

Local youth working in jobs program

By Selena Boise
Spilyay Tymoo

The Hoopa Tribal Civilian Community Corps is now in Warm Springs doing projects for the Warm Springs Housing Authority.

This is one of many projects the group will complete before each of their 10-month term in the corps.

There are nine members of the corps currently working on projects within the Warm Springs community until the end of this week. Four of them are from Warm Springs, Kelly Sam, Johanna James, Tia Bean, and Hector Gonzalez.

After successful completion of their 10-month stay, corps members are eligible for jobs and some are actually recruited by numerous employers. There are 30 members of the Hoopa Tribal Civilian Community Corps (HTCCC), ages 18-26, who are working in groups of 10.

The HTCCC was patterned after the National Civilian Corps, and it is one of three in the nation. Though the Navajo and Alaska corps only recruit within their communities, Hoopa recruits nationally



Hoopa Tribal Civilian Community Corps members working in Warm Springs.

and carries a diverse group of Native Americans from the U.S.

During their first month as part of the corps, each member receives intense training, which teaches them all that is needed to be successful in their 10-month stay in the program. The training includes community meetings, personal health and hygiene, policy and procedures, residence rules, team building, conflict management, and parenting.

They are also trained in other areas such as carpentry tool safety and identification, serving, learning-preparation, action, reflection, and closure, project deployment implementation, working with sponsors and site supervisors.

The group learned about Hoopa Tribal Policies such as: Fit for duty workers compensation and sexual harassment, disaster preparedness and relief; adult, child and infant; CPR and first aid; hazardous materials (HAZMAT) Waste Labors Union, and Diversity training.

They received training as first responders to natural disasters in the following areas: Over the bank rescue, and swift water rescue, and basic firefighter training.

A big plus for the Hoopa TCCC is that it has a joint partnership with the Northern California Carpenter's Union.

The trainees receive training in mathematics, on-site construction, and renovation experience,

and they visit Carpenter's Training Center in Fairfield, Calif.

On-the-job training is what they are experiencing in Warm Springs this month. Their current projects here are assisting in housing renovation and carpentry. Each project differs, giving them a wide range of training in different fields.

Any organization may request their labor by applying to the Hoopa TCCC. They will provide the labor, while the organization making the request is asked to provide them with shelter and tools to work with.

Upon completion of the program, each corps member receives a \$4,725 education award, or scholarship, for use at any accredited school for up to two years.

There were four corps members from the previous group from Warm Springs that took advantage of this scholarship and are currently attending college.

For more information about Hoopa Tribal Civilian Community Corps visit their website www.hoopa-nsn.gov. Or write to them at P.O. Box 900, Hoopa, Calif., 95546; or call 530-625-5223 ext. 24.

Howlak Tichum

Levi Julius Greene

Levi Julius Greene passed away April 7, 2005. He was 73.

Mr. Greene was born December 8, 1931 in Warm Springs to parents Francis Greene and Celia Stacona.

He was married to Dorla Greene on November 19, 1978 at Reno, Nevada.

Mr. Greene was a lifetime resident of Warm Springs. He worked as a rancher.

Mr. Greene is survived by

his wife Dorla of Warm Springs; daughter Marlene Badroad of Warm Springs; sisters Agnes Lumpmouth of Warm Springs, and Laurel Greene of Pendleton; and numerous grandchildren. He was preceded in death by four children and five brothers.

Dressing ceremonies were held Sunday, April 10 at the Agency Longhouse. Burial was Monday, April 11.

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Sister: 16 years of memories

(Continued from page 1)

"We're very family-oriented. I'm the youngest of 11 children in my family. We have a huge extended family."

Like her own family experience, Sister Pauline said the Native American culture is similar in that faith and spirituality are not separate from the rest of life's experience but fully ingrained within it.

"Everything is bound up in spirituality," she said. "We don't have work here, family there, and spirituality here - it's all blended together. And we're not a wealthy people, and people are much more important than things."

Sister Pauline is rather matter-of-fact, almost self-deprecating,



Sister Pauline

in describing why she decided to join the clergy.

"It's just like any other calling," she said. "I got called by the spirit to this way of life, and I avoided it for some time."

She was raised in a lively family setting, well protected by her six brothers, while living in Kildare, Ireland's center of horse racing. Her father trained racehorses and covered horse racing for the local newspaper. His writings were also featured in

newspapers in neighboring countries in their coverage of regional horseracing.

Sister Pauline immigrated to the United States in 1951, before undergoing preparation to become a nun and taking her vows in 1955. She took her final vows in 1960.

Sister Pauline has spent the recent weeks packing away 16 years of items and memories, and her final full day in Warm Springs is April 18 before she moves the next day.

"The people have been so gracious and so good," she said. "I've been so at-home with them."

She expresses thanks for welcoming her as a part of Warm Springs.

"Goodbye and thank you," she said. "Thank you for all the graciousness, for all the trust that you've put in me. You've always welcomed me so graciously, and thanks for all the fun we had together."

Youth: featured in California newspaper

(Continued from page 7)

While in Southern California, Buller met a man who transports horses for a living, driving to Canada twice a month via the U.S. 97 corridor

"He said, 'If you want to come here again, I'll get your horses, and I'll bring them down here for free, and if they don't sell, I'll bring them back for free,'" Buller said.

On top of that, this man, Cloyce Miller, said he would donate the use of a diesel to Buller's group.

"Within a year, I should have his first truck and trailer come out of his system into the program," he said.

While Buller describes the sale of the horses as "sloppy," he said the trip was ultimately a success and a great continuation of a ministry that started about a year ago.

"What I'm trying to do is bring back a place where you can be a healthy, active young person and get together with people," he said. "There are maybe dads and moms and

grandpas and grandmas and uncles and aunts that come, too, because they love it, because they're doing something they love."

He said that the work with horses is the meeting point between him and the kids, and now their families, with whom he works.

To fully carry on his mission, Buller said he had to continue without 4-H.

"The things that Rockin' 4-H used to do probably couldn't be done any more," he said, "like the heavy cattle industry. I don't think they let us take those kinds of risks anymore. I know we can't do any rodeo events."

But he will continue to work with the youth and their parents because through the work with the horses, he said, families can be brought together again.

"I had 10 adults take time off work, drive almost 1,000 miles one way, 2,000 miles in less than a week to go help kids," he said. "Very different families went, and from different parts of the reservation."

"A lot of times it's 'our family,' or it's 'our little group,' but it was very diverse."

As an added bonus, the Orange County Register newspaper published a feature story on several of the youths from the club, in previewing the San Juan

Capistrano parade. The newspaper flew a reporter and a photographer to Oregon to research the story and interview Buller.

Buller said the story was positive and provided good exposure for Warm Springs and youth from the community.

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