

Dec. 29, 1999
Vol. 25 No. 1

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(Coyote News)

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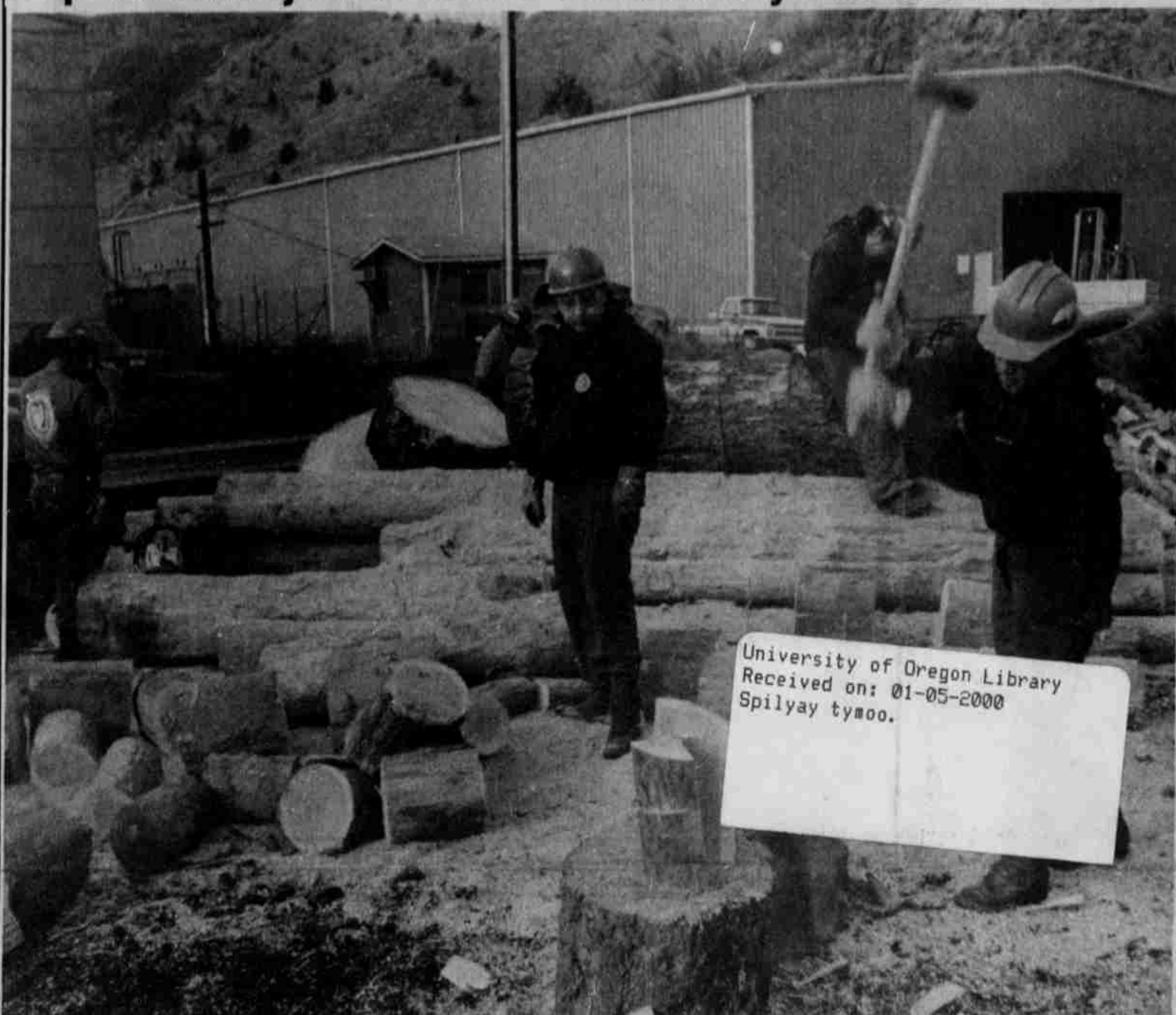
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Departments join to assist community senior citizens



Members of the Warm Springs Interagency Hot Shot Crew split firewood donated by The Warm Springs Forest Products

A program to assist Warm Springs Senior Citizens has been made possible by the Branch of Forestry and Warm Springs Forest Products. Forestry Superintendent Boddie Shaw, and Warm Springs Forest Products, Harvest Operation and Log Yard Manager, Mark Jackson, have

paired up to assist the Senior Citizens Program.

The two departments joined during the month of December and are donating, splitting and delivering firewood to needy senior citizen's of Warm Springs.

According to Mark Jackson, the

firewood has been donated by the Warm Springs Forest Products. The labor of splitting and delivering the firewood, was provided by Warm Springs Fire Management's Interagency Hot Shot Crew.

