



Spilyay Tymoc

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Public safety adopts changes

By Dave McMechan
Spilyay Tymoc staff

No branch of the Confederated Tribes' government has seen more change over the past couple of years than Public Safety.

The Warm Springs Police Department especially has seen significant changes, not only in department leadership but also in the way the department interacts with the community.

The changes, explained Police Chief Don Courtney, "are in response to the people's wish that we follow the concept of community policing."

Community policing involves a partnership between law enforcement and the people of the community.

"I would describe this as a softer approach to law enforcement," said Courtney. Community policing, he said, "calls for treating people with respect and dignity, and I think this approach has had a tremendous, positive impact on the community."

Part of community policing, he said, includes instilling among law enforcement officers a philosophy that on some occasions the officer can help most by not making an arrest or issuing a ticket.

Some television shows, Courtney said, create the impression that police are in an antagonistic relationship with the community. This is not the case.

"Rookie officers," he said, "learn there is more to the job than arresting people."

Through community policing, "you solve problems through communication with

Tragic evening in 1998 was turning point

Some of the changes that have happened in recent years in the Warm Springs public safety branch can be traced back to a particular summer night in 1998.

That year, on the night of August 4, Luther Danzuka, 42, was walking home from a friend's house.

A short distance from the house, Danzuka was bitten by a rattlesnake.

The snake, which had been lying near a fence, bit Danzuka on the lower part of the arm.

See DANZUKA on 9

the community members."

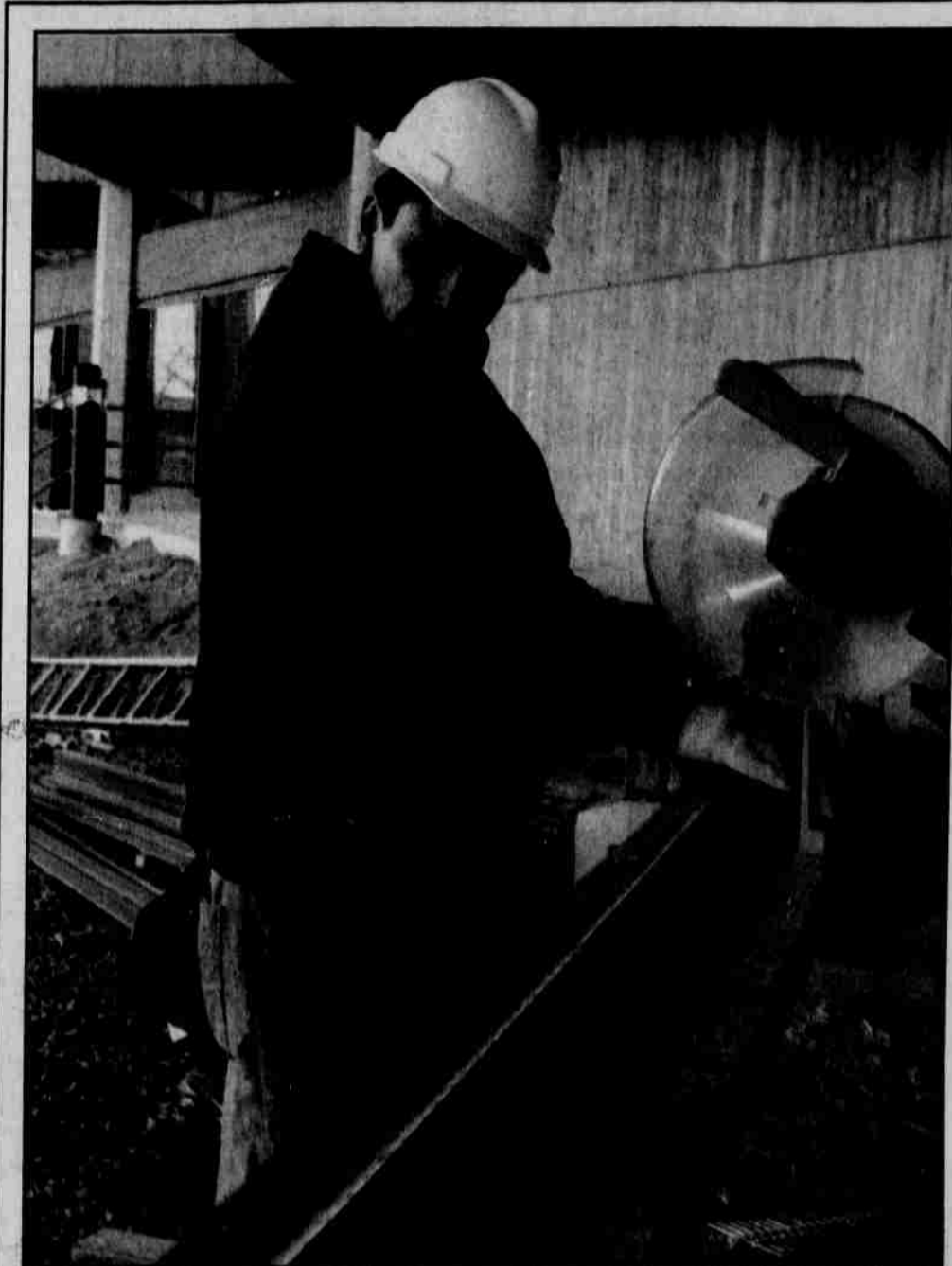
One of the most visible components of the Warm Springs community policing program is Kids First.

