

Parent observes students sharing ideas

by Ed Roley

I'd like to talk about the children here at Warm Springs Elementary school. A good way to do that is to tell you about a visitor we had a few weeks ago.

A mother called, wanting to see how large group counseling sessions were handled in our school; I mentioned that she should take a list of my regularly scheduled class meetings, pick out any, and come in at that time and see for herself. I will admit to adding (bragging) that it didn't matter which class session she attended, that she would find them all well behaved, cooperative and free in sharing their ideas.

To my pleasant surprise, the next school day she arrived to observe Mr. McGinnis' fifth grade class. A sound filmstrip "Coping With Your Parents' Divorce: A Broken Home", was being used that day followed with a discussion of this topic. The class didn't do their usual good job this day. They were even **better** than I had expected them to be!

This lady had attended

Warm Springs Elementary herself, and as we talked following the class discussion, she mentioned being surprised and pleased to see so many students sharing their ideas. There were only three who didn't speak up. According to her, the opposite (only three speaking up) had been the case when she had been a student.

She could have come into any classroom, and would have observed the same student performance and involvement. In fact, I am so confident about that, I invite everyone to come in, follow me around, and see for themselves. We feel that the school has turned the corner educationally and is heading toward improvement in all areas.

One might point to attendance figures to bear this out. Two years ago at this time in the school year, we had 99 students with perfect attendance. This year, at the same time, there are 144 with perfect attendance. That's approximately a 40% improvement in attendance figures over a two year period.

There is more daily work being completed with improvement in reading,

language arts, science and math.

Another good sign is that parent/teacher conferences were exceptionally well attended this year. Several teachers who have been here for a number of years, mentioned that this year had the most parents keep their appointments.

It's routine anymore here at Warm Springs school to see parents in the halls and visiting their children's classrooms. That is one of the most noticeable and rewarding changes in our school.

Teachers and students enjoy being here. That is evident from the cheerful, pleasant atmosphere in our buildings.

I realize it isn't good to boast, but I'm just busting with pride in our students, so you'll have to excuse me. You're all invited to come in and check our students out for yourselves. You'll be delighted to see the positive changes. These kids are the greatest! They are the major reason why it's really fun to come to school, for the teachers as well as the students.

Leader exercise class scheduled

Anyone interested in learning how to lead exercise classes is urged to contact Eva Montee at the Center for enrollment in a class scheduled to begin Wednesday, January 18. The class will meet each Wednesday after that from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the aerobics room in the Community Center basement. Instruction will be given in the various phases of leading exercises for groups of people along with some nutritional information and some exercise physiology. There will also be opportunity for developing leadership by leading exercise sessions.

If you are interested in becoming a part of this class or

if you would like further information, contact Eva at the Community Center, ext. 243.

Late registrants will not be accepted in this particular session.

First responder class offered

The Fire and Safety Department announces a First Responders Class to be held in the latter part of February. We are going to try to hold two separate classes, depending on the roster sign up. This is being done due to the interest held in the Sidwalter and Simnasho areas.

The classes will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays each week. The times and starting date will be decided at a later time. We wish to make these classes as convenient as

possible, so one class will be held at the Simnasho Fire hall and at the same time, one at the Agency Firehall.

To enroll in the class, please call 553-1161 ext. 200 or 208 and give your name and the area of your residence. For more information contact Fred Muniz, Warm Springs Fire and Safety.

Powwow time

"It's powwow time," according to the Portland Inter-Tribal Club. The powwow will be held Friday, January 20, 1984 at David Douglas High Senior building, 1500 NE 130th, Portland. The one evening powwow will start at 6:30 p.m.

A raffle will be held during the evening. Craft tables can be set up for a \$10 fee. Drummers and dancers are welcome. For more information contact Stoney Weeks, (503) 232-2282.

Indian News Notes

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE PUBLISHES LIST OF TAX STATUS TRIBES, VILLAGES:

The United States Internal Revenue Service has published in its December 12 Bulletin, 1983-50, a list of Indian tribal governments, including Alaska native villages, that are to be treated similarly to states for specific tax purposes for the next two years under the Internal Revenue Code. This amendment to the code is to comply with the provisions of the Indian Tribal Government Tax Status Act of 1982.

