

Christmas season rejoiced, celebrated in many ways in Warm Springs

Tree dedicated to memory of Caroline and Popeye

In memory of Caroline Tohet and Wilkins "Popeye" Hellon, a tree planting and dedication was held at the Community Center November 29. Caroline and Popeye were honored by their co-workers, friends and Tribal Council members. Caroline and Popeye worked together for many years at the Community Center and former co-workers remembered them with stories. They were very understanding and giving of themselves during their time at the Community Center. They also had very loud conversations, that were called "discussions." Neither one was ever wrong about anything and they let each other know it.

A 15-foot blue spruce tree, planted in their memory, is to be measured by Santa Claus and decorated each year during the Caroline and Popeye Memorial. Like this year, pie and refreshments will be served.

Santa Claus rode in on a fire engine to measure the tree to compare with the measurement he will take next year. The height was recorded on a "handcrafted" tree in the Social Hall.

Members of two Warm Springs Elementary fourth grade classes attended the dedication to sing Christmas carols and see Santa, who they knew was Fireman Bob.

This tree is planted in loving memory of Caroline and Popeye and there are hopes that people will help take care of this tree and not let children and youth pull at it or do any harm to it. Remember, if Caroline were here she would adamantly say, "leave that tree alone."

Small trees, donated by Roma Cartney and Lucinda Green, were given to family members of Caroline and Popeye to plant at their own homes. They also donated little mallets as tokens of this dedication to Tribal Council, family and friends.

The tree was donated by Terry Luther of the Natural Resources department and the Utilities Department planted it.

Pies were donated by Shirley Smith, Carol Stevens, Arlene Boileau, Cheryl Starr and Carol

Allison. They each donated five pies. Cookies were donated by Erickson's Sentry Market in Madras.

This tree was planted in loving memory of Caroline and Popeye so,

"Remember if you see that tree blowing in the wind and branches are going everywhere, that's just Popeye and Caroline having another discussion," as Eva Montee said.



Santa Claus measured and recorded the height of the blue spruce tree to be 15-feet. The tree was planted as a dedication to Caroline Tohet and Wilkins "Popeye" Hellon.



Youngster expresses Christmas wishes to Santa.



Caroling was part of the campus tree lighting activities.



Decorations are important part of any tree.



Hispanic dancers participated in campus tree lighting festivities.