The Warm Springs Interagency Hot Shot Crew, began splitting the

firewood December 8, and started delivering the wood later during the month. A list of senior citizens' names was provided by the Senior Citizen's program to assure the wood was distributed properly.

Responding to Community interests

By Charles "Jody" Calica

Reorganizing governmental services to improve their efficiency and accountability was once compared to making as much sense as rotating bald tires. "No one cares or listens!" "Its just more business as usual!" Being desk bound and hiding behind obscure work-rules must be replaced by true outreach and more enterprising efforts to get results for the community.

The 1998 Public Safety budget referendum focused a great deal of needed attention on community safety and quality of life issues. Chief Heath asserted very correctly that focusing on only one set of services will not improve community living conditions for our people. "We approve funding for many other services that are supposed to help our people, but they aren't accountable."

The Tribal Council approved a set of priorities to set clear expectations for this three year term. Deadlines were set for the Organization to implement strategies and proposals to achieve that direction. Chairman JP Patt commented, "The Organization has set the bar for themselves where there is no challenge. The bars need to be set based upon the interests of the community and see if the Organization can rise to that expectation."

Restructuring public safety services focused on increasing the attack on drug trafficking with measurable results. Community policing became more apparent; response to domestic abuse improved dramatically, and juvenile crime revealed that 28 youth were responsible for

42% of the criminal activity. Public Safety services have improved, but more work is needed.

Education, health, housing and jobs are needed to make a meaningful change in the quality of live available to our people. The services offered by the Organization must be delivered in ways that preserve the self-esteem and dignity of our people. Very simply, these services must be much more user friendly and move our people to greater levels of self-reliance.

Our services are not very client centered and too fragmented to produce measurable results. While changing leadership in three branches for 60 to 90 days has produced some improvements, there are obvious gaps in our services that need to be fixed. Youth services, family preservation, K-12 supportive efforts and work force development represent a few areas that need a more concerted and focused effort to implement better strategies.

The following restructuring will be in effect for the next six months. It is an effort to improve the quality of services to the community by focusing more attention to specific clients and their needs. As well, our people and families are not made of separately serviceable parts so our services must be better able to recognize and respond to their unique situations. Within that six months further evaluation and community input will decide the best long-term organization of these services and the skills needed to lead those operations. These changes will take effect January 1, 2000.

EDUCATION SERVICES BRANCH

Adult & Community Education Department

Wendell Jim
OSU Extension
Culture & Heritage
Work Force Development
WIA/JTPA
Vocational Rehabilitation
Adult Basic Ed & GED
Distance Education

HUMAN SERVICES BRANCH

Family Services Department

Jim Quaid
Mental Health Services
Children's Services
Alcohol & Drugs
Allied Health Services
Health Education
Physical Therapy
EAP

PUBLIC UTILITIES BRANCH

Public Utilities Department

Herb Graybael
Plant Management
H & W Facilities
Sanitarian
Fleet Management
Facility Standards, Planning & Design
Water & Waste Water
Waste Management
Project Administration
Maintenance & Repair

Essential Education Services Department

Julie Quaid
Head Start
Child Development
K-12
Boarding Schools
Higher Education
Career Development

Social Services Department

Willie Fuentes
Senior Services
Welfare Assistance
Commodity Foods
Recreation
Assisted Living

Tribal Housing Department

Chester Van Pelt Jr.
Tribal Housing Department
Rentals Administration
Project Administration
Maintenance & Repair
HUD Planning & Administration
Rentals Administration

Continued on page 5

Warm Springs seeks funding

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs intends to access federal funds to upgrade the waste water treatment facility on Shitike Creek.

A loan and grant application is being processed through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Utilities Service (formerly known as Farmers Home Administration). Grants are also anticipated from the IHS and EPA for the project.

The facility upgrade is needed to comply with tribal and federal environmental laws, and to support the community's ongoing growth.

Total cost of the project is approximately \$3 million. Grants should total over \$1 million. The low interest loan would be in the 3 to 4% range. For information about the proposed project, contact the Planning or Engineering offices.

CODE executed search warrants

Narcotics Search Warrant December 16

On December 16, 1999, the Central Oregon Drug Enforcement Team (C.O.D.E.), with assistance from the Prineville Police Department's K-9 unit, acting on information from Officers of the Warm Springs Police Department, executed a search warrant at 2301 Hollywood Boulevard in Warm Springs. Seized as a result of the warrant was approximately two ounces of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

Arrested were Joe Scott, Jr., age 19, of Warm Springs, charged with possession of Marijuana.

Carmela Scott, age 41, of Warm Springs, charged with possession of Marijuana.

Narcotics Search Warrant December 17

On December 17, 1999 the Central Oregon Drug Enforcement Team (C.O.D.E.), with assistance from the Prineville Police Department's K-9 unit, executed a search warrant at 1202 Park Heights in Warm Springs. Seized as a result of the warrant was a small amount of methamphetamine, drug paraphernalia, drug records, and \$1374.00 in U.S. Currency.

