

Worker recognized for job dedication

Alley David of Warm Springs was this year's recipient of the BIA Northwest Region Outstanding Service Award. David is employed with the BIA Warm Springs Agency, as the roads maintenance foreman.

David was one of eight candidates nominated from the Northwest Region, which consist of five states.

The purpose of the award is to recognize employees who have shown exemplary service in the region.

David was recognized for his efficient management of the road maintenance department and service to the Warm Springs community.

Especially during winter storms, he is dedicated to providing the best service to the



Alley David

traveling public.

Calls from the police department to remove road hazards on weekends and after normal working hours are a routine part of his service to the public.

Report details abuse

SALEM (AP) — A new state report says that 10 percent of Oregon women ages 20 to 55 have been physically or sexually abused by their intimate partners during the past five years.

More than half of those assaulted, the report states, suffered serious harm, including broken bones, internal injuries, head injuries, cuts or knife wounds.

The survey of nearly 3,000 Oregon women was conducted by the state Department of Human Services.

"This is a pretty prevalent problem and one about which there is a fair amount of denial," said Mel Kohn, DHS epidemiologist.

Generalized to the larger population, the findings indicate that more than 85,000 Oregon women were hurt by their spouses or lovers during the past five years.

The study, part of a \$400,000 federal grant aimed at tracking intimate partner violence, revealed several striking findings:

Less than two-fifths of seriously injured women received medical care. Of those, about one-quarter of the physical assault victims and nearly half of the sexual assault victims did not tell their medical providers how the injuries occurred.

Women who were hurt averaged eight physical assaults and a dozen sexual assaults over a five-year period. Women whose partners had threatened them with violence during the past five years were 40 times more likely to report that they had actually been assaulted.

After adjusting for other factors, American Indian women were four times more likely to report violence at the hands of their partners than other Oregon women. Women who reported violence during the past five years had higher rates of depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder, suicidal thoughts and substance abuse.

"The impact of intimate partner violence extends beyond physical injuries," Kohn said. "Many Oregon women suffer long-term consequences of past abuse."

Maggie Jordan, managing di-

Coalition encourages awareness

April is Child Abuse and Sexual Assault Awareness Month. The Indian Country Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault would like to make the following information available to the public:

Research studies clearly show that children are affected by domestic violence and that, not infrequently, child maltreatment and spouse abuse occur in the same families.

Children in abusive families may be seriously affected by the violence found in their homes. Studies show that the effect of both experiencing maltreatment and witnessing family violence may produce greater negative effects than either factor alone.

More and more, battered women advocacy groups and child welfare agencies/CPS are recognizing the need to provide coordinated services to families experiencing violence. Research and service projects are being funded at the local and federal level to address the overlap between child maltreatment and spouse abuse.

Each effort adds to the field's knowledge and expertise in serving families where children are involved in domestic violence situations.

The potential for true reform in service delivery is found in a small but growing number of battered women services, batterer intervention programs, and child welfare agencies that represent balanced collaboration between the fields, with each learning from the other while working together.

Director of victims' services for Community Works of Medford, said more than 90 percent of the intimate partner violence is committed by men against women.

Tribal Census in final phase

Starting this Thursday, April 1, Tribal Census enumerators will no longer call or go out in the community trying to locate community members.

One final mailing to those on-reservation who have not been reached will be mailed on April 1.

Jolene Atencio, of Tribal Planning, is asking those who receive the mailing to please complete these forms. Call the Vital Statistics office if you have any questions, 553-3252. Atencio also explained the following:

If you did not personally complete a form, you may still call Vital Statistics to do so after March 31. The more complete information from primary sources, she said, will provide valuable planning and grant writing information to tribal departments for several years.

Much of the secondary source information provided was "last known" residence and employment only.

