

Warm Springs News

U.S. Postage
Bulk Rate Permit No. 2
Warm Springs, OR 97761
Address Correction Requested

25¢

Spilyay Tymo

Coyote News



VOL. 12 NO. 7

WARM SPRINGS, OREGON 97761

MARCH 27, 1987

Initial Bureau efforts stopped, tribe puts plan to sue on hold

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs has put in abeyance their plan to file suit against the Secretary of Interior, the Secretary of the Treasury and the Mellon Bank of Pittsburgh following the Bureau of Indian Affairs' decision to withdraw its plan to transfer the management of the \$1.7 billion in trust funds from the BIA to the Mellon Bank. However, that does not mean the tribes are letting their guard down.

According to Warm Springs Assistant Secretary/Treasurer Mike Clements, the Tribe is "waiting to see what happens in the next go-round. The initial effort has been stopped, now they're trying a different approach."

That new approach is causing concern among tribes across the United States. The Bureau will write a consultation policy that will apply to this one initiative only. It will be posted in the Federal Register for 90 days, then the Bureau will proceed with the process, said Clements. "The Tribe doesn't see that as 'consultation' just because it's in the Federal Register."

Also included in the new approach, according to a March 13 news release from the Interior Department, is reopening of the competition by conducting a new full-scale procurement for financial trust services to "strengthen internal management and administration."

The "lack of trust and faith" in Swimmer on the tribes' part has led to conflict and limited communication among Indian tribes and Swimmer. Tribes feel that Swimmer is acting with little or no regard for the tribes' well-being and readiness for the proposed changes and has not taken into consideration what the tribes require or desire.

"We hope that the Bureau will allow the tribes to review the new document and allow time to assess and analyze the impacts and program operations. Hopefully, there will be some dialogue with the tribes," said Clements.

"One of the underlying problems," said Clements, "is that Swimmer continues to make decisions that tribal governments should be making" for themselves. Clements mentioned that Swimmer is deciding for tribes how their economic, education and finance programs should be handled.

Clements added the specific language has been put into the supplemental appropriations bills to stop the education initiative and workforce program changes. The education initiative proposed that education services be contracted by tribes or with states. The workforce initiative would eliminate welfare programs on many reservations throughout the country. The

Continued on page 2



Getting ready for Easter KWSI staff members hold promotional love bunnies. Staff includes (left to right) Aaron Greyhorse, Ron Smith, Sue Matters, Scott Taylor and Jim Malloy.

Man convicted on sex-related charges

by Pat Leno-Baker

A one year investigation reached a decisive point in tribal court, before a jury, on March 19 and 20. Allegations of two separate counts of child abuse and two separate counts of unnatural sex acts with minor children were heard. A six-member jury deliberated for nearly three hours before returning guilty verdicts on all four counts against a local man.

The defendant was sentenced to a total of 18 months in the tribal jail and assessed \$1,500 in fines. It was further ordered that he would have no contact with the victims until he completes a sexual offender assessment. That assessment will determine if he is a good candidate for a sexual offender treatment program. His future contact with his victims will be dependent upon the findings of that assessment.

Tribal prosecutor Gene Smith stated, "We have learned several things from this particular trial. We feel, first and foremost, because of the jury's verdicts, a strong message was received, setting precedent of what is and what is not acceptable behavior here in Warm Springs. You can do a lot of things here in Warm Springs but you shall not molest our children without

being held accountable." Smith went on to say, "We also learned just how difficult these cases are to coordinate and resolve. We do not and have not portrayed ourselves as experts in this field, we are pioneering this field just as many other jurisdictions are doing. Some of our best work was demonstrated as was some of our standard work surfaced."

The tribe called a total of nine witnesses; police officers, investigators, social service counselors, psychologists and both minor children, who were violated. The jury listened intently and relived the entire episodes of each case through each witness, minus emotions of each event. That's not saying the emotion was not there, for it was. The emotion was evident as each witness recalled the events and portrayed them to the investigators and counselors. Explicit details, learned through investigation of each victim, were described by tribal witnesses.

