is applicable to the field in which they currently work.

Nurses aide student Evelyn Nequatewa works as a counselor at the Warm Springs family counseling center. For her, the nurse's aid course helps her "regain knowledge in the medical field" she has forgotten, she says.

At times her job requires her to go into the hospital to see a client while dealing with crisis problems. With the class, she adds, she is able to get a "better understanding of what the patients go through in the



**PRACTICING TECHNIQUE**—Nurse's aid training instructor David Travins, R.N. assists students Evelyn Nequatewa (left) and Shirley Smith (right) in refining their blood pressure reading technique.

Spilyay Tymoo photo by Shewczyk

hospital." She also feels the class is a challenge.

Another health field worker who finds the nurse's aide training course to be of value is community health representative Eliza Brown. In her job she goes into the home for health care.

Much of the in-hospital

training necessary to complete the course is useful knowledge for home care, such as lifting patients properly and taking pulse and blood pressure readings. "Eliza relates that the class is "really, really good."

Although the nurses aide generally assists the nurse by taking over the routine care of

the patient, the class is geared for patient care in any situations. Each patient is different adding a unique element to the job. Nursing, itself, is fulfilling in that it is, a way to help comfort and care for people.

Training as a nurse's aide is not limited to women. Through the years the profession of

nursing has changed from one basically composed of women to one where men are now entering and seeing it as challenging.

From the nurses aide certification many people go on to become certified as a licensed practical nurse and even on to get the certificate of a registered nurse. The involvement in patient care, of course, gets more intense as education in the field increases.

Course instructor David Travins is a registered nurse and director of nurses at Mt. View hospital. His hope is that some of the nurses aid training students will pursue employment at Mt. View Hospital.

Mt. View Hospital operates for local people from both Madras and Warm Springs. It would be good to have some Warm Springs people helping with the care of patients, Travins feels. Having Warm Springs people involved with the hospital directly would also help improve communications between the two communities and the medical facility. Travins emphasizes, Mt. View hospital is "our" hospital. It operates for everyone.

The ten students who are enrolled in the nurses aide training class in Warm Springs include: Shirley Smith, Joanna Lytle, Florene Scott, Eliza Brown, Angelina Stacona, Fay Hurtado, Relda Ross, Lenora Starr, Sharon Bean and Evelyn Nequatewa.

# Law library fascinates students

by Pat Leno

To spend one of autumn's last sunny warm days in a library researching a point of law would not appeal to most people. But for six of the twelve members of Angie De La Torre's Introduction to Indian law it was considered one of the major highlights of the fall-term class.

Row after row of books greeted the students as they entered the law library at the Lewis and Clark Northwestern Law School in Portland. For most of the students it was their

first time in a law library but they all had a single goal and that was to research a point of Indian law for term papers.

Instructor De La Torre said the students were eager to get to the business at hand and following a briefing by a law student from the college on the use of the many systems offered in doing law research, they proceeded with "great enthusiasm." The students spent an entire afternoon at the library.

The three-credit college course is offered through Central Oregon Community College as a part of the Warm

Springs Adult Education program. It is being offered during the 1982 fall term to the people in the Warm Springs area. At present the class consists of twelve people from the community who have one common interest to study Indian Law. The students come from many walks of life—a policeman, a high school student, a mill worker, a legal aid person, a newspaper reporter and a tree thinning officer to name just a few.

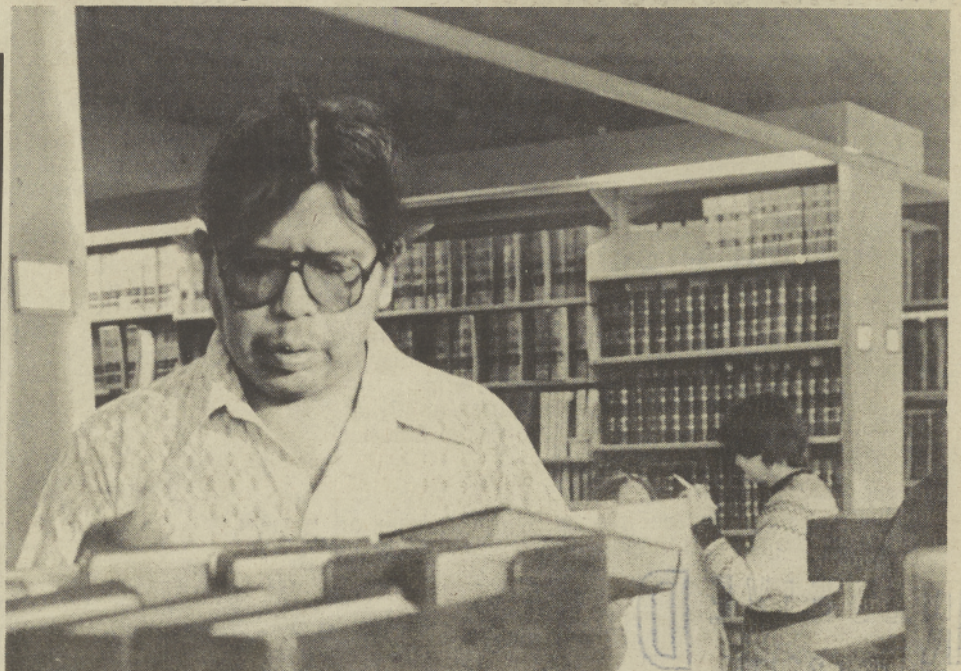
The class has been an introduction to law in general.

It goes into the unique relationship between the Federal government and Indian tribes which is defined as a "trust relationship." Issues of jurisdiction in Indian Country, tribal sovereignty, the American Indian Civil rights Act, Public Law 280, water, land, hunting and fishing rights have been focused on in the class sessions.

According to De La Torre the turnout of the students at the library was a real surprise because of the distance (109

miles one way). "I was surprised at how well the students liked the law library and doing the actual research itself," stated De La Torre. "Perhaps out of this class will come an Indian Lawyer, you can never tell," speculated De La Torre.

Those attending the class held at the law library were Walter "Spud" Langnese, George Stevenson, Richard Tohet, Randy Smith, Michael Frank and Pat Leno.



**SERIOUS BUSINESS**—Richard Tohet, gathered material at the Northwestern Law School with a method known as "Shepardizing." Shepardizing is the use of a set of books which are used to trace a case after it has been decided. Other cases are listed as they pertain to subject matter.

Spilyay Tymoo photo by Leno

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Coyote News

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FOUNDED IN MARCH OF 1976

Published bi-weekly by the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, Warm Springs, Oregon 97761. Located in the Old Administration Building. Any written material to Spilyay Tymoo should be addressed to:

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Subscription Rate: \$6.00 per year