

S-T feeling better following surgery

By Brian Mortensen
Spilyay Tymoo

Jody Calica had had chest pain before.

It was nothing, though, he couldn't work out with a little aspirin and exercise, he said.

But when he started feeling chest pain the morning of Feb. 28, this was different.

Over the next two days, Calica, the Secretary-Treasurer of the Confederated Tribes, one of the two highest-ranking administrative positions in the tribal government, would be told two of his arteries were 98 percent clogged and he would need double-bypass surgery.

Doctors at St. Charles Medical Center in Bend successfully completed the surgery March 1.

"I'm glad that they caught it under these circumstances," Calica said. "Catching it this early, any damage to heart tissue was minimal."

While he is still in recovery, Calica, 57, said it was possible he could return to work for half-days beginning this week. Anything beyond that, he said, is up to his doctors and his own rate of recovery over the next few weeks.

Calica's trouble began the evening of Sunday, Feb. 27, when he started feeling chest pain.

"I went to work Monday morning, and I had a recurrence of chest pains," he said. "I took a few pain medications and I went back to work."

He went to a couple Monday meetings and found



S-T Jody Calica

he wasn't feeling any better. He then went to the Warm Springs Health and Wellness Center and met with Dr. Thomas Creelman.

"I was then sent to Mountain View Hospital in Madras for observation, and everything was uneventful until Tuesday morning," he said.

He was supposed to go to Bend the morning of March 1, but the chest pains started again, and he went back to Mountain View, where irregular heart activity was found using an electrocardiogram (EKG).

Calica ended up making his trip to Bend that morning anyway, but he was taken straight to St. Charles Medical Center. Through an evaluation with a cardiologist, it was found he needed surgery.

"It was decided that to do angioplasty or to bring in metal stints would not be adequate procedures," he said.

"It was kind of an eventful day," Calica said. "You get up in the morning and drive to Bend. A cardiac catheter was used to inject dye into my heart. That's when they came up with (the diagnosis). By noon, I headed into open heart surgery."

He said the operation went

very well, though it was extremely painful.

"I think it was very trying on the family," he said.

Calica was released from the hospital Saturday, March 5.

He said his rate of recovery was such that he was released from the hospital sooner than anyone had originally thought.

Because of his quick progress in recovery, "the doctors were jokingly telling me that I was a poster boy," he said.

While he may have returned for half-days, it will take some time before he returns to his position on a full-time basis, he said.

"I'm going to have to work with the doctors and I'll be monitoring my own health standards," he said.

"Sometimes my brain gets more ambition than my body can withstand, and I'll sit down and kind of crash. The body can't keep up with what the mind wants to do."

In the interim, Jeff Sanders, the tribal compliance officer, has taken on some of Calica's duties.

"I have confidence in my staff being able to handle things," said Calica.

The Secretary-Treasurer, along with the Chief Operating Officer, is one of the two highest appointed positions within the Warm Springs tribal government.

The Secretary-Treasurer helps implement actions of the Warm Springs Tribal Council, oversees tribal finances and has charge over seven tribal committees.

Calica, 57, has been Secretary-Treasurer since May of 2004.

The episode, Calica said, has "put my priorities in order, in terms of my health, and my immediate family, extended family, friends and co-workers."

"It's hard to separate those folks from community, and it's been nice to feel a sense of community support. In that sense, it just reinforces my strength for my return."

Along with the support of his family and the Warm Springs community, Calica said one of his greatest strengths has been traditional spirituality and belief in a higher power.

"There is a reason this happened," he said. "And that higher power will bring some things to a more powerful direction."

Calica was thankful for the support of the Warm Springs community, not only to himself, but to his family.

"I guess it really shows when these kinds of things do occur. It's a challenge to family values, spiritual values, family and community support," he said. "I'm glad the community came in support of my family. It gives me a reassurance of confidence."

Calica admitted that his position as S-T affords him some stress, but he said he has the resource of "good people to work with" in the Warm Springs Tribal Council. "We've got a good direction we can work towards."

