

Spilyay Tymoo

P.O. Box 870
Warm Springs, OR 97761

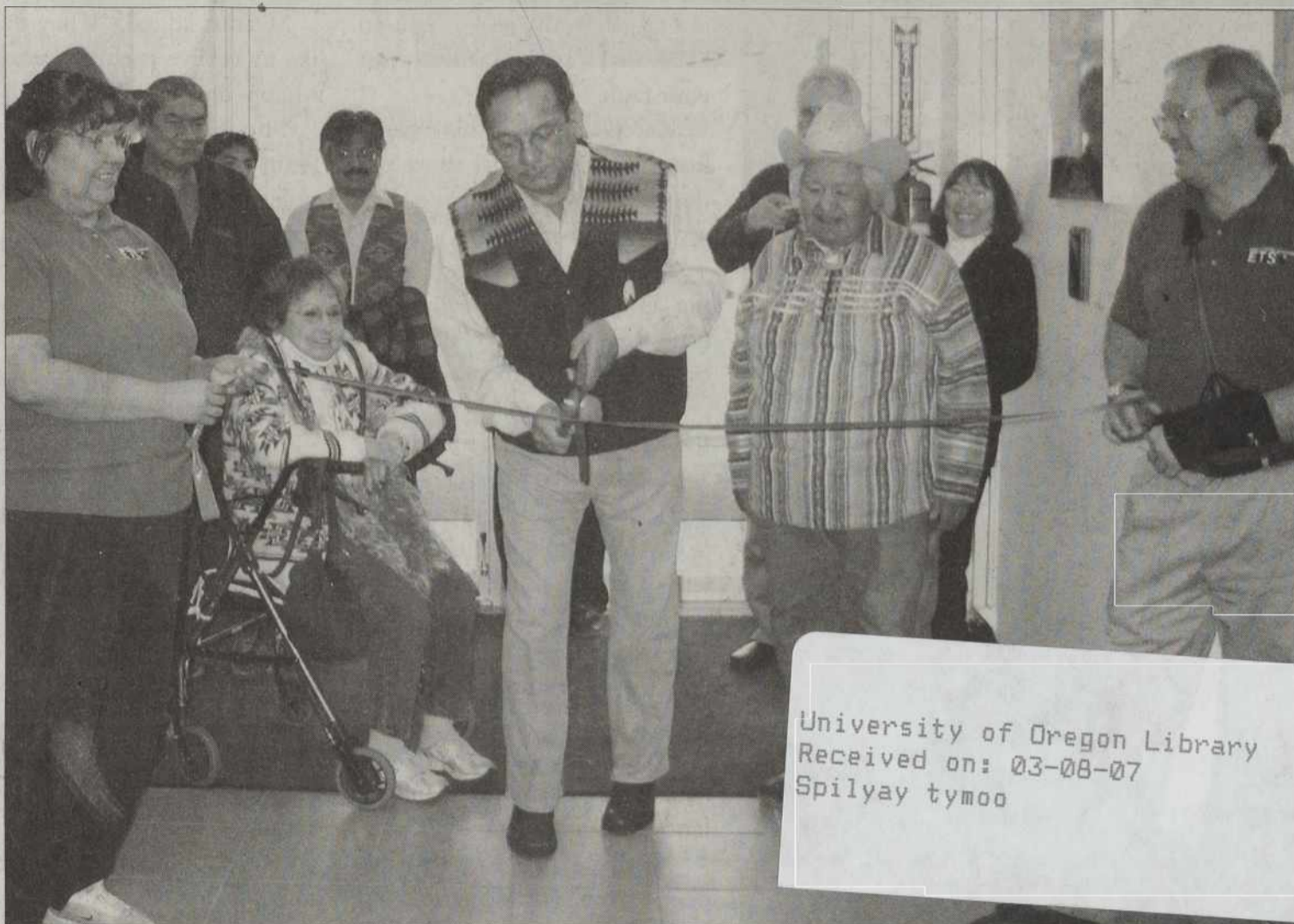
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Leslie Mitts/Spilyay

Tribal Council Chairman Ron Suppah cuts the opening day ribbon at the new Eagle Tech Systems technology center. The grand opening of the center, located at the Plaza across from the Museum at Warm Springs, was this past Saturday, Feb. 24. On hand for the event were Lorraine Suppah (left) of Eagle Tech Systems, Warm Springs Chief Delvis Heath, and Lloyd Phillips, Eagle Tech general manager (right). The center is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The hours are expected to change when the cafe at the center opens. (Story on page 14.)

Remembering Celilo Falls

It was a place of civilization from time immemorial. The place is gone now but the memories and the people are still alive.

The coming weeks and months will be a time of remembering the place that was Celilo Falls.

Saturday, March 10 marks the 50-year anniversary of the flooding of the falls by The Dalles dam. Celilo Village will remember and honor Celilo Falls with several public events in the village and adjacent Celilo Park.

The events will be on Saturday and Sunday, March 10-11. *The Celilo Legacy - Commemorating 50 Years Since the Loss of Celilo Falls* events include:

A canoe and honoring ceremony, traditional salmon dinner, traditional powwow and stick games, and addresses from regional and national dignitaries.

Speakers will include tribal chiefs

and elders, and Gov. Ted Kulongoski. Gen. Carl Strock, chief of engineers and Commanding General of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, is also scheduled to speak, according to information from the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC).