Through this program, representatives of the police department visit the homes of tribal members.

In visiting the homes, the police officers are accompanied by health and fire department representatives. Last week, the Kids First team went door-to-door, visiting homes in the West Hills area.

As the name of the program indicates, Kids First focuses on the safety and health of children in the community, said officer Bob Medina, Kids First police representative.

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Kah-Nee-Ta remodel

Leroy Allen prepares siding for the outside of the dining area at Kah-Nee-Ta. The resort is currently undergoing a \$5 million remodel.

Dave McMechan/Spilyay

Bridge work to close highway

Traffic on Highway 26 through the reservation will be re-routed during weekdays beginning April 1, through May 3. This will be necessary as the Oregon Department of Transportation will be working on the Mill Creek Bridge.

Passenger vehicle traffic will use Route 3 and 9 through Simnasho. Truck traffic will use the route over highways 97, 197 and 216, through the Maupin area.

The Simnasho route 3 and 9 is not suitable for heavy truck traffic, said Danny Martinez, chief of Warm Springs Fire and Safety.

Highway 26 through the reservation will be closed for the four-week period from Monday, April 1, to Friday, May 3.

During those weeks, the highway will close at 12 p.m. on Monday, and then re-open at 12 p.m. on Friday.

The plan is for the highway to be open during the weekends, said Martinez.

Fund helps control population of reservation dogs

The problem of stray dogs on the reservation can be a serious one. People on the reservation report an estimated 30 dog bites per year, which is well above the average.

And the 30 reported bites are just a percentage of the bites that happen on the reservation, as many go unreported.

A trust fund established by Jefferson County woman is helping address the problem of

unwanted dogs on the reservation.

The Daisy Fund provides funding so that dogs belonging to tribal members, and stray dogs on the reservation, can be spayed or neutered free of charge.

The Warm Springs reservation is the top priority of Daisy Fund. Last year, 99 stray

dogs from the reservation were caught, spayed or neutered, and then returned to the area where they had been picked up.

This was the work of Warm Springs sanitarian Nancy Collins and Kaipō Akaka, who assisted her in the work.

Their work prevented an estimated 792 unwanted pup-

pies from being born, she said. Besides the spaying and neutering of the stray dogs, another 283 Daisy Fund certificates were issued last year to dog owners, said Collins.

For information on receiving a Daisy Fund certificate for a free spaying or neutering of a dog, call 553-4 943.

Emergency rescue crews have busy afternoon

Warm Springs Fire and Safety saw a busy afternoon on Tuesday of this week, March 19. During the course of the day, there were three motor vehicle accidents on the reservation, two of them within a short period of time.

The first accident happened at 10:50 a.m. near the Wolf Point turn-off. In this wreck, a single vehicle with four occupants - an adult and three children - rolled over.

Loose gravel was the apparent cause. Fortunately, no one was seriously injured.

The second accident happened at noon on Highway 26 north of Warm Springs.

A single vehicle left the roadway and came to rest half submerged in Beaver Creek.

Upon arriving at the scene, the EMS team found a man shivering and complaining of possible internal injuries.

He was flown by Air Life

to St. Charles Medical Center. Another occupant of this vehicle was transported by ground ambulance to Mountain View. Neither of the people were local residents. This accident caused the highway to be closed for about 45 minutes. Then at 7:10 p.m. on Tuesday, a single vehicle accident happened on Highway 3 near the fire hatchery. The woman in the vehicle was not seriously injured.

