

# Fire hall at Seekseequa nearing completion

By Dave McMechan  
Spilyay Tymoo

The new Seekseequa Fire Hall is nearing completion. The target date for opening is Nov. 10, said Warm Springs Fire and Safety Chief Dan Martinez.

With the addition of the new station, Fire and Safety is ordering a new fire truck and an ambulance, said Martinez.

The new fire hall will provide round the clock fire and safety coverage for the Seekseequa area.

The plan is to have a two-person crew at the station at all times, said Martinez. With the need for added personnel, Fire and Safety has hired fire fighters Lynn Fluhr, Preston "Dana" Smith and John Miller. A fourth position will be filled by Jocelyn Moses. All of the new hires are tribal members.

Also, the Workforce Education Development Department (WEDD) will provide support through the funding of a training position that Fire and Safety is currently recruiting for.

The Seekseequa Fire Hall is 6,200 square feet in size, located on the M-300 road on the



Above, the Seekseequa Fire Hall is located at the top of the hill going toward Indian Park; photo below is the 16,000-gallon water tank.

*"And we want to emphasize that this is a community fire department. We have big plans for that area."*

**Dan Martinez**  
Fire and Safety chief

way to Indian Park.

The building has three truck bays, a conference room and kitchen.

### Support structures

Besides the fire hall structure itself, the construction project includes development of a 1,400-square-foot residence adjacent to the hall. The residence will be the living quarters for the fire crew members who are on duty at the station.

Fire and Safety is looking for furniture, such as quality beds and chairs, for the crew member residence. Anyone interested in contributing can call Fire and Safety at 553-1634.



Near the new fire hall and residence is a water tank that holds 16,000 gallons; the water

is for fire suppression purposes.

### Community involvement

The new station will provide Fire and Safety with an overall stronger presence in the Seekseequa area.

With the stronger presence will come more community involvement in fire and safety matters at Seekseequa, said fire chief Martinez.

There are plans, for instance, to teach hazard reductions to local residents. Hazard reduction includes the proper way to trim trees so as to reduce fire risk. Upon request Fire and Safety personnel will visit and inspect residences, and advise on how to improve the safety conditions.

"We'll be able to pay more attention to Seekseequa," said Martinez.

"And we want to emphasize that this is a community fire department. We have big plans for that area."

Along with advising the community members on hazard reduction, Fire and Safety is also to offer CPR and First-Aid classes to the Seekseequa residents.

*The Seekseequa Fire Hall is a part of the long-range expansion of fire and ambulance protection on the reservation.*

### Some delay

Plans for development of the Seekseequa Fire Hall began a few years ago. Tribal Council initially appropriated funds for construction of the station in 2001. There was some delay, and then Council in 2002 again appropriated funding for the project.

The 2002 Tribal Council action, in regard to the present-year budget, included a provision that the Seekseequa Fire Hall was to be a priority. Construction then began earlier this year, and is very quickly nearing completion. The Seekseequa Fire Hall is a part of the long-range expansion of fire and ambulance protection on the reservation. The development of the Simnasho hall was an initial phase of the expansion plan.

## Do you care about children? Become a CASA advocate

(Note: the following is a public service announcement provided by the CASA program.)

Do you have time to help a child in need? All it takes is 10 to 15 hours of your time a month to be a child advocate in the Warm Springs Tribal Court - 10 to 15 hours a month, that's all.

There are many children who need a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteer to advocate for them and to help them through this troubling time in their lives. Ten to 15 hours is all it takes.

CASA is looking for volunteers to speak up for these children. Would you commit 10 to 15 hours of your time to work with a child in crisis? Children

need to know that there is one special person who will be there for them and help them through the system simply because they care.

Do you care about the children of the Warm Springs community? Then you may qualify to be a CASA volunteer. No special experience required.

To date, the Warm Springs CASA program has five active volunteers. These volunteers are currently advocating in Tribal Court. If you are ready to be a valued volunteer in a child's life, please call Jeannie Brisbois at 553-2323. The CASA office, located by the Vern Jackson home, is open 8 to 11 a.m., Monday through Friday. Please call or stop by. Thank you.

## Birthday wishes...

Happy anniversary Mr. and Mrs. Lamont Brown, Oct. 26. We all love you and care for you. God bless you and watch over you. May both walk in beauty, as always. Love, Julie and Gibby and West Hills.

Happy birthday to Florine "Nik" Wolfe on Oct. 1, to Davida Boyd on the 11<sup>th</sup>, to Juanita White Elk on the 19<sup>th</sup>, to (uncle, grandpa) Ronnie Thomas on the 20<sup>th</sup> and to Terrance Spino on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Prayers and thoughts for a great "new" year to each of you. Love from a relative, friend, etc., Angie and Brent Thomas.

Happy birthday to my brother Vernon "Wolfman" Suppah. We love you a lot and miss you. From your sister and brother-in-law Marella and Robert Sam.

Happy birthday to uncle Wolfman. Hope you have a good day and hope we can call you soon. From your No. 1 nephew Thomas Chester Sam.

Happy birthday to uncle Wolfman.

Wherever you are I love you and miss you, and call me at school. From Je Leah "Ooah" Sam.

Happy Halloween and best of Trick or Treats to Cecil, Vena, Marlene, Tom, Lillie Tias and Marlene, Ezra Badread. Love, Angie and Brent Thomas.

VFW Ladies Auxiliary 4217  
Annual Fundraiser  
October 24-25  
V.F.W. Hall on Hollywood Blvd.

Something for everyone, things for traditional giveaways, new and old, clothes and foods.

Lunch fundraiser same day to be announced

Funds for Veterans Day dinner and general fund, to be donated back to the community.

For more information call Neda Wesley, 553-1538. Donations accepted.

## Halloween contact lenses (non-prescription)

Lenses available for sale are: werewolf eyes, tiger eyes, glow in the dark, red, 8 ball, and white. Low price of \$50 each,

\$5 for the cleanser package. Contact Bruce or Barbara Jim at 6608 Wolfe Pt. Rd., or call 553-3475 or 553-1223.

Please order early so the lenses can be here on time for Halloween. Payment needed prior to the order, thank you.

Story idea?  
Call Spilyay Tymoo  
553-3274

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