Celilo Village and Celilo Park are located at milepost 97 off US Interstate 84. For more information please call (888) 289-1855 or visit www.celilowyam.org. (See page 14 for a schedule of events.)

On Thursday and Friday, March 8-9, CRITFC and the Tribal Leadership Forum will co-host *Remembering Celilo: Indian Fishing and the Columbia River* in Portland. This event will highlight many issues surrounding tribal treaty fishing rights, salmon, the Endangered Species Act, and the Columbia River. For more information please call (503) 238-0667.

Council considers advisory committees

By Maren Cohn
Warm Springs Ventures

At its recent meeting on governance, Tribal Council considered a proposal to form three committees out of its own members.

The proposal aims to improve governing practices by encouraging Council to adopt rules and ensure that its members and top tribal officials comply with them.

At the meeting, consultant Clyde Hamstreet presented and explained the proposal to Council using a chart (see page 11). It lays out the broad responsibilities of each committee, which help divide up Council's workload and influence into three basic areas: rule-making, rule auditing, and rule enforcement.

Hamstreet gave several examples to help Council members understand and assess the proposed structure. To take just one: responsibility for "Standards of Council-member conduct" in the top left box of the table means that the governance committee would develop policies to regulate the conduct of Council members.

Items that could fall under that category include an attendance policy, a travel policy, a code of ethics, a conflict of interest policy, a policy on nepotism and favoritism, and procedures for the orientation and ongoing education of Council members.

The governance committee would draft the policies and bring them to the entire Council for discussion and approval. Once the policies were in place, the audit committee would have the

responsibility of tracking compliance with them.

For instance, taking the attendance policy as an example, the audit committee would periodically examine each member's attendance record to see whether he or she was in compliance. If someone were not in compliance, the audit committee would then refer the matter to the rules committee.

The rules committee, meanwhile, would have developed a set of guidelines outlining what kinds of disciplinary actions would be appropriate in what kinds of situations. The committee would then look into the particular case before it and make a recommendation to Council of the action it believes appropriate under the circumstances.

In presenting the proposal, the

Hamstreet team emphasized that the committees would be advisory in nature and would not possess authority or power independent of the Council as a whole. Their job would be to make recommendations to the full body.

Council members understood that the committees should not be delegated the full Council's policy-making powers. "But in that case," asked one, voicing a question shared by many, "if they don't have any power, how will these committees make any difference?"

"They'll make an immediate difference by breaking up existing camps on Council and getting people to work together who otherwise wouldn't," said Hamstreet.

See COUNCIL on 11

Gaming Update

Hearing planned at Kah-Nee-Ta on draft impact statement

Tribal and BIA officials are expecting to hold a public hearing soon at Kah-Nee-Ta regarding the Bridge of the Gods Resort and Casino.

The hearing would be the first public hearing on the draft environmental impact statement (EIS) for the planned resort and casino at Cascade Locks on the Columbia River.

A specific date for the hearing has not yet been set, but early April has been mentioned as a tentative timeframe, gaming officials say.

The draft EIS is expected to be released soon.

Release of the draft EIS will be a significant step in the process of bringing the Cascade Locks casino site into trust, and presenting the tribes' fee-to-trust application to the Secretary of the Interior.

The BIA schedules and conducts the hearings on the draft EIS, which will likely be open to public comment for 60 to 90 days.

The public comments are used to develop a final EIS, which forms the basis of the BIA recommendation to the Secretary of the Interior regarding the Confederated Tribes' fee-to-trust application.

The tribes already have a gaming compact approved by Gov. Kulongoski. The compact, however, is awaiting federal approval.

The federal approval of the tribal-state compact comes after the EIS process and fee-to-trust application, the Department of the Interior decided last May.

In other casino news:

The City of Cascade Locks has formed a public facilities team to work with the tribes on issues of infrastructure needed for the Bridge of the Gods development project.

The four-person committee includes the mayor of Cascade Locks, the chair of the city budget committee, a two other city councilors.

The committee will work with the tribes on issues such as of water service, sewer, and fire protection.

Little Miss Warm Springs Pageant girls learn valuable skills and lessons

By Leslie Mitts
Spilyay Tymoo

The Little/Junior Miss Warm Springs Pageant kicked off last week with the first night of judging.

The next queens and princesses of the pageant were to begin their reign after being crowned on Tuesday of this week (which was after deadline for this paper. Final results of the pageant will be in the next edition of the Spilyay).

During the first evening of events, participants introduced themselves and spoke to the audience about their traditional clothing. The young ladies also gave a presentation about their family and spoke about their individual displays of their family history.

Wilson Wewa served as master of ceremonies for the event, while Leland George opened the evening with flute music and Anita Davis provided a prayer.

The 4-H Social Dancers also sang



Leslie Mitts/Spilyay

Pageant participants spoke to the crowd about their family history and traditional clothing.

a song in all three of the languages of the Confederated Tribes.

Sallie Polk-Adams, the current reigning Miss Warm Springs, praised the participants at the end of the evening.

According to Polk-Adams, "They came a long way from being really ner-

vous to coming up here and speaking."

Attending the pageant were several former Miss Warm Springs: from 1970, Debbie Jackson; from 1988, Minnie Yahtin; from 1997, Arlissa Rhoan; and from 2001, Adrienne Merrifield.

In addition, visitors included two former Miss Yakama Nation: from 1988-89, Michelle Crowe-Trevino and from 1996-97, Rebecca Trujillo.

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