



Spilyay Tymoo

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Park dedication honors Wasco Chief

By Dave McMechan
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The park that overlooks the reservoir of the Re-regulating dam was once a tribal outpost from time immemorial.

Wasco Chief Nelson Wallulatum explained last week that the park was one of many such outposts located throughout the Ceded Lands. Tribal bands would travel from one outpost to another, leaving their tools at the site to be used when they returned.

They would leave food caches at the site to be used in the winter, said Chief Wallulatum.

He told this history of the park area at a dedication ceremony last week, when Warm Springs Power and Water Enterprises unveiled a plaque dedicated to Chief Wallulatum.

"It's a small way to show how much we love him," said Tribal Council Vice-Chairwoman Aurolyn Stwyer-Pinkham.

Warm Springs Chief Delvis Heath said, "I'm happy to see we're recognizing a person who's still alive. Too often we do this after they are gone."

Chief Wallulatum, he said, "has



At the dedication ceremony, Power and Water Enterprises manager Jim Manion (right) talks with Chief Wallulatum, who is assisted by Thomas Williams.

worked for his people, never for himself."

Chief Wallulatum talked about some of the events that the tribes have experienced over the years, such as the

construction of the Pelton-Round Butte dams, and the addition of power plant at the Re-regulating dam.

He talked about the Treaty of 1855, and how he has used the document to

guide his years of service to the tribes.

"In my mind, that is the strength I've always leaned on," he said. "I've never tried to go outside our treaty, and have always tried to stay within the words of the document."

The dedication plaque at the park reads as follows:

Nelson Wallulatum has been Chief of the Wasco Tribe, and has served on the Warm Springs Tribal Council since 1959.

During this period he has overseen all major undertakings of the tribes, including construction of the Pelton-Round Butte Hydroelectric project, 40 years of fishing rights litigation, restoration of 60,000 acres unfairly omitted from the reservation, and establishment of tribal energy enterprises that now help support the tribes.

No task was more important to Chief Wallulatum than preservation and protection of water and other natural resources, which his people have relied on for thousands of years.

This park is dedicated to Chief Wallulatum for his lifetime of service to his people and their proud heritage.

Governor signing protection law at Metolius

Gov. Kulongoski is planning to sign the Metolius River basin protection bill at a ceremony at the Metolius. The event is scheduled for this Wednesday, July 15 (after deadline for this publication).

The Confederated Tribes supported the legislation, which passed the Oregon Senate and then narrowly passed the House.

The new law designates the Metolius basin an Area of Critical State Concern, a designation used only one other time in the state.

The immediate effect of the law is to block two proposed development projects, one involving up to 420 houses near the Metolius.

The tribes have supported protection of the basin because water quality, fish and wildlife, and cultural concerns.

The tribes have a reserved in-stream water right in the Metolius and downstream in Deschutes river.

Deer and elk populations, and possible cultural resources of the basin could also be harmed by the developments, the tribes and others said.

The tribal position has been that the county land-use regulations would not address these and other concerns.

There is, for instance, no inventory of cultural sites within the basin area.

County officials said they had planned adequately for the development, and that the state should not interfere in the local planning process.

Tribal officials have said they are not against development in the county, but believe that, in the sensitive Metolius basin, it is only appropriate to ensure comprehensive impact analysis and mitigation, which is what the tribes do when they undertake development on the reservation and off the reservation.

Development can be done in a way that meets the interests of all parties, the tribal officials say.



This tribal canoe, from Coquille, arrived at Indian Park on the Warm Springs Reservation this past weekend. The canoe team launched the canoe downstream from the park and paddled up to the park, where they met family and friends. The team included (from front) Pita Pitt, Fred Sanders, Dillele Calica, her daughter Kale'a Calica-Yonker, and Shirod Yonker (Coos-Coquille).

Cruz brings years of experience to Human Services

By Dave McMechan
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More than 20 years later, life in some ways has come full circle for Caroline Cruz.

She's working again in Warm Springs, and she's even in the same building where she worked 22 years ago.

But much has changed for her as well.

Her last job in Warm Springs, before she left in 1987, was prevention coordinator at the Community Counseling Center.

Her job now is that of general manager of tribal Human Services.

The departments in her branch are the Community Wellness Center, Children's Protective Services, the Community Counseling Center, and the Community Health Education Team.

She also oversees the tribal social programs such as Vocational Rehabilitation, Senior and Disabled Services,



Caroline Cruz

the Senior Center, and the Commodities program.

About 100 employees work in the various departments of the Human Services Branch.

Human Services has been without a permanent general manager for sev-

eral years, although the position has been filled temporarily by acting general managers.

Cruz has been the Human Services general manager since mid-May. She had been encouraged to apply for the job by tribal secretary-treasurer Jody Calica, and chief operations officer Gerald Smith.

The timing of the job opening was right, and Cruz applied for the position. "It had always been in my mind that I would come back," she said of Warm Springs.

Her most recent job with the state, which she held for 16 years, was regional coordinator of the state Addictions and Mental Health Division, Alcohol and Drug Policy Unit.

She was the statewide coordinator of Oregon's prevention programs; she served as lead trainer and tribal liaison to the state's nine tribes, and was the Oregon representative of the National Prevention Network.

During the years that she worked

for the state, Cruz remained in regular conversation with Warm Springs, both through her positions as tribal liaison, and as a community member with local friends and family.

Through her job, she remained in contact with Children's Protective Services, with law enforcement and other agencies on the reservation. She also talked regularly with secretary-treasurer Calica, and in more recent years with chief operations officer Smith.

As tribal Human Services general manager, Cruz has spent the past several weeks reviewing the various functions of the departments in the Branch, making sure there is no duplication of job tasks, for instance.

She is preparing the budgets for the 2010 budget process, and already has overseen the successful completion of a \$250,000 methamphetamine-suicide prevention grant (see story on page 3).

Cruz is also one of the seven commissioners on the newly formed Joint Commission between the Confederated

Tribes and Indian Health Services. The Joint Commission will guide health care services to the membership.

Cruz has a long career of helping people, first as a drug counselor in the 1970s, later as prevention program director, state regional coordinator, and now as general manager of Human Services.

"I've always loved what I do," she said. "And if you love your job, then it's like you're not really working."

Chief operations officer Smith is among those who are happy to have Cruz back in Warm Springs, managing Human Services.

"The advantage of having her here," he said, "is the wealth of experience she has in various human services fields, and her experience as a manager and administrator."

Having an experienced person as general manager of Human Services, he said, will help the branch meet its goals and objectives in the coming years.