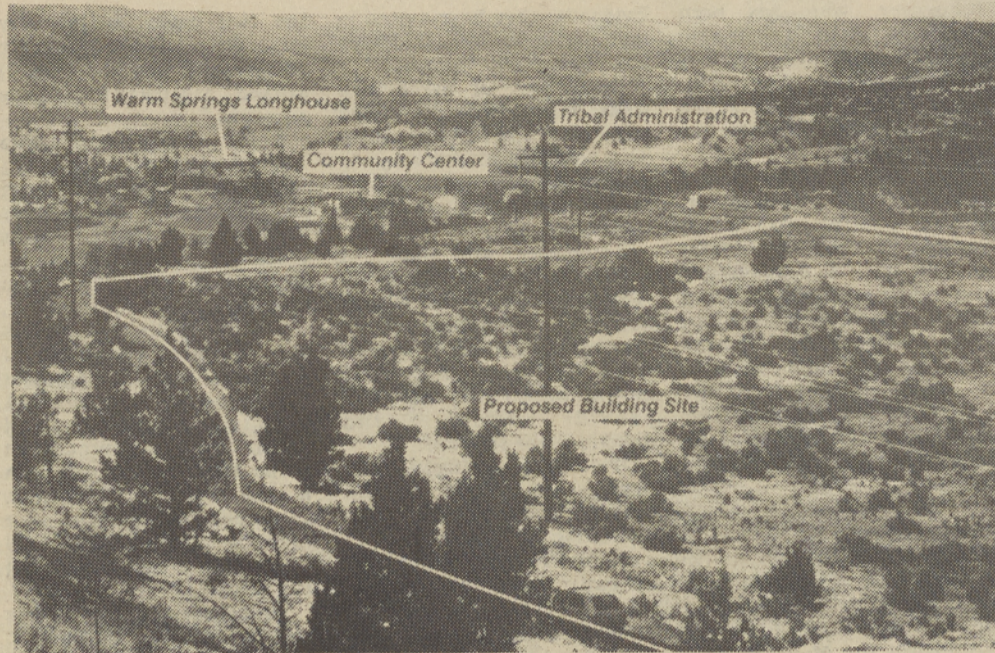


Direct from Warm Springs. . .

TV, radio may soon be reality



Proposed building site for radio-television station is pictured. Tower would be constructed on Eagle Butte, one-and-one-half miles to the right.

by Marsha Shewczyk

"The members of the three tribes who make up the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs reservation should be able to communicate to and from tribal council and the outside world with access to radio, television and cable."

This statement excerpted from a study taken in Warm Springs on the feasibility of telecommunications, reflects "the way it should be."

Television and radio have become the leaders in communication as time becomes limited and immediacy becomes important. The value of electronic communication is in the forefront everywhere, including Warm Springs.

It is no longer beyond reality to think that turning a television set on in West Hills might bring a selection of local programs including news from Tribal Council, instruction in Indian dance, a course in Indian language, tips on preserving meat or care of the family pet.

Through the study, conducted in 1982, Rocky-Marsh Public Relations found that construction of a local low-power broadcasting system would definitely be feasible for Warm Springs and would be valuable in disseminating information in the community.

On March 19, 1982 application was made to the Federal Communications Commission for a low-power television station for Channel 5 in Warm Springs. The FCC, expecting only a small number of responses, was flooded with 9,000 applications.

To make chances equal for all, the commission decided to hold a lottery in September to determine recipients for the licenses.

Hearing this, Bill Marsh representing the Tribe, wrote to Senator Bob Packwood, chairman of the Commerce Committee, telling him Warm Springs needed assistance and should have priority because preference is given to minorities and an additional preference to minorities which have applied for licensing a station which will send signals to minorities.

This application is pending. Going before Tribal Council on August 16 Marsh asked for funds left over from the 1982 telecommunications study to begin application to the FCC for an FM radio frequency for a public radio station in Warm Springs. This includes a request for funds to build a studio and to equip a station and tower.

The deadline for this application is February 1984 but work must begin now, according to Marsh. Tribal Council has not yet decided on the matter.

The public radio and television station, being a priority work, is aimed towards construction of facilities necessary for transmission to the community. But an opportunity arose recently which made it possible for Warm Springs to acquire a commercial frequency while waiting for word on public radio and television licensing.

A commercial 100,000 watt FM frequency was allocated to Madras where a station could be constructed within a 15 mile radius. Warm Springs, through Rocky Marsh, applied for the frequency and got it. The call letters are KWSI: K-Warm Spring Indians.

Signals from such a powerful transmitter would reach as far as Pendleton which should appeal to many Central Oregon advertizers. The cost for equipment would reach \$95,000.

