

## Planners consider future of Campus

The Campus is a central area of community life in Warm Springs. The area includes the post office, Warm Springs Market, the Courthouse, and various tribal services housed in the old dorms and other buildings. There is much pedestrian and vehicle traffic, a spacious green area and many old trees. The elementary school with its new gymnasium is at the far end of the Campus.

A question that tribal leaders are exploring is: What might be done to improve the Campus, to create more jobs and business opportunities there?

If this is a subject that is of interest to you, then you may want to attend a meeting scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 17 at the Agency Longhouse. Dinner will be at 6 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7.

The meeting will include a review of the information collected on the Campus enhancement project. Land-use consultants have been studying the current circumstances of the Campus. This information will help in making the best decisions regarding the future of the area.

A key part of the project is the best use of the area for tribal business development and employment.

"It has been our desire to see tribal members get into business and create jobs for the local people," said Mike Clements, general manager of tribal Business and Economic Development.

The consulting firm hired by the tribes to study land-use issues on the reservation is developing a Warm Springs Downtown Development Plan that will address the basic issues involved in the project. The planning effort includes as an introduction this assessment:

One hundred and thirty-one years ago the post office opened in Warm Springs. At the time the event guaranteed reliable communication for the people of Warm Springs. It also set a cornerstone for the place also known as the "Agency," the "Campus," and the "downtown." Today the downtown retains some of that historic character: mature shade trees, broad gridiron streets, green open spaces, and more than a few handsome buildings. The setting is a leafy oasis surrounded by

the thousands of acres of arid desert speckled with sagebrush and juniper.

The assessment continues:

Behind this peaceful façade, many problems beg for solutions. Several buildings are empty and some are in dangerous disrepair. During the day, tribal agencies are full of workers and the school full of children, whereas at night there is little activity. Some shoppers visit the market and gas station but most others travel to Madras. And hour after hour hundreds of motorists pass by on Highway 26, but very few stop.

There is a general agreement that the Campus holds promise as a location for small businesses, artisans and service agencies. The major challenge is feasibility. What kinds of businesses would be successful? How many employees? How much retail is achievable? Can the downtown attract motorists from off of Highway 26? The meeting on Feb. 17 will be a good time to discuss the Campus project, and related subjects such as a tribal Commercial Code, also intended to assist with local business development.

## Dance competition at Lapwai

The 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual E-Peh-Tes Championship War Dances will be March 11-13 at the Pi-Nee-Waus Community Center, Lapwai, Idaho. For information call Josh Henry at (208) 83-2614; or Josette Henry at (208) 834-2313. Vendor and concession information:

Pete Wilson (208) 843-2812.

Categories include Men's Round Bustle, 3-Hand Drum, teen girls Jingle (13-18), women's Traditional (19 and older), boys All Around (7-12), girls All-Around (15 and under).

## Raffle to help out Hood-to-Coast team

Raffle tickets are on sale to support the 2005 Co-ed Hood to Coast running team. There are many great prizes, including a cord of wood, DVD player, hand-made fishing nets, and cash. For tickets see Robin Mitchell, Monica

Leonard, Yvette (Twink) Leecy, Donetta Squiemphen, Vesta Johnson, Juanita Simpson, Kaipo Akaka, Justin Berman, Chico Holliday, Andy Leonard, Rich Lohman, Vernon Suppah or Val Squiemphen. The drawing is Feb. 14.

## Senior profile Norma Tainewasher Sponsored by Les Schwab

High School senior Norma Moria Tainewasher, 17, is the daughter of Veronica Smith and Leonard Goveia and the granddaughter to the late Norma M. Smith and Victor Smith. She credits her dad for her motivation to continue and stay on track for graduation. "He made me believe I can do it when I thought I couldn't," she says.

Tainewasher is the school mascot/manager of cheerleading, and she says it's great. She is also a SMILE student, and she plays tennis.

She has received an award for participating during football season as the mascot, and she also received a letter for being manager of the cheer squad.

Her favorite class is Acappella Choir because she loves to sing. She's been in the class for three years. Her favorite teacher is Mr. Dove who teaches biology. "He was funny and we always did cool stuff in his class."

Tainewasher's biggest stumbling block in school was during her freshman year. "I totally screwed up, and only passed three classes. I am now on track to graduate, because I straightened up."

Her plans after high school are to attend college, maybe COCC, for one year then go to beauty school. "I love to do my own hair," she says. She will miss all the friends she has made and the teachers, and her brother, because she'll hardly see him. She leaves this advice for students still in school: "Do good and learn from your own mistakes. Do your work and go to school every day."



## Seminar of interest to former tribal employees

Former employees of the Confederated Tribes will be especially interested in a financial seminar that is scheduled for 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 8 in Madras.

Current employees of the tribes may also find the seminar of interest.

The topic to be discussed is the tribes' employee retirement plan, or 401(k). Until recently, former employees of the tribes could not access their 401(k) funds until reaching the age 59 and a half, explained Joe Mansfield, financial advisor with Wells Fargo

Bank, who will be the speaker at the seminar.

The regulations regarding former employee access to the retirement funds have changed recently. So there are options that the former employees now have, Mansfield said.

In short, options are for the former employee to leave the money in the tribal 401(k) fund or roll the money



Seminar graphic shows the options available.

over to an individual retirement account (IRA). Another option is to access the funds immediately.

To get a clear understanding of the options, please attend the seminar.

The location of the seminar will be in the Oscar's building in Madras: 384 S.W. Fifth Street. This is the building that also houses Mail, Copies & More.

## New youth center to open soon

In early April a new youth center is scheduled to open in Warm Springs. The center will be housed at the building that houses the Veterans of Foreign Wars-Ladies Auxiliary of Warm Springs. The building has been extensively remodeled recently by Extraordinary Young People, the group that is developing the center.

Extraordinary Young People is a Portland-based non-profit organization committed to serving under-served youth of the region.

Extraordinary Young People will operate the center and provide programs designed to motivate and inspire at-risk youth.

"It is an inspiration to see something developing that is going to have such a positive impact on these kids' lives," commented Warm Springs Fire Chief Dan Martinez. "We have homeless kids, wandering kids. They're telling us, 'If we don't have positive places to go, we'll turn to gangs, drugs, alcohol and

other mischief."

Extraordinary Young People is committed to helping youth help themselves, said Matt Burton, the organization's chief executive officer.

"We're committed to giving kids a hand up, not a handout," said Burton. "We'll encourage them to earn rewards through community restoration and enhancing their own self-worth."

The Warm Springs youth center will be the second of its kind in the Western U.S. One year ago Extraordinary Young People opened the Crow Nation Youth Center in southeast Montana. The surrounding community saw immediate results. According to Darren Cruzan, chief of Crow police agency, the juvenile crime rate dropped by 50 percent after the center opened.

Burton said that Extraordinary Young People expects the VFW-Ladies Auxiliary building to be renovated and ready for opening as the youth center in mid March.

To place an ad in the paper, call Sam Howard at 749-0424.



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