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# Spilyay Tymoo

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## Longtime leader passes

Warm Springs is mourning the loss of one of its premier leaders. Zane Jackson, 81, passed away the morning of April 18.



Zane Jackson

Mr. Jackson's health had been declining for the past few years. He resigned from the Tribal Council on Jan. 29, 2004, because of health reasons.

He and his brother Vernon were two prominent sons of Charles Jackson who had an impact in leading the Confederated Tribes into the Twentieth Century.

Zane Jackson served longer than any other elected member of Tribal Council. He was first elected to Council in 1971. Before entering politics, Mr. Jackson had a career in the timber business. He was a veteran of World War II.

Mr. Jackson served on Tribal Council for almost 33 years. He served as Tribal Council chairman four times.

His wife Pat, brother Max, and numerous nephews and nieces survive him.

See **HOWLAK TICHUM** on page 8

## Ceded Lands tour shows diverse tribal resources

By Brian Mortensen  
Spilyay Tymoo

During a recent three-day tour, a number of tribal members from Warm Springs were reminded of what makes the land on which they live now, and the land of their ancestors, so special.

They participated in a tour of 10 sites, from north of the Warm Springs Reservation to as far east as Prairie City, as part of the Warm Springs Land Use Planning Committee's tour of the Ceded Lands. The tribes ceded the land to the U.S. government in 1855, while reserving sovereignty over the reser-

vation.

A total of 48 people accompanied the tour on the first day, while 23 stayed for the second-day leg, moving east along the Columbia River. Twelve remained for the final day, spent mostly in Grant and Umatilla counties.

On the tour were six members of the Warm Spring Tribal Council. Council Chairman Ron Suppah, part of the entourage, said such trips in the future could be more fruitful if more tribal members, particularly younger tribal members, could take the time to attend.

"I think everyone on the tour saw

that as a key issue," Suppah said. "The elders said there is a need to bring in the younger generation."

The 10 million acres of the ceded lands include the area from the Cascade Mountains' summit eastward, and from the Columbia River southward. The ceded lands include Jefferson, Wasco, Hood River, Sherman, Gilliam, and Morrow counties, most of Grant County, and southern Umatilla County.

"We gave the federal government 10 million acres. We reserved our reservation, our homeland here for ourselves," Suppah said. "Along with that,

we reserve certain rights to the Ceded Lands under the treaty."

These rights, he said, include fishing and hunting, gathering of other foods and medicinal plants, and grazing. Over the years, Suppah said, "we're getting to a point where we're losing the use of our country out there. If you looked at the maps, probably 40 percent of that country is open and unclaimed land. There are a lot of opportunities out there for our tribal membership, but I think many are not orientated as to what we have."

See **TOUR** on page 9

## Gathering celebrates casino compact

Many tribal members refer to the recent Gorge casino gaming compact as a triumph for the Confederated Tribes. This feeling was evident at the gathering April 14 at the Agency Longhouse, as the tribal members celebrated with an evening of dancing and a positive look toward the future for the tribes.

The signing of the compact was a long process for the tribes. Discouragement was a word that lingered in the air for a time, but patience paid off in the end, as the process has moved another step forward.

The name "Bridge of the Gods" was chosen as the winner of the Casino Name contest. Of the 80 names entered, five were winners, those who chose "Bridge of the Gods."

Present to receive his award was Tony Littleleaf, who received \$500 and a digital camera. Four winners not present were Tim Wainanwit, Tommy Kalama, Marlena Becerra and Charles Kalama, who will each receive the same prize.

Before dinner ended, t-shirts were given away with the name "Bridge of the Gods" on them. Later in the evening baseball caps were also given away. The powwow opened with a welcoming by Miss Warm Springs Christine Johnson, followed by a grand entry. This grand entry was an honoring of those who have passed on, veterans, elders and our leaders.

Throughout the night door prizes were given away for children and adults.

— by Selena Boise



Selena Boise/Spilyay

Eliza and Harvey Jim take to the dance floor at the recent gathering regarding the gaming compact.

