

Apparel Industries celebrates first year

The contracts are coming in after the first year of operation at Warm Springs Apparel Industries. Seamstresses are turning out thousands of garments per month.

As of October 23, 28 employees including one janitor, one clerical person and a bundler work at the plant. Several employees have been working at the factory since it began operation one year ago.

A semi-truck recently delivered fabric from NIKE Corporation which requires the cutting of 10,000 units. Seamstresses are currently working on contracts from J & M Associates of Portland to produce 500 tights and 800 shirts per week. They are finishing a contract for Pike to sew shirts. Helly-Hansen has signed a contract with the Apparel Industries for delivery of 33,000 shorts.

The only slow times occur when seamstresses are learning to sew a new garment, says Warm Springs Apparel Industries manager Bernyce Courtney. It takes a little time to retrain workers. They get used to one type of fabric, she explains, and then it is difficult to change.

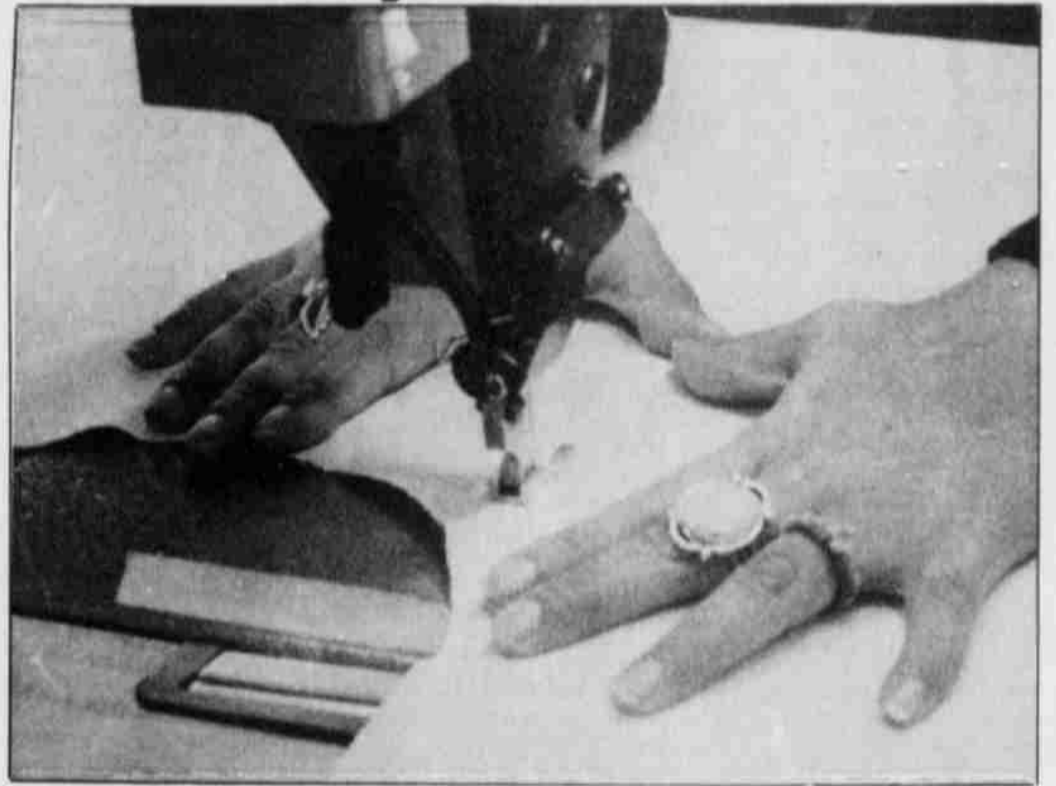
Plant administrators are trying to increase attendance at the plant with a bonus incentive program. An ideal absence percentage would be less than 2.8 percent. At times absenteeism has reached 40 percent, relates Courtney.

Employees quit and few new applications has made it necessary for plant administrators to seek workers from outside the reservation. As of October 15, anyone who wishes to apply for work at Warm Springs Apparel Industries is encouraged to do so. Contracts must be honored, explains Courtney.

Eventually, plant administrators hope to see 50 seamstresses on the job. That will depend on the number of contracts that are accepted and the consistency of employees' attendance, Courtney relates.



The last step is bundling.



Hands work quickly to complete work.



Stacks of fleece jackets await inspection.



