



Spilyay Tymoo

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News from the Warm Springs Indian Reservation

Jan. 24, 2002 Vol. 27, No. 2

Museum hires new director

The Board of Directors of The Museum at Warm Springs has chosen Carol Leone, from Arizona, as the new director of the museum.

Leone is expected to begin work here mid-February, said Ed Manion, who has been acting museum director for the past year.

Leone will be coming to Warm Springs from Flagstaff, where she worked for the museum of the state of Arizona.

The Museum at Warm Springs has been without a permanent director for about one year.

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Adoption election again falls short

76 candidates again disappointed

The adoption election this past Monday failed for lack of voter participation.

The same thing happened last October.

It may be some time before the Tribal Council schedules another such election.

"The Tribal Council may not immediately want to re-schedule a third election," said Charles Jackson, Secretary-Treasurer.

The most recent valid adoption vote of the Confederated Tribes happened in 1996.

In that year, 162 candidates were on the ballot, and 137 candidates were adopted into the Confederated Tribes.

The failed ballot on Monday of

this week included 76 adoption candidates, the same people who were on the October 2001 ballot.

The 1996 vote may have generated more voter participation because more candidates were on the ballot, said Jackson.

A point of discussion, he said, may be whether to wait for additional candidates to qualify for a new adoption ballot before re-scheduling another vote.

Degree of controversy

The issue of tribal adoption in recent years carries some degree of controversy.

Lack of voter participation is a statement in itself, according to some tribal members.

They point out that only one of the 76 candidates on the recent ballot has one-quarter blood of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.



Craig Tulee casts his ballot.

The other candidates to varying degrees have less than one-quarter Confederated Tribes blood.

On the other hand, each of the recent candidates qualifies for adoption under tribal law of the Confederated Tribes.

Tribal members who supported the recent election say it is unfair to avoid a consensus vote through a failure to participate.

Some also say it is a waste of money. Each adoption election costs the tribes approximately \$5,000.

Funeral was Monday

The election on Monday happened on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, a national holiday.

There was a funeral on Monday as well, for a local man who was well loved.

This may have led to fewer votes on Monday.

A funeral also happened about the time of the October adoption election.

Return of the Bighorns

A century after disappearing, wild sheep roam the Muttons

By Dave McMechan
Spilyay Staff

For the past two weeks 20 California bighorn sheep have been roaming the Mutton Mountains.

Some of the animals are wearing radio collars, so wildlife managers have been tracking their whereabouts.

Some of the sheep are staying in a main herd. Some others have gathered into a smaller herd.

Still fewer - maybe just two or three sheep - are away from the other two herds.

The bighorns now living in the Mutton Mountains are from mountains at the upper John Day River.

The sheep are the first bighorns in the Mutton Mountains in about a century.

Planning and preparation for bighorn reintroduction on the reservation took years. Terry Luther, Doug Calvin and Stanley Simtustus at Tribal Natural Resources have been working on this project for a long time.

While the planning and preparation took a long time, the capture of the sheep at John Day and the release on the reservation took only about 24 hours.

The sheep were captured on



The sheep were captured in the upper John Day area, and transported in a horse trailer.

Thursday, Jan. 10, and released at dawn in the Mutton Mountains the following morning.

In between time the sheep were kept in a horse trailer. Bighorns can

become excited during a capture, but they tend to calm down once they are together in a trailer, said Doug Calvin.

The sheep were netted individually from a helicopter, operated by Hawkins & Powers, out of Wyoming.

Hawkins & Powers was working through a contract with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. The Confederated Tribes in turn had an agreement for 20 sheep with ODFW.

Captured by helicopter

On the Thursday of the capture, the helicopter team would fly out to the Aldrich Mountains, located near the towns of Mt. Vernon and John Day.

The helicopter flew out to the mountains from a base camp that the ground teams had set up at the foothills of the Aldrich Mountains.

Once in the air and in sight of sheep, the pilot would maneuver the helicopter while a crewmember would deploy a net over a sheep.

On the ground, the sheep would be secured with straps. The sheep were blindfolded so they would keep calm.

The animals were then placed in

special carrying sacks. The sacks were attached to the helicopter by long ropes, allowing the pilot to fly the sheep back to the base camp.

Usually, one or two sheep were flown in at a time. On two separate occasions, four sheep were flown in during a single helicopter run.

The base camp was staffed by teams of wildlife biologists, technicians and veterinarians.

Once a sheep arrived at the camp, the animal was given oxygen, and treated with antibiotics.

The straps and blindfold were then removed, and the sheep was put into a horse trailer.

Took 24 hours

The first sheep was captured early in the morning, and the last four were flown in just as the sun was going down.

The sheep were transported by trailer to a property between Madras and Metolius, where they spent the night.

Early the following morning, they were brought out to the Mutton Mountains and released.

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Bright future for tribes' GIS service

By Dave McMechan
Spilyay Staff

It is the kind of technology that many people find useful and interesting. And the Confederated Tribes are a leader in the field.

Plans are under way to expand the program. This will create new tribal member jobs, and generate money for the tribes.

The Geographic Information System, or GIS office is a department the Confederated Tribes Natural Resources Branch.

Currently, seven employees work at GIS, which is housed in the Forestry building at the Natural Resources/Industrial Park compound.

The GIS work involves the use of state of the art computer hardware and software.

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Youth, 14, injured during failed break-in

Very early Monday morning, a homeowner on Looksh Road in the Greely Heights neighborhood encountered a youth who, according to police, was trespassing and breaking into vehicles on the property.

The homeowner confronted the youth, age 14, who also apparently had been trying to break into the homeowner's residence.

The homeowner reported that the youth, who was intoxicated, approached the homeowner in a manner that led the owner to believe the youth was armed with a weapon. The homeowner struck the youth on the head with an ax handle, and thereby was able to detain the youth.

Police arrived upon the scene, and discovered the youth, now suffering a head injury, was in possession of a knife. The youth tried to scuffle with officers, tried to bite and kick them, according to police.

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Doug Calvin (left) and Stanley Simtustus, of the Confederated Tribes Natural Resources Branch, prepare radio collars at the base camp.