

# Dedication opens Simnasho Longhouse to activities



Ribbon-cutting concluded the day's dedication activities. Opening the new Longhouse are (left to right) Warm Springs chief Delvis Heath assisted by Pasha Marie Smith, elder Matilda Mitchell and elder Herb Stwyer.



Those attending the dedication of the new addition to the Simnasho Longhouse joined together in song to honor the new building.

The long-awaited addition to the Simnasho Longhouse was dedicated in ceremonies held November 22. Community mem-

bers gathered to remember the Longhouse of yesterday and to express their hope for the Longhouse of tomorrow.

The importance of children to the Longhouse was emphasized by the numerous community members who spoke in honor of the new religious and social center. It is important for children to be guided by their parents and directed in the proper way to carry on Indian religious ways.

Dedication ceremonies began with Washut songs. Community members and guests circled the new Longhouse, symbolically wiping out the old tracks of those who have gone and marking the freshly fallen snow with new tracks in what is known as the "Circle of Life." Participants in the day's celebration shared prayers, dinner, individual speakers and ribbon-cutting activities.



Floor sparkles during opening ceremonies at new Simnasho Longhouse dedication.

Spilyay Tymoo photo by Shewczyk



Lisa Wallulatam signs guest register at Longhouse dedication.

Spilyay Tymoo photo by Shewczyk

## Census bureau seeks improvement in 1990

The Bureau of Census met in Oklahoma City, October 30-31 with Indian tribes from Oklahoma and Kansas to review the 1980 Census data collection procedures and to obtain tribal input into the development of a tabulation system for the 1990 report that will more appropriately meet the statistical needs of the American Indian popula-

tion: The review and questions focused upon the need for tribes to provide accurate population data, by service area, to various federal and state funding agencies.

A major problem identified by the tribes was that the funding agencies only accept statistics compiled by the Bureau of Census. Unfortunately, the 1980

Census report failed to tabulate tribal population by service area.

Consequently, the tribes did not consider the Census Bureau count helpful and in many instances saw it as being detrimental to their cause when requesting funding from the various governmental agencies. The

Bureau of Census personnel acknowledged problems with the 1980 Census procedures. They agreed to work more closely with tribal governments in the development of a more useful statistical profile of the American Indian population for the 1990 report.

## Bingo not subject to laws

Testifying on Indian reservation gambling before the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee; Marian Horn, principal deputy solicitor in the Department of the Interior, reported that a recent Bureau of Indian Affairs survey indicated there were 108 gambling facilities on Indian land. Of these, 104 had bingo, 93 had pull tabs or punch cards, 15 had card games, four had casino gaming and 15 had other gambling activities.

More than a dozen tribes reported gross receipts in excess of \$1 million annually, including one with more than \$15 million. Horn also reported the department has pending some 16 requests that land be taken into trust for gambling and other purposes; in ten cases the land was away from the tribe's reservation and near population centers or highways to have greater access to non-Indian customers.

Horn said the Department would submit a draft bill as an

alternative to the bills now being considered in Congress. She said: "It is our desire to retain the recognition of tribal sovereignty, to preserve bingo as an economic activity available for tribes, to assure protection of the general populace from undesirable impacts of additional gambling, and to resolve the uncertainty as to the legality of gambling on Indian land."

Principal elements of the proposed Interior bill would be: 1) Bingo would not be subject to state regulation, but would be regulated by a commission appointed by the Secretary of the Interior, and 2) All other forms of gambling would be subject to state regulation. Horn said the regulatory commission would "require audits, investigations of employees, that profits be used only for the benefit of the tribe, that games are operated only on the reservation or trust land where the tribe resides as a community and exercises governmental jurisdiction."

## Individual members honored in Longhouse ceremonies

The first activities in the sparkling new addition of the Simnasho Longhouse were those of celebration and thanksgiving. Following the dedication prayers and ribbon-cutting the Longhouse was open to dancing and activities centered around the annual minipowwow.

Interspersed with dancing and contests individual tribal members were recognized. First joiners to Longhouse dancing were Jordan Patt, Jolene Simtustus, Andy McCloud IV, Tony Gilbert, Jr., Jesse Gilbert, Rosie, Gilbert, Angel Star Berry, Grant Clements, Sr., Grant Clements, Jr., William Clements and Helen Clements.

Rudy Clements and Fawn Folston received their Indian names during ceremonies on Saturday.

The ordination of Warm Springs sub-chief Pierson Mitchell was of special importance. The Queahpama clan and family having selected Mitchell as sub-chief last year honored him with gifts and a giveaway.

Qualifications for his selection as sub-chief are numerous, according to Anna Clements. Pierson Mitchell displays leadership in Indian culture having

knowledge of the Indian language and the ability to interpret the language into English. Although Mitchell participates and sometimes officiates at Washut rituals he emphasizes that he is still in the process of learning.

Mitchell is involved in community activities including fund-raising, Veteran's of Foreign Wars, Tribal Council, Water Board, and as a member of the Council on Drug and Alcohol abuse.

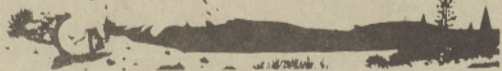
The 52 year-old sub-chief graduated from Madras high school and attended Oregon Technical Institute for one year achieving certification as an electrical technician. Mitchell has worked for the tribal organization for 15 years and now holds the position of public administrator trainee in the Tribal Court department.

Also honored during the weekend were Martinez Heath and Kathleen Foltz. The family sponsored a give away and honor dance.

Susan Moses was also honored by her family. Drumming for her during her honor dance were elder drummers from Warm Springs.

## Spilyay Tymoo

Coyote News



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