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# Spilyay Tymoc

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## Congressional action a victory for the tribes

Legislation that would block Indian tribes from building casinos off their reservations contains a grandfather clause that could help the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs in their proposal for a casino in the Columbia River Gorge.

The House Resources Committee, which includes U.S. Rep. Greg Walden, R-Ore., last week approved a bill by committee Chairman Richard Pombo, R-Calif., aimed at halting further development of off-reservation gambling.

The bill, which passed 27-9, would eliminate an exception to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act that allows tribes to build off-reservation with the approval of the Interior secretary and the state's governor.

But tribes that submitted applications by last March 7, including Warm Springs, would be allowed to proceed under a grandfather clause. The Confederated Tribes have proposed building a casino on industrial land in Cascade Locks in the gorge.

Ken Smith, chairman of the tribes' gaming committee, said the Pombo bill is fair. The tribes, Smith said, have spent several years and millions of dollars in developing the Cascade Locks proposal, and during that time the tribes were following the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

To amend the act now and disallow the Cascade Locks plan from moving ahead would be unfair, Smith said. "I've felt very strongly that we needed to have the grandfather clause," he said.

Smith said he appreciates the work the tribes' gaming team has done during the legislative process. The team worked with Rep. Walden and his staff, he said.

The Pombo bill in the House, and the Senate bill dealing with Indian gaming, sponsored by Sen. McCain, now both contain the grandfather clause recognizing the Confederated Tribes situation in regard to the Cascade Locks plan. *(The AP helped with this story.)*

## Eagle-Tech beginning to take off

By Maren Cohn  
for the Spilyay Tymoc

Eagle-Tech Systems has encountered its share of setbacks, ranging from a temporary work stoppage on the new Community Technology Center to slower-than-hoped-for financial progress. But with a solid business plan and two recent grants under its belt from the Kellogg Foundation and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Warm Springs Ventures information technology subsidiary feels confident of its direction and ability to thrive.

Eagle-Tech already holds its own financially through information technology (IT) contracts with the Confederated Tribes, but its sights are set on expansion.

"There are lots of opportunities out there," says Lloyd Phillips, Eagle-Tech general manager. "We're behind where we wanted to be at this point, but it's almost phenomenal when we look at the possibilities, and we are making progress — painfully slow sometimes, but definitely progress."

### Tech center to offer services

Eagle-Tech's recent advances occur along two different but closely related paths, both of which have won funding support. The first path stretches towards the tech center and its goal of offering free high-speed internet access, computer training, and a limited array of business services to tribal members.

A \$67,000 Kellogg grant, awarded through the Rural Development Initiative and the Connecting Oregon for Rural Entrepreneurship (CORE) program, will help Eagle-Tech complete the center and begin funding its operation.

"Winning that grant is especially important in light of the tribal administration cutbacks that closed the small business center," says Ventures chief financial officer Jeff Anspach. "Once Eagle-Tech gets the new center up and running they'll be able to fill part of the gap left by that shutdown."

See EAGLE-TECH on 14



Members of Team Oregon, representing the tribes of the state, at the North American Indigenous Games. Athletes of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs are at right. See pages 6 and 7 for more on the North American Indigenous Games.

## 509-J board approves new small high school

By Leslie Mitts  
Spilyay Tymoc

Students will be hitting the books again this fall—but for some, it will be different this year.

The school board recently approved funding to support a new small high school program.

Julie Lafayette, program director, said the school will open next fall. At first, 60 students (30 freshman and 30

sophomores) will attend the school in part of West Side Elementary. From there, they hope to build up the school to have as many as 320 students within 4 years.

In addition to support from the school board, Lafayette said, "We received a 410,000 grant from the Gates foundation. They are funding innovative approaches to education."

The school has been in the works for a year now, and Lafayette said the point

is to focus on individualized learning.

"The whole premise behind the school is to provide a high school that will meet the specific needs of our students," she said.

According to Lafayette, "The whole philosophy behind it is reaching one student at a time by personalizing education."

"Every student will have an individual learning plan, so it's unique in that way," she added.

The school will not use the standard grading system—instead they will be following the Oregon State standards of assessment and focusing on the academic needs of each student.

But it isn't all about the books.

"The second key factor in the school is emphasis in building relationships with the students," Lafayette said.

See SCHOOL on 11

## After preparing many great meals, cook Ruby Reed is retiring

By Leslie Mitts  
Spilyay Tymoc

Her hands are what show it the most—the years of preparation, the ability to cook with the precision and timeliness of a surgeon.

With wrinkles to vouch for hours of labor, it's obvious that there is one thing Ruby Reed has always been accustomed to: hard work.

"I've worked all my life," Reed said. "I've never had a childhood or teenage life."

Now, however, Reed has earned a well-deserved rest. After 17 years of working at the senior program, Reed retired June 29.

Tears and laughter mixed when co-workers and friends gathered to honor Ruby Reed at a luncheon served in her honor.

Fellow cooks spoke of the knowledge she has passed down.

"I'm going to miss her in the kitchen," Cheryl Starr said. "I just want to thank Ruby for teaching me what I know."

Elton Greeley presented Reed with a Pendleton blanket, and spoke to the crowd about his penchant for the food Reed prepared.



Ruby Reed accepts a gift during her retirement party.

"I'm one of those who really likes Ruby's cooking," he said. "In fact, I think because of Ruby's cooking I'm starting to get overweight."

Greeley also spoke of Reed's vivacious attitude, and joked, "Once we get her to start talking we can't get her to quit."

Though tiny in stature, Reed displays

a sense of humor that is anything but. While at first Reed seems shy, it doesn't take long before a twinkling smile lights up her face.

Reed speaks of her future plans with a gleeful smile. "Oh, I'm going to rest," she said. "My house needs painting, my whole entire home needs attention."

"I may get into my beadwork," Reed

added, or devote her time to making shawls.

Does she miss working yet? "No, no," Reed said with a laugh.

Reed didn't start out as a cook, however. She can rattle off a list of jobs she's held: bus girl, factory worker, even as an LPN while studying to become an RN.

During her teenage years, Reed got her first job as a housekeeper for motels.

She moved on to work in San Francisco for 28 years at hotels like the St. Francis and the Hilton.

But it never really seemed like such hard work, Reed said, because "I enjoyed what I was doing."

One thing it taught her was a strong work ethic. "I was taught never to be late, never to take a day off. I don't think I ever missed a day even, all those years," she said.

She eventually left San Francisco to move to Warm Springs, where she worked at Kah-Nee-Ta for many years as the head of housekeeping.

Her love of cooking wasn't fully developed until years later, when she was working as a housekeeper for the senior program.

Reed credits her boss, Adeline

Miller, for causing her to make the move from cleaning to the kitchen.

"One day she asked, 'What do you like doing?'" Reed explained. When Reed told her that her favorite thing to do was cook, she moved her into the kitchen.

Though she doesn't know exactly why she enjoys cooking so much, Reed said it's just something she grew up with. "I've always liked doing that," she said. "My grandmother always cooked or helped to cook in the long houses and so did my mother."

It was especially enjoyable while working with the senior program, Reed said, because of the people she got to interact with.

"You really get acquainted with a lot of our people," Reed said.

She can't pick a favorite dish to prepare ("They're all good," Reed said) but odds are she can prepare them with skill.

Still, when she thinks of the upcoming years, Reed can't pinpoint exactly what it is she'll be spending her time doing.

According to Reed, "I've never gotten around to what I was doing, so maybe now that I'm retired I can get around to it."