"The stress is in trying to build confidence between the tribal government and the people," he said.

Investigators determine cause of livestock deaths

By Brian Mortensen
Spilyay Tymoo

The cause of an apparent poisoning that killed a herd of at least 24 cattle near Sidwalter last month was a plastic tub containing the cattle supplement urea in a molasses base.

Urea, an organic compound of carbon, nitrogen, oxygen and hydrogen, can convert to ammonia within a cow's system in excessive amounts. Apparently, this caused the loss of the cattle that belonged to Rita and Earl Squiemphen.

"I've never heard of that (ammonia poisoning through

ingesting urea)," said Jason Smith, the tribes' range and agriculture manager. "What gets me is there is supplemental blocks of urea you actually buy for cows, but in excess, it can be deadly."

Dr. Mark McFarland, a veterinarian at Cascade East Veterinary Clinic in Madras, reached that conclusion after a tub containing traces of urea mixed with molasses had been found at a spot near Sidwalter that had been used for dumping garbage for years, Smith said.

See LIVESTOCK on page 8

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Judge Panter honored with Twanat Award

The Museum at Warm Springs Twanat Award will be presented during an honor dinner in April. The museum is pleased to announce the Honorable Judge Owen Panter as the recipient of the 2005 Twanat Award.

In announcing this year's award, museum development officer Dora Smith and museum executive director Carol Leone said that Judge Panter is a long-time and true friend of the Confederated Tribes.

He served as tribal attorney from 1955 to 1980 from his law office in Bend. As tribal attorney, said Smith and Leone, he worked tirelessly to protect

the tribes' treaty rights, and to support the efforts of the tribes in reacquiring lost lands, becoming economically self-sufficient and securing a positive future for unborn generations of tribal members.

The museum each year recognizes with the Twanat Award an individual whose efforts on behalf of Native Americans can serve as an example to all Americans. This is the third annual Twanat Award.

The first honoree, in 2003, was the former Oregon Gov. Vic Atiyeh. The second honoree was U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye of Hawaii.

The 2005 honor dinner will

be held at the Hilton in Portland on April 23. The event begins at 5:30 for early registration, a reception, silent auction, live flute music, followed by the dinner and program at 7 p.m.

The public is welcome and invitations can be requested at the Museum at Warm Springs, (541) 553-3331; or by writing to the museum at P.O. Box 909, Warm Springs, OR 97761. E-mail contact is the following: doralinn@redmond-net.com.

The Museum at Warm Springs is a non-profit (c)(3) educational institute that has won national and regional awards for its exhibits and architecture.

Course helps business owners

The Warm Springs Small Business Development Center is sponsoring Oregon Native American Business Entrepreneurial Network (ONABEN) classes beginning this month.

The first course, You and Your Business Ideas, is scheduled from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 31.

This course will be followed by the series, Starting a Successful Business, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. on Thursdays from April 7 through June 2. This intensive class helps avoid the costly mistakes common in small business,

providing the framework for successful business start-up by assisting in planning and writing a bankable business plan.

This invaluable training is essential whether the individual is applying for financing or looking for a basic operating plan to keep the business focused and growing. Tuition is \$100, including textbooks. Tribal members who successfully complete this ONABEN course will be reimbursed their tuition. Classes will be held at the Small Business Development Center, 1134 Paiute St. Call the center at 553-3592.

To place an ad in the Spilyay, call Sam Howard at 279-9973.

Adult mentors needed for youth

Adult volunteers are needed for the Adults Mentoring Youth (AMY) program.

Are you 18 years of age or older, and would you like to volunteer to be a mentor to a youth between the ages of 8 and 17?

Or do you know a youth who

needs an adult mentor?

If so, then please contact Nancy Dodge, BestCare Adults Mentoring Youth assistant coordinator, at (541) 410-6823. Her e-mail address is AMY_Program@msn.com. For more information see the website at amyprogram.com.

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