2 murder suspects may have separate trials

Tony Gilbert Jr., 19, has entered a plea of guilty to one count of second-degree murder in the death of Michael Saludo.

Two other suspects in the case - Ronald L. McKinley and Angelo Fuentes, both 23 - are charged with first-degree murder. As part of his plea agreement, Gilbert agreed to testify in the cases against McKinley and Fuentes.

By pleading guilty to second-degree murder, Gilbert

could receive a sentence of 20 years, rather than life in federal prison.

McKinley and Fuentes, if convicted of first-degree murder, would be sentenced to life in prison without possibility of parole.

A trial date for McKinley and Fuentes was set for April 23, but this date may be delayed. Meanwhile, lawyers for McKinley and Fuentes are petitioning the federal judge in

the case to grant them separate trials. This request was pending before the judge this week.

Gilbert, McKinley and Fuentes were arrested in July of last year on allegations of having murdered Michael Saludo, who was 26.

The incident happened at the Lower Dry Creek Campground on the reservation. (A letter of appreciation for community support from the Saludo family appears on page 4.)

Police investigating death of 3-month old infant

The Warm Springs Police Department and the FBI are investigating the circumstances that led to the death during the weekend of an infant child.

At press deadline this week, the police department was not yet releasing any information, as the matter remains under investigation. The infant that

passed away was Lance Jefferson Miller. The mother of the child is Frances Jefferson. The father is Emerson Miller.

Painting with Spirit

Artwork by tribal member shows school spirit

By Selena Boise
Spilyay Tymoc staff

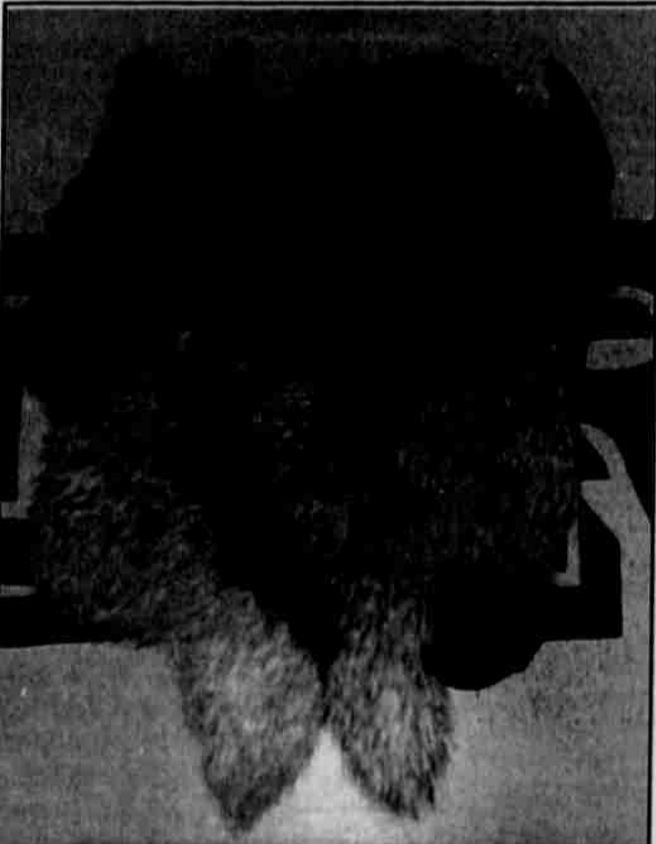
If you have been to Madras High School and wandered the hallways, you will see various paintings created by the art students. One of these paintings is a white buffalo painted by tribal member Camille Clements.

She did such a wonderful job that she was asked to paint another white buffalo near the gymnasium for the public to see when they attend high school games at the gymnasium.

Clements is a senior and will graduate from Madras High School this year. She is the daughter of Rudy George Clements of Warm Springs, and Cassimera Caldera of Portland, Oregon.

She has four sisters, two brothers and stepmom Sheilah Clements. "She does an excellent job and I am proud of her."

She has also won an



Selena Boise/Spilyay

The white buffalo is on the wall of a hallway at the high school.

award for her art pieces in the past," says her father.

After she graduates from Madras High School she plans

on attending college and majoring in architecture, where she will utilize her skills for designing.