"Thank you to all community members who stepped forward

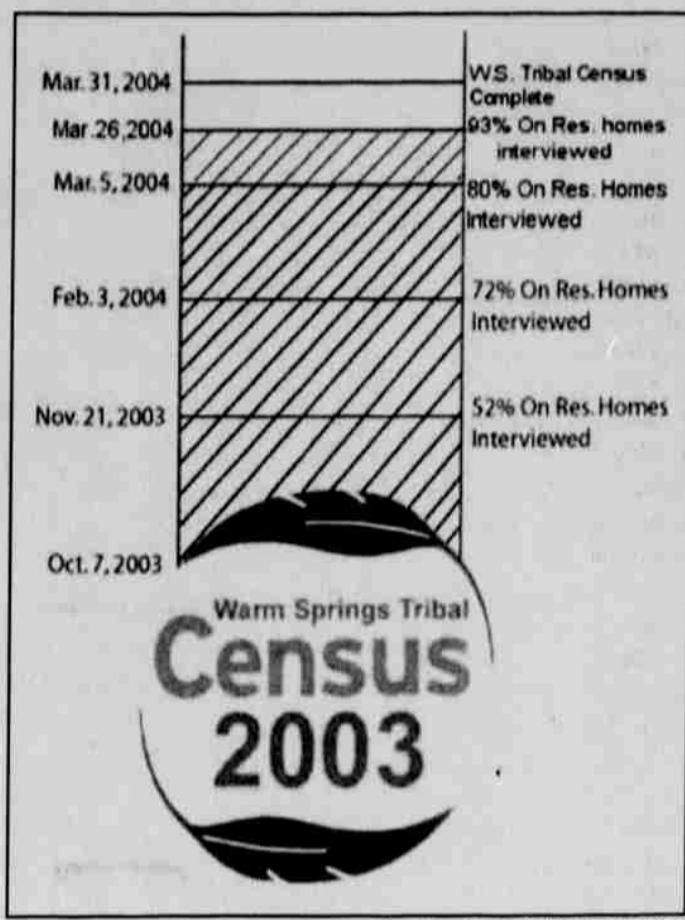
as secondary sources in March to boost the count considerably," said Atencio.

"With your help, as of March 26 we counted 96 percent of every head of housing unit on the reservation, more than enough for the HUD census challenge, and 72 percent of every tribal member age 18 and over, both on and off the reservation," she said.

She added, please note the 96 percent figure could be as low as 82 percent and as much as 99 percent depending on how many of the homes are determined to be "vacant."

Numerous administrative tasks, like finalizing the vacant housing unit lists, need to be completed. The Census Team expects there will be at least two months of in-putting data and other follow-up tasks before the first preliminary reports are released this summer.

Since October 2003, enumerators made at least one home visit to every home on the reservation (several to some homes) and a questionnaire was



Graphic courtesy of Tribal Planning/Eagle Tech

mailed to every head of household off-reservation.

"Thank You Warm Springs for pulling together to get a more

accurate count, which will benefit the tribes for years to come," Atencio said on behalf of the Tribal Census Team.



Dave McMechan/Spilyay

A young woman lost control of her vehicle recently, while driving in the parking area of the Texaco station on Highway 26. Her vehicle collided with one of the pumps, causing substantial damage. Station owner Delford Johnson said the girl was lucky that the collision did not cause a major fire. This was the second time in the past several weeks that the pump was damaged by a motorist, he said. People should be aware, said Johnson, that a gasoline fire can erupt upon vehicle impact with the pump, if a spark is present. This happened in The Dalles not too long ago, he said. In response to the recent collisions at the Texaco pumps, Johnson has installed protective barriers around the service islands. (In the photo, Johnson looks on as a repairman inspects the damage.)

Man sentenced to 8 years for shooting

(AP) — A Warm Springs man will serve eight years in prison after the 2003 shooting death of another man on the reservation. Ray Smith, 30, shot Jaime Prieto Muriel, 26, at close range with a 12-gauge shotgun on March 13. Smith pleaded guilty in December in U.S. District Court to second-degree murder.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Bill Williams told Judge Anna Brown on Monday that Prieto Muriel's death has devastated his fiancée, Jolene Soto, and the four children they were raising together.

After the sentencing, Soto's daughter, Traci, said the family is dissatisfied with the length of the sentence. "He's still going to be really young when he gets out," she said. Smith's lawyer, Stephen Sady, said his client has felt "deep and abiding remorse" since the shooting. He said the situation was fueled by alcohol and drugs, and he asked Brown to require that Smith attend a residential alcohol treatment program while in prison.

Defensible space protects homes from fire

By Suzy Macy
Fire Management

You hear a lot about defensible space these days, but what exactly is defensible space?

Defensible space is a buffer zone, a minimum 30-foot non-combustible area around your home.

This buffer zone reduces the intensity and risk of a wildfire from starting or spreading to your house. Defensible space depends on clearing flammable material away from your home.

Although a 30-foot distance is standard, additional clearance as great as 100 feet may be necessary as the slope of your lot increases.

Defensible space not only

helps protect your home in the critical minutes it takes a fire to pass, it also gives firefighters an area to work in. During a large-scale fire, when many homes are at risk, firefighters must focus on homes they can safely defend.

Here are some hints you as a homeowner can do to make your home more fire-safe:

Reduce flammable vegetation, trees and brush around your home.

Prune or remove trees. Cut

grass and weeds regularly.

Relocate woodpiles and left-over building materials. Keep them at least 30 feet from your home.

Keep your roof, gutters and yard clean. Remove dead branches within 10 feet of your chimney.

Have addresses and road signs visible to allow firefighters and other emergency personnel to find your home easily.

Rate your roof-if you have a wood shake roof consider re-

placement to make it more fire-resistant. If you have a fireplace or woodstove, install and approved spark arrestor on your chimney.

Help keep your home in the safety zone.

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