New addition provides more work space.



Spilyay Tymoo photo by Shewczyk

Tribal fisheries biologist Bob Heinith discusses chart with Natural Resources department secretary Sharlayne Garcia.

Biologist joins department

A fisheries biologist has been hired in a temporary position in the Warm Springs natural resources department. Bob Heinith will be directing Bonneville Power Administration projects on the reservation. Proposed BPA projects total \$300,000 and if approved by Tribal Council will include: a fencing project on Beaver Creek/Dahl Pine and at Mill Creek/Potter's Pond; Juniper riprap placement on lower Beaver Creek to stabilize stream banks; and, lower Shitike Creek enhancement project.

Heinith is administering these projects while tribal fisheries biologist Mark Fritsch works on sub-basin planning, a statewide project to determine all wild and hatchery fish production and potential. The Tribe is involved in planning for

the Deschutes, 15-mile and Hood River basins.

Heinith received his degree in fisheries at Colorado State University in 1974. He worked in Colorado for 18 months in fisheries. For two years he worked for the National Marine Fisheries Service monitoring fish takes and doing biological sampling on Soviet, Korean, Japanese and Polish ships.

Because he is interested in environmental education in the area of science, Heinith recently returned to school at Western Oregon State College to earn a science education certification. He plans to work with Warm Springs Elementary and other district schools in developing an environmental education curriculum if he has the extra time.

Col. River cards available

The following people have not yet picked up their Columbia River cards:

Jimmy Wesley, Jr., Bernard Tee-wee, Eliza Greene, Roger D. Smith, Esther Stewart, Christopher Crane, Elliott Yahtin, Steven Stewart, Celestine Snappah, Craig Charley, Dolan Wahcneka, Sr., Damien Katchia,

Lyle Rhoan, Jr., William Culpus, Tony C. Boise, Virgil Culpus, Luther Clements, Frank Mitchell, Austin Smith, Michael Meanus, Hazel Saligan, Leroy Bobb, John Garcia, Charles Dick, Janice Lucei, Charlene Cayou, Victor R. Barney and Theodore J. Frank.

ECD Center discussed (Continued from page 1)

The difficulty children face in learning in these facilities was pointed out over and over at public meetings. Jody Calica stressed that each time a truck passes the trailers where children are trying to learn, these children have to forfeit 5-10 seconds of learning time. Automobile traffic is also heavy, near the buildings, creating a danger to children who have classrooms in any of these buildings. Children are continuously interrupted by normal work and activities for which the buildings are used. And in some cases, the buildings are just not safe for small children.

"We get used to the way things are," says Calica. But the education of children is more important than this. "Yes, the kids are important."

The conceptual design for the Community Learning Center of which the Early Childhood Development Center is a part, takes children away from traffic and activities not related to education. The first phase of the project is a facility for pre-school children. Later phases include an elementary school, Adult Education Center, Culture and Heritage offices and Library facilities.

The design and location of the Learning Center allows for easier phased expansion. A campus concept provides separate buildings with each program having its own area and identity. It is felt that a one-building complex would be too big and too institutionalized.

Some concern has been expressed about the location of the facilities which would be located in the area of the old garbage dump on Kot-Num Road, south of the Agency Longhouse. Studies, however, have shown that there would be no impact on the Early Childhood Development Center. Test holes show no evidence of methane gas which is sometimes generated by decaying debris.

Garbage that was dumped on the site in the past was confined to trenches. Portions of these trenches may need to be moved for further construction and more testholes will be analyzed for assurance of safety.

An estimated cost for the Early Childhood Development Center totals \$4,091,291.00. A breakdown of these costs include: Early

Childhood buildings—39,000 square feet, \$2,814,140; kitchen and maintenance buildings—8,000 sq. ft., \$425,000; site development—300,800 sq. ft., \$300,800; construction contingency—at five percent, \$716,997; architect/engineers—at eight (8) percent, \$297,355; and, furniture—\$77,000.

Funding is the major obstacle to getting the Early Childhood Development Center built. It is important, says Julie Mitchell, that parents and community members make contact with their district representative to discuss the plans and voice their support or opposition. Both points of view are important.

Support, so far, for the Learning Center and in particular the Early Childhood Development Center has been strong. In looking to the future of the children who would be served, Community members and Tribal member Bernice Mitchell emphasized that the entire community would be served. "These are our tomorrow's people. These people will be taking care of our reservation when we are gone."