Arrested were Deanna LameBear, age 32, of Warm Springs, charged with Possession and distribution of Methamphetamine and Child Neglect.

Anthony Gonzales, age 26, of Warm Springs, charged with Probation Violation.

Title IX to meet Jan. 18, 2000

The Title IX Parent Advisory Committee has cancelled it's Public Hearing Meeting until further notice, but it will meet at Warm Springs Elementary Library on Tuesday, January 18, 2000 at 7:00 p.m. for its regular monthly meeting.

Title IX meetings are open to all members of the public. The committee meets at 7:00 p.m. at the Warm Springs Elementary Library on the second Tuesday of each month except for this month. If you have a disability, please advise the District 509-J Support Services office about special arrangements that may allow you to fully participate in the meeting. Please call Georgia Sosa at 475-6192.

Tribes purchase 25,000-acre Pine Creek Ranch

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, through funds provided by the Bonneville Power Administration, have purchased the 25,000-acre Pine Creek Ranch in Wheeler County east of Clarno. The ranch was purchased this past fall for \$5.6 million as mitigation for fish and wildlife habitat flooded by Columbia River dams.

Some Wheeler County residents have been concerned about impacts to the local tax base. These concerns were alleviated when the ranch taxes were paid in full on November 15, 1999 and tribal representatives announced their intent to continue paying taxes on an annual basis.

The goal of the Confederated Tribes is to manage the newly acquired property as a watershed restoration project that will emphasize the enhancement of fish and wildlife resources. Cultural resources, threatened and endangered species, geological features and educational opportunities will be other important

elements that shape management direction.

Employee of the tribes' Natural Resources Branch, with assistance from other agencies and area residents, are gathering baseline information on a variety of resources contained within the ranch boundaries. Data collected through interviews with knowledgeable individuals and thorough surveys of the property will be used to formulate a management plan for the ranch.

Hunting rights for the ranch are currently under a lease agreement with the former owner. The lease does not expire until March 31, 2000 so public access is prohibited at the present time. However, a strategy to manage public access is being developed and a limited number of hunters may be allowed on the property during the next fall season.

For the past several decades the ranch has been managed primarily for livestock grazing. Intensive

grazing pressure has altered plant communities and degraded the overall condition of the watershed. For these and other reasons livestock grazing will be discontinued until resource professionals determine that grazing can be used as a management tool to benefit fish, wildlife and watershed restoration.

The Confederated Tribes will develop all plans or Pine Creek Ranch resources through an interdisciplinary approach, which takes all pertinent issues into account. While fish, wildlife and cultural resources are among the key components, managers will also consider water quality, soil stability, native plants, geology, aesthetics, vehicular access, recreation, environmental education and other related issues in all management objectives. For more information about Pine Creek Ranch write to Terry Luther, c/o Fish and Wildlife Department, P.O. Box C, Warm Springs, Oregon 97761, or call 541-553-3234.

Demo/Buy Down offered to tribal members

The Warm Springs Housing Department in conjunction with the Warm Springs Credit Department would like to announce the "1999 Demo/Buy Down" Project. The 1999 project will assist 10 qualified tribal member families by providing a \$10,000 grant that will be used as a down payment for purchasing a new home. Financing will be provided by the Warm Springs Credit Department.

In 1996 the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act (NAHASDA) was passed by Congress. As a NAHASDA requirement the Warm Springs Housing Department submitted an Indian Housing Plan (IHP) which was approved by HUD in October 1999. Within the IHP \$100,000 was budgeted for "Buy Down" activities.

Applications will available at the Credit Department starting December 1, 1999. If you have any question regarding the "1999 Demo/Buy

Down" project you may contact the Housing Department at 553-3250 or the Credit Department at 553-3201.

"Demo/Buy Down" Project
Project Goal: Assist 10 Tribal member families purchase homes.

Tribal member families may be eligible for a loan and the "grant" if they meet all the following requirements:

1. Do not have an adequate home.
2. Do not exceed FY 1999 National Income Limits (NAHASDA requirement)
3. Have adequate and dependably available income to pay all debts, family living expenses and home loan payment. Have been steadily and

gainfully employed for not less than two years.

4. Have a credit history that indicates a reasonable ability and willingness to meet obligations as they become due.

5. Must be legally married if signing jointly (Tribal Requirement) and custody of at least one minor child (HUD requirement).

6. Must be able to pay premium for first full years fire insurance on home.

7. Homes will be built on Tribal owned land with lease on file in BIA Portland Area Office.

8. Homes built by valid building contractor (must meet Tribal Purchasing Department standards). Site plan approved by appropriate authorities prior to construction start up.

Applications may be picked up at the Credit Department. Application deadline is December 31, 1999.