Smith stated that the two most

difficult aspects of the trial were "how far to go into the details of the case and the decision to actually bring the victims in court to testify. These are the types of cases read about or heard in the five o'clock news occurring in Portland, Seattle or Chicago, not in Warm Springs, Oregon. Warm Springs is a very small community with unwritten codes of conduct that apply to most every official and unofficial thing in the every day lives of the people of the community. Yet, a series of tragic events occurred involving minor children and their version had to be heard."

Smith had high praise and commendation for the jury, police personnel, psychologists, social service counselors and the victims themselves. "Too often people have said 'Why don't they do something about this?' The unique opportunity, as well as the responsibility of 'they,' came forth and was done in this case for all notice and heed. This

Continued on page 8

Questionnaires to be sent

Tribal member households will soon be receiving in the mail a questionnaire which will provide direction to the "Shopping and Town Center" project team. Self-addressed envelopes will be provided to make it easier to mail directly to the business planning team. Tribal members who respond will be eligible for \$100 raffle prizes. The winning numbers will be posted. Community meetings will be scheduled to review the results of the survey and to get further input.

Current objectives of the study are to:

1. Test the economic feasibility and community acceptance of building a commercial center designed

to serve retail needs and to capture retail dollars spent off the reservation;

2. Provide a cultural, social and tourist center for the benefit of the community and general public;

3. Provide jobs and business opportunities for tribal members;

4. Accomplish the above objectives with little or no tribal financial assistance.

Names or addresses are not requested. The questionnaire is designed to find out the community's feelings about major issues related to the study, such as location, social impacts and the sale of beer and wine.

Root Feast art show set

A Root Feast Tribal Art Show will be held April 4 and 5, 1987 at Kah-Nee-Ta Lodge. The show will be sponsored by Middle Oregon Historical Society (MOHS) in conjunction with the Northwest Native American Art Council of

the Portland Art Museum. Deadline for entries is Friday, March 27, 1987.

The show is open to all Warm Springs tribal members. Each artist may submit a maximum of three entries.

Wellness committee gathers input, makes proposals on leave policy

Beginning in April in 1985 and for the past two years, the Wellness Steering Committee has been collecting data and preparing possible proposals to deal with the problem within the Tribal organization of excessive use of both sick leave and leave without pay by tribal employees. Work included tracking leave data for 1984, 1985 and 1986; conducting two employee surveys to determine reasons for use of sick leave and leave without pay; developing five different proposals to deal with the situation based upon the results of the surveys as well as discussions with consultants and other companies; meetings to present the proposals to management and then to Tribal Council.

During the months of November and December, 1986 and January, 1987, members of the Wellness Committee presented a proposal (Personal time off combined with a short term disability benefit) to as many tribal employees as came to individually held meetings with their respective departments. Presentations were given to approximately 37 different departments attended by approximately 245 different employees. In addition, two extra meetings were held for any employee who had missed his/her respective meeting but who wanted to receive the information and give feedback.

On March 17, 1987, the members of the Wellness Steering Committee sent a document to the Personnel Policy Review Team outlining our findings as we conducted the above presentations to employees as well as input we received from employees during those presentations. The Committee's recommendation with respect of the Personal Time Off combined with a Short Term Disability Benefit read as follows:

"The Committee recommended the Personal Time Off/Short Term Disability to Management and Council and this is the proposal with regard to this particular proposal. Some employees were strongly in favor of the proposal while others were equally as strongly against it. It appeared that as the proposal was explained and understood by

employees more favored it than were against it, but this was not always the case.

If the Personnel Policy Review Team would like additional infor-

mation regarding the specific concerns of employees with regard to the Personal Time Off/Short Term Disability proposal, members of

Continued on page 2



The grand opening of the new Charley's Market went off as scheduled Saturday, March 21 although the market's inventory consisted of only pop and gas. Work on the log structure is continuing with touches of detail work. Frank Charley stated that actually it will probably be about four weeks before the store will begin selling with a fully stocked inventory. He estimated that in the neighborhood of 900 people attended the opening and the traditional meal served in the longhouse commemorating Simnasho's first store. Many young people attending the opening were not hampered by the lack of inventory in the store, they were busy taking turns trying for the highest score on a video game in the store.

WEATHER

MARCH	HI	LOW
12	52	42
13	56	36
14	47	39
15	52	38
16	57	46
17	54	43
18	51	33
19	49	27
20	56	26
21	55	34
22	59	25
23	50	42
24	60	27