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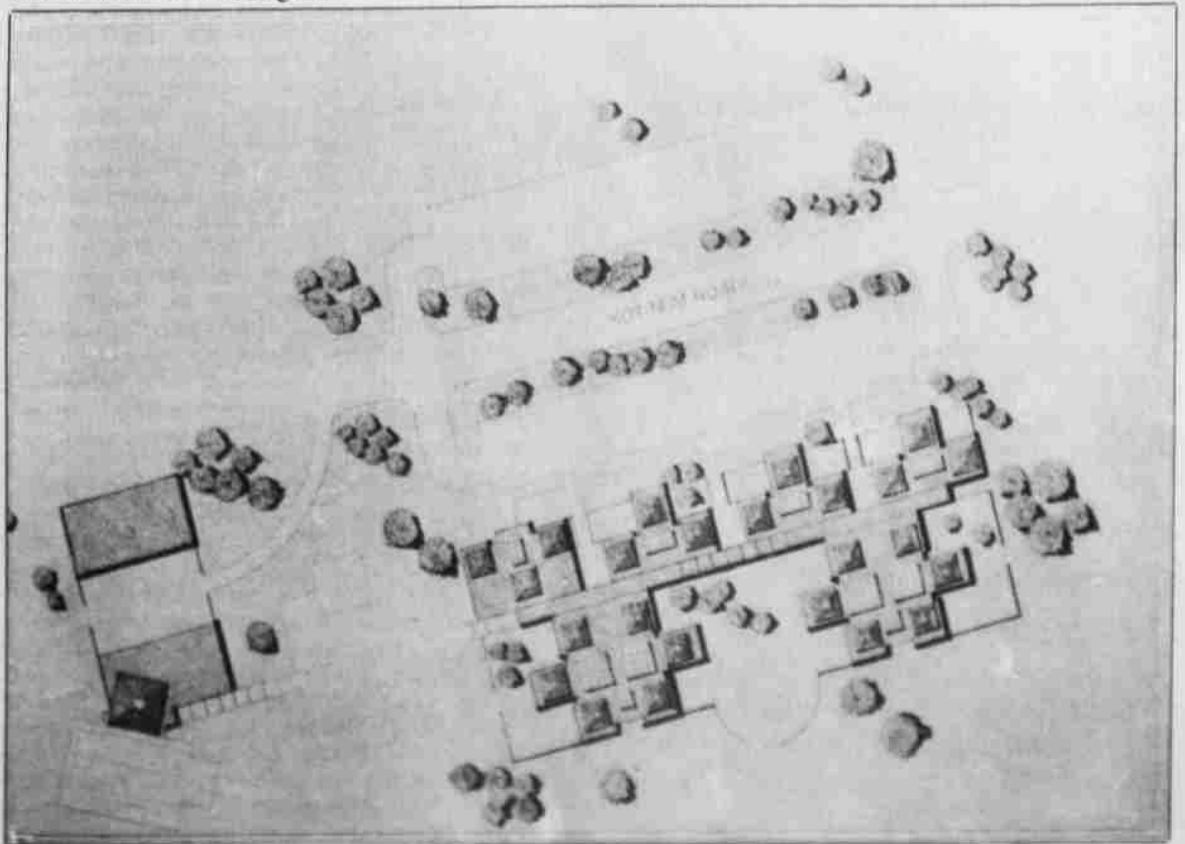
- Allows for easier phased expansion
- "Campus" Concept - Separate Buildings
- PROGRAMS have their own area and identity
- One Building Complex too big and too institutionalized
- Centrally located

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER (PHASE I)

- TESTHOLES IN DUMP AREA SHOW NO EVIDENCE OF METHANE GAS
- GARBAGE WAS CONFINED TO TRENCHES
- PORTIONS OF TRENCHES NEED TO BE MOVED FOR FUTURE CONSTRUCTION
- TESTHOLES WILL BE ANALYZED FOR FUTURE CONSTRUCTION

Spilyay Tymoo photo by Shewczyk

Head Start director Julie Mitchell reads letter of concern during public meeting discussing the Early Childhood Development Center.



Spilyay Tymoo photo by Shewczyk

Conceptual design of Community Learning Center includes Early Childhood Development Center, elementary school, adult education facility, Culture and Heritage offices and a library.