

509-J schools studied. . .

Task force begins work

by Marsha Shewczyk

Taking a closer look at schools and education the 509-J school district is one of many communities organizing committees for that purpose. These committees through teachers, parents and concerned citizens are seeking ways to upgrade educational performance in their district and in their nation.

The 509-J district committee, called Task Force on Educational Reform, will review a nationwide study, "A Nation at Risk" and other writings or educational reformers to eventually make recommendations for needed change in the district. The report by the committee is due May, 1984. Preceding this date the committee will be collaborating with people and agencies directly related to education for input.

Nine goals have been outlined by the district school board to be examined thoroughly by the task force. They include: 1. To improve quality and excellence in

schooling based on local analysis of excellence reports and national recommendations for change; 2. To reduce student social problems related to transition from elementary school to junior high school (by addressing and discussing cultural differences existing in this culturally-diverse student population); 3. To adopt formal native American curriculum; 4. To improve alternative education through evaluation of current programs leading to revision and/or expansion for all students; 5. To adopt a school organization plan that promotes the most effective schooling; 6. To strengthen drug/alcohol abuse prevention through re-emphasis in elementary health education instruction; 7. To gain public support from non-parents; 8. To improve students study habits through parent education; and 9. To maintain teaching strengths and reduce teaching deficiencies through strict, consistent application of district-adopted teaching evaluation plan.

Committee members

selected total 21; ten appointed by the school board, eight appointed by the superintendent and three appointed by Tribal Council. Two chairpersons appointed are Metolius elementary principal Sue Harrison and Bureau of Indian Affairs retiree Clayton Earl.

Three tribal appointments for the committee are Richard Macy, Jeanne Thomas and Ellen Johnson.

Elementary teachers appointed are Vicki Ashwill, Bill Hoff and Dawn Smith.

Selected as secondary teacher representatives are Harold Moore, Steve Rankin and Pete Carlson.

Administrators include Warm Springs elementary principal John Trujillo and Madras Junior High principal Dick Junge.

Community persons serving on the 509-J Task Force on Educational Reform are: Betty Boggs, Orvin Patampa, Brad Houts, Jackie Hawkings, George Neilson, Marilou Waldman, Andy Morrow, Paul Jenson, Lewis E. Pitt, Jr. and Coty Soules.

Indian News Notes

NISQUALLY TRIBE COMPLAINS ABOUT ARMY SHELLS HITTING RESERVATION:

The Nisqually Tribe is angry about repeated accidental shellings of the reservation, which is located across the Nisqually River from the Fort Lewis test range. At least six times this year, the Indians said, shells from the artillery range have skipped across the river and landed on the 1,600 acre reservation. The latest incident was on October 5. No one has been injured but tribal chairman Richard Wells said, "Somebody going to be killed," unless the problem is corrected.

An army spokesman who said the army had been unaware of the problem "until the Indians told us about it," said the artillery crews have been cautioned to be more careful. Tribal chairman Wells said the shells have ben landing on reservation land over the last couple years and that each time the tribe complained, the army said it would not happen again. Wells added, "We are not satisfied with the army response."

Unique gifts available at shop

Just before Christmas gift buyers are looking for unique gift items. The Information Center on Highway 26 has its usual array of beautiful, handmade articles.

A Klickitat basket kit will enable the user to put together a medium sized basket. Included in the kit is a book written by Nettie Kuneki from White Salmon, Washington. The book goes through the procedure of making the basket with step-by-step photographs.

The kit also includes bear grass and cedar roots—everything needed for a finished basket.

A Paiute cradle board with a willow shade is a collector's item. Made of willow the board is covered with hand-tanned buck-skin and decorated with beadwork.

Other fine gift items at the information center include painted vases, beaded bags, beaded caps, God's eye wall hangings, hand drums and jewelry. Most of these items are hand made by local artisans.

General Council Meeting (continued from page 1)

the Administrative, Financial services, Enterprises, Internal Services and the Natural Resources. Councilman Mike Clements gave a rundown on the Tribal Council and Committees. The existing committees are the Fish and Wildlife, Timber, Water Board, Health and Welfare, Education, Land Use, Elections, Tribal Gatherings, Irrigation and Agriculture, Culture and Heritage, Legislative and Energy Committees.

Tribal member concerns focused on the employment situation, education, Law and order and personnel with-in the organization.

One expressed feeling not on money but on human interests, health and education. In various programs, many

people do not show self-esteem. Our children have a very poor attitude and no respect for anyone. Their attitude is shameful. We should look at the problem and not only at the dollars, this is the area that needs careful examination, let's start to do things for the human sources and to better our social problems here on the reservation.

Another tribal member spoke on the services we are receiving. We are not receiving complete benefits of services needed. Not getting good health benefits, many do not have medical insurance to help the alcoholic. There are incidences that have happened where services are not adequate for our people here. I have a strong feeling for the

Information Center because I can see as a need for the unemployed where things can be sold to supplement their income.

Another member spoke on the stock growers and was glad to see that things are in planning to improve the range. In the Natural Resource area, at one time we had plenty of deer and elk, but now days there are too many hunters. Who is the Range Rider? There are mostly non-members out there doing the hunting, I would like to see the hunting stopped for awhile to replenish our game.

All concerns were very well taken by the Tribal Council and careful consideration will be given to all areas of the tribal members concerns.

YIKES YIKES Toe Ness YIKES YIKES

There were these two patients in a mental institute talking, the first said, "Don't talk to me, I'm Napoleon." The other said, "What do you mean your Napoleon?" "I said don't talk to me, I'm Napoleon." "How do you know that your Napoleon?" "A messenger from heaven told me so." Just then another voice came from across the room, "I most certainly did not" YIKES

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There was this not to bright family who went to the drive-in theater and froze to death. They went to see, "Closed for the Season." YIKES

SS SS SS

The difference between the Supreme Court and the Ku Klux Klan is, in the Supreme Court black robes are worn that scares the dickens out of the "Whites." The Ku Klux Klan, white robes are worn which scares the hell out of "Blacks." YIKES

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As the dance ends this guy escorts his date back to the table. As he pulled the chair back for her to sit down she said, "Good grief Bob, this isn't our table!" "Keep quiet and sit down," he said. "See the full bottle." YIKES

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Spilyay Tymoo photo by Shewczyk

GIFTS GLORY—Gift items are abundant at the Warm Springs information center. Included among the unique items available is a Klickitat basket kit. Information Center manager Faye Waheneka reads from instruction manual.

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