The bulletin notes that charitable contributions to or for the use of a tribal government may be deductible under the federal income gift and state tax laws.

Other benefits cited include: 1) the tribe enjoys exemption from certain excise taxes; 2) taxes paid to the tribe are deductible from federal taxable income; and 3) the tribal government may issue public activity bonds which are exempt from federal taxes.

Though the tribal tax status act was passed with only a two year life, a bill was introduced in November by Senator Mark Andrews of North Dakota to eliminate this sunset provision so that the provisions of the act would be permanent.

The IRS bulletin listed 268 tribal groups in the lower 48 states and 197 Alaska groups that were entitled to the state tax status. **LYNN ENGLS, ONEIDA, IS NOMINATED FOR TOP JOB AT ANA:**

William Lynn Engles, an Oneida Indian who was formerly the director of public information for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, has been nominated to be Commissioner of the Administration for Native Americans, an agency within the Department of Health and Human Services.

Engles was an intergovernmental affairs officer in the BIA's Portland Area office in 1982-83. He was the BIA's information officer from 1975-80. He worked for two years, 1981-82, as a private consultant in the Northwest. A graduate of Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington, Engles was the public affairs officer for Action at Seattle, Washington, 1972-75. He was a reporter, news bureau manager and state broadcast editor for United Press before going to work for Action.

He is expected to be sworn in at ANA in early January.

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE APPROPRIATION FOR 1984 IS \$824 MILLION:

The 1984 appropriation for the Indian Health Service was \$824 million. It includes \$632.2 million for clinical services; \$61 million for preventive health; \$9 million for urban health projects; \$6 million for Indian health manpower; \$2.6 million for tribal management; \$59.6 million for program operations; \$29.2 million for hospitals; \$22 million for outpatient care and sanitation facilities and \$2.5 million of personnel quarters.

Congressman Morris Udall, Chairman of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, spoke about the responsibility of the United States to provide medical care and treatment to Indian people in introducing a bill, November 18, to reauthorize and amend the Indian Health Care Improvement act of 1976.

His remarks, printed in the Congressional Record, include the following: "There are some who will contend that the obligations and commitments assumed by the United States in these treaties, in return for the cession of lands and the conclusion of peace, are outdated and not relevant to our relationship with the Indian tribes today. But for the Indian people, these treaties are living documents and the loss of their homelands a living memory. With respect to health services, they feel that, though the cession of their most valuable lands, they have bought a prepaid health insurance policy from the United States."

EMPLOYMENT CENTER FOR AMERICAN INDIANS IS OPENED IN DENVER:

In an effort to increase job opportunities for American Indians, the National Urban Indian Council has opened a National Indian Employment Resource Center (NIERC) in Denver. Designed as a professional personnel placement agency, the center is the first such national effort to link the skills of American Indians and Alaska Natives with employers throughout the United States.

Assisted by a grant from the Administration for Native Americans, the NIERC is expected to become a major national employment agency specializing in the brokering of technical skills with employers seeking those skills.

Additional information on the NIERC may be obtained from Gregory Fraizier, National Indian Employment Resource Center, 2258 South Broadway, Denver, Colorado, 80210. The toll free number for interested employers or employees is (800) 572-9450.

Warm Springs elementary schedule

January 19	Last day of second quarter
January 20	No school, teacher in-service day
January 25	Report cards sent home
January 26	PTA workshop-Effective motivation, babysitting provided, 7:00 p.m. at Warm Springs elementary

Toe Ness

It was just after New Year's when this Indian man lying on the ground said, "A big black Cadillac, going 70 miles per hour, a blond wearing a low cut blouse driving, she also has dark glasses." Another guy comes up and asks, "You mean you can tell what's coming by listening with your ear on the ground?" "No," replied the Indian, "It's the one who ran over me." YIKES

SS SS SS

After knocking down a woman pedestrian who was jaywalking, the cab driver stopped and helped the irate lady to her feet. Refusing his assistance, she shrieked, "You stupid reckless creature! You must be blind!" snapped the hackie, "I hit you, didn't I?" YIKES

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There were these two guys talking when one said, "Did you ever see a bunch of ladies quiet at a meeting?" The other guy answered, "I saw a whole group sit real quiet when the chairman asked if the oldest lady would speak first." YIKES

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