

# Green enjoying law enforcement career

By Selena Boise  
Spilyay Staff

Warm Springs tribal member Starla Green was named Domestic Violence Detective for the Jefferson County Sheriffs Department in early September 2001. After five months of patrol work for the Sheriffs Department the opportunity was made possible for her to fulfill her goal of becoming a detective. She works for the District Attorney through grant funding. "It was a surprise for me to be promoted so fast," says Green.

She receives her referrals, or caseload from the county, city, and state patrol officers. She has already worked on some major cases involving abuse, rape and family related issues.

After graduating from high school Green attended Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton, Oregon, where she received her associates degree in law enforcement.

During this time Green was chosen to represent the tribes as Miss Warm Springs 1994.

She was a patrol officer for Warm Springs Police Department for four years before attending Eastern Oregon State University. She received her Bachelors Degree in Criminal Justice in June of 2000, with a minor in anthropology. "All I have ever done is law enforcement and I want to go back and finish my Masters," says Green.

Green spends many hours on the job and is on-call 24-hours a day but still makes time for dancing with her family. Her family does tourism and performances.

Green has done a lot of traffic

safety with the state, which includes teaching traffic safety.

Even after taking a break for three years from law enforcement, she received recognition by the State of Oregon for her involvement in traffic safety. She was recognized with a coat with the Oregon Traffic Safety emblem.

When Green was in school she did an internship with Oregon Department of Transportation Traffic Safety Program.

While there she rewrote the curriculum for the Traffic Safety Programs in Oregon. Green has been at the Jefferson County Sheriffs Department since March 2001 and has decided that will enjoy being a detective for a while.

Her office is located at the new Sheriffs office near the airport. This new facility houses the administration offices, patrol office, and the new jail.

The jail is scheduled to open at the end of October and can house just over a hundred prisoners. That's 300% more than they were able to before.

This new facility will eliminate the need to give prisoners conditional release due to no spaces available. "No more free rides," says Green.



Starla Green



Starla Green is among four law enforcement officers featured on a road-side public-safety billboard sponsored by the Oregon Department of Transportation. The billboard, on display along various roads in the state, is reproduced above.

# Stabbing death still being investigated

## Woman injured during incident released from hospital

Warm Springs police continue investigating the circumstances that resulted in the death on Oct. 6 of tribal member Wilbur Merrifield, who was 44 when he passed away.

During the same incident, tribal member Dinah Merrifield, 40, suffered multiple stab wounds.

Dinah Merrifield was treated at Mountain View, then at St. Charles. She was initially listed in critical condition, was upgraded to stable condition, and subsequently released from the hospital.

Meanwhile, as of earlier this

week, investigators had not yet determined whether Wilbur Merrifield died from a self-inflicted stab wound. In other words the case has yet been determined to be either a suicide or a homicide, said Jim Cole, Warm Springs detective.

A conclusion to the investigation should come following the outcome of forensic testing, said

Cole. Such tests can potentially take up to several weeks, he said.

Dinah and Wilbur Merrifield were found at their Warm Springs residence by a relative at approximately 7 p.m., Saturday Oct. 6.

Wilbur was deceased at the scene from a stab-wound to the heart. Dinah was suffering multiple stab wounds.

# Tribes purchase 40 acres on Lake Billy Chinook

## Property is next to land purchased in 1988

The Tribal Council recently authorized the purchase of one-half interest in 40 acres of land along the Metolius arm of Lake Billy Chinook.

The property is contiguous to land along the river that the tribes purchased in 1988.

The newly purchased acreage, called the Clowers property, is also located adjacent to U.S. Forest Service land.

Acquisition of ownership interest in the Clowers property is consistent with Tribal Council direc-

tion of purchasing property adjacent to the reservation, said Jim Manion, of Warm Springs Power Enterprises.

Manion helped in facilitating the purchase, which was negotiated this year through Metolius Properties Corp., one of the tribes' wholly owned land companies.

Warm Springs Power Enterprises was initially reviewing the possibility of purchasing the property as land for use in the relicensing of the Pelton-Round Butte hydro project.

The ownership interest in the Clowers property is beneficial to the tribes in that it provides better influence over lands adjacent to the

reservation, said Manion. Sale price for one-half interest in the Clowers property was \$400,000, funded through the tribes' land purchase budget.

Tribal officials had been interested in buying the property since 1988; however, the price had always been too high. The initial

asking price for the land was \$2.2 million.

More recently, the owner of one-half interest in the land agreed to sell for \$400,000, payable over a 4-year period.

With ownership interest the tribes have the ability to influence and control the shoreline adjacent to the reservation.

There may also be development potential.

"The property is flat, in the center of the Metolius arm and offers the best potential for non-Reservation development if ever desired," according to Bill Smith, of Metolius Properties Corp.

# Agency District to meet Monday on 2002 budget

A meeting of the Agency District is scheduled for Monday, Oct. 22, at the Longhouse.

The meeting is in regard to the 2002 proposed budget. The Simnasho and Seekseequa districts have already met on the proposal.

Following the Agency District meeting, the Tribal Council will conduct at least one gen-

eral council meeting regarding next year's budget.

A final budget resolution will be adopted before Thanksgiving, and the final budget will be posted by Dec. 1.

In developing the 2002 budget the Tribal Council and membership could face a cut of up to \$800,000 from the current year level.

# Simnasho to consider new zoning designations

Residents of the Simnasho area, and other interested tribal members, are being asked for their input on proposed new zoning designations for the Simnasho community.

A hearing on the zoning plan is scheduled for 7 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 23, at the Simnasho Longhouse.

The zoning proposal would guide future development, and allocate lands for various needs. The zones include residential, commercial, agriculture, and public/community.

A community planning team, encompassing several tribal departments, is working on a similar zone proposal for the Warm Springs area, a hearing for which may be scheduled for the spring, said Ray Rangila, planning department director.

Rangila said the hope is to have the Simnasho zoning in place by the end of the year.

The new zoning would be an update of the current designations that date back to 1972, said Rangila.

The Confederated Tribes adopted a new land-use zoning code in 1987, which included a di-

rection to update community zoning maps as the Integrated Resource Management Plan (IRMP) process was completed.

The first phase of the IRMP process was in regard to the forestland on the reservation. The next phase was in regard to agriculture land.

The new zoning proposal for Simnasho is the first IRMP project on the reservation regarding a community, to be followed by a proposal for Warm Springs.

### MEETING NOTICE

**Simnasho Community Planning & Zoning Meeting**

**October 23, 2001  
Simnasho Longhouse  
Dinner at 6:00  
Meeting from 7:00 to 9:00**

**Purpose: Get community input on proposed land use zones**

