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Progress, jobs at casino site

Fred Sanders is glad to be working, and each day as cars drive past on Highway 26 the hard work is showing.

Recently, the roof went up on the new temporary casino, as tribal members went to work on a structure that is beginning to resemble the conceptual designs that were displayed.

"Before getting this job, I worked on motorcycles," Sanders said. "Now I work in general labor, on the job early every morning."

One of the hardest parts of working on the new Indian Head Casino is the heat.

"The other day, it got up to 95 degrees," Sanders said. "That gets tough. But we have a good boss, his name is Kirk. It's his job to keep everybody on deadline."

There are different portions of construction taking place at once. And each crew must meet their deadline for the work to continue.

"I work a lot with Jeff Brisbois, so we have a good crew here," Sanders said. "We're getting a steady paycheck for hard work."

By Duran Bobb



Duran Bobb/Spilyay

Fred Sanders, at the construction site, applied for his job through the Job Creations Department.

Construction enterprise remodeling complete

Remodeling of the Construction Enterprise portion in the old apparel factory was officially complete last week. The remodeling work continues with on the telecommunications portion of the building.

All offices in Construction were completely demolished, and the redesign was completed from scratch. "We started the remodel of Construction's portion back in June," said Ben Bisland, who works with Warm Springs Ventures on special projects.

Visitors to Construction will see the same guest services window, but beyond that there have been dramatic changes.

"The end product has six offices, with workspaces for 13 people," Bisland said. "There's a conference room, a break room, a kitchen area."

Upon completion, the project will bring Warm Springs Ventures and the Construction Enterprises together in the same suite.

"Right now, we have six people that work under Ventures," Bisland said. "There are 27 under Construction."

Currently, Construction is coordinating with Utilities on the completion of the Warm Springs Telecommunications Co. portion of the building.

The teleco, the tribes' newest enterprise, will employ 19 people. The enterprise received \$5.3 million last year—half by grant and half as a loan—from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.

By Duran Bobb

Local growers meet with attorney in Keepseagle case

By Duran Bobb
Spilyay Tymoo

Reservation farmers and ranchers who believe they may be claimants in the *Keepseagle v. Vilsack* settlement have until December 27 to file a claim.

The case charges the U.S. Department of Agriculture with denying thousands of Native American farmers and ranchers the same opportunity to obtain farm loans that USDA routinely provided to white farmers. This caused the Natives to lose billions of dollars in credit, the lawsuit alleges.

The case also brings to light