If a station were built for public television and radio, the commercial equipment could be housed in the same building. This is an enterprise which will be available to the Tribe in the future, according to Marsh. Concentration now, however, is on attaining public frequency licensing for communication in the Warm Springs area.

So, not too far in the future, the news happening in Warm Springs could be in the living rooms of community members when it happens. Along with the news, educational programs would enable learning at home. The possibilities are many.

Indian News Notes

BIA DIRECTOR DELIVERS BUFFALO, VENISON, SALMON TO INDIAN PRISONERS:

The Bureau of Indian Affairs area director at Sacramento, California, Jess Town, loaded his car August 13th with frozen buffalo steaks, venison and salmon steaks and headed for the nearby Folsom State Prison where some 40 Indians inmates were celebrating American Indian Day. Cooperation among the prisoners, the warden and prison staff, the BIA, northern California Indian communities and families of the prisoners made the celebration possible.

Food was prepared and donated by various individuals, tribes and organizations. Individuals from the BIA Sacramento area office kept frozen foods frozen and saw to the safe and timely delivery of the foods through the prison security process.

Charles Toyebo, the area office community services officer talked to the inmates about BIA programs available to help them upon their release from prison. These included employment assistance, higher education grants, housing and social services.

CERT LEADERS GIVE REASONS FOR CLOSING OF WASHINGTON OFFICE:

The Council of Energy Resource Tribes (CERT) issued a press release dated August 12th about the closing of the organization's Washington office. The Washington employees received dismissal notices and were informed of the closing on that day.

The Denver office will now be headquarters for all of CERT's operation. Wilfred Scott, chairman of the CERT board said the change was necessitated by an increase in requests for technical assistance from CERT member tribes, increased costs, and a decline in revenue. He said that membership in recent years had climbed from 22 tribes to 37. David Lester, executive director, said the change "will not reduce the functions of CERT but merely change the locus of activity, saving considerable funds."

CERT remains committed to its traditional role as an outspoken advocate for the protection, management and prudent development of Indian resources under the direction of the Indian people themselves."

ASSISTANT SECRETARY SEEKS RECOMMENDATIONS FROM INDIAN ENTREPRENEURS:

Interior Assistant Secretary Ken Smith told some 300 Indian entrepreneurs, mostly construction contractors, that the Bureau of Indian Affairs would use the Buy Indian Act provisions to give them work—but only in "accordance with program goals" and federal regulations and laws.

Talking at a meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico, August 31, Smith said that the development of successful private enterprises on Indian reservations was an essential element of the Reagan Administration's Indian program. "We have not done enough to encourage private Indian entrepreneurs—because our focus has been so intently on the strengthening of tribal governments," Smith said. "But we realize this and we know that we cannot have strong reservation economies unless we have thriving private Indian enterprises."

Smith stressed that the government must receive full value for dollars spent in Buy Indian contracts. He also cautioned the contractors not to become so dependent on government-funded projects "so that a cut in the BIA budget, for example, means that you are out of business."

Smith concluded his remarks by asking the group for their recommendations "how we can best work...to build up and strengthen Indian private enterprises on and near reservations—because we want you to make money and stay in business and continue to provide jobs for Indians for years to come."

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT FOR SKOKOMISH TRIBE APPROVED:

Interior Assistant Secretary Ken Smith has approved a \$25,000 economic development grant to the Skokomish Indian Tribe of Shelton, Washington to purchase equipment for a resaurant/tavern on the Skokomish Reservation.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs grant program is designed to provide seed money for the development of profit-making enterprises on or near Indian reservations. Among the other stringent requirements, the Bureau requires that at least 75 percent of the funding for the project come from non-federal sources.

The Skokomish Tribe has arranged for a \$30,000 loan from a local bank and will provide \$45,000 from tribal sources for the \$100,000 project. The restaurant is expected to hire 10 full-time and 7 part-time employees.

YIKES YIKES Toe Ness YIKES YIKES

After school had started this proud father decided to pay his son a surprise visit. In the wee hours of the morning about 2:30 a.m. he knocked on the university fraternity house door and yelled. "Does John Bond stay here?" An answer came from the second floor, "Yeaah! bring him in." YIKES

SS SS SS

There was this boy from the back hills who went away to school. Home on a weekend visit, his pa asked: "Whatcha learning, son?" "Well pa, I'm studying English and I'm studying algebra." "Thats good son, say something in algebra." Not wanting to let his pa down he said, "Pi-r-square." At that his pa exploded, "You kin stop school right now if that what they're a learning ya. Everyone knows pie are round and corn bread are square." YIKES

SS SS SS

On the college campus a boy and a girl were sitting on the park bench and the boy was plucking on a flower when the girl turns and said, "It's, she love me, she loves me not, John! Not she will, she won't, she will, she won't!" YIKES

SS SS SS

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