## Discussion focuses on sovereignty

By Selena Boise  
Spilyay Tymoo

Tribal Sovereignty is a declaration of individuality of the Warm Springs Nation, meaning that the tribes have control of their lands, as recognized by other governments since time immemorial. These were the words spoken by Cynthia Starke, attorney of Karnopp Peterson & Noteboom law firm representing the Confederated Tribes. Starke was the speaker at the recent Celilo, Salmon, & Smoke seminar.

The topic was "Limited sovereignty, what it means to Warm Springs." The Confederated Tribes has their sovereignty, but there are limitations in place due to laws developed, or court cases involving sovereign nations, said Starke.

In early years the U.S. recognized the sovereign status of Indian tribes as "domestic dependent nations."

The U.S. Constitution recognizes Indian sovereignty by classing Indian treaties among the "supreme law of the land."

In early Indian treaties, the U.S. pledged to "protect" Indian tribes, thereby establishing one of the bases for the federal trust responsibility in the government-to-government relation between the tribes and the U.S.

Before being recognized as domestic dependent nations, the Indians in America were subject to what the Europeans called the "Doctrine of Discovery," said Starke.

In the year 1452, or 40 years before Columbus' voyage, a European proclamation declared war against all non-Christians, or heathens, throughout the world.

This promoted the conquest, colonization and exploitation of non-Christian nations and their territories, eventually to include those of the Native Americans.

See **SOVEREIGNTY** on page 7

## The Treaty of 1855

### Sweeping force of change defines the treaty era

(The following is an article in a series regarding the Treaty of 1855. This June the Treaty will be 150 years old.)

By Dave McMechan  
Spilyay Tymoo

Previous articles in this series have focused on specific references, as found in historical documents of the federal government, to the Indian tribes that have become the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

The goal of the present article is very briefly to place the treaty year of 1855 in a more general historical context.

The treaty era of the mid 1850s falls between other eras involving relations among the tribes, white settlers and the federal government. All the events, from the first contact with Europeans up to the present time, have left their mark to varying degrees on the tribes, which have nevertheless retained the basic elements of their traditional cul-

ture.

One of the earliest eras involving the tribes and their relation with newly arrived non-Indians was the Lewis and Clark Expedition, which traveled through tribal territory at the Columbia in 1805.

Another significant era was that of the Christian missionaries of the 1830s at The Dalles. This was a time of devastating disease epidemics among the tribes.

The 1840s saw the start of the era of the Oregon Trail. In 1843-45, approximately 5,000 non-Indian settlers arrived in the region. Many followed the Lewis and Clark Trail along the Columbia to the Willamette Valley.

This large migration, and a fear of the lawlessness it might bring, prompted the federal government in 1848 to organize the Oregon country and adjacent land as a territory, a first step toward statehood.

First, though, the federal government had to settle a long-standing dispute with Great Britain regarding which country had jurisdiction over the areas of present-day Oregon and Washington. In 1846, through the Oregon Compromise, the U.S. government declared exclusive control over the region, and the British retained the area to the north, now Canada.

The 1840s was also the time of the Mexican American War. During the war, John C. Fremont, a captain in the U.S. Engineers, led an expedition from the Klamath area into California. Wasco Indian Billy Chinook of The Dalles was a member of Fremont's expedition.

The era of the Treaty of 1855 falls just after the time of the Oregon Trail and territorial organization, and just before the time of Oregon's statehood (1859). Through the treaty the Confederated Tribes were recognized as sovereign by the U.S. government four

years before Oregon became a state.

It was during the treaty era that another force of change was gaining momentum: For it was during the 1850s that the railroad companies of the East first began adding the term "Pacific" to their names, showing their desire to construct a transcontinental railroad.

The first transcontinental railroad linked San Francisco to the East in 1869. In the 1870s the Great Northern would link the Northwest - Tacoma, Seattle and Portland - to the East. The tracks followed the Columbia.

The railroads, and the sweeping changes they would bring, likely would have arrived earlier, however, in 1860 the federal government and the country descended into the near chaos of the Civil War. The war began a mere five years after the signing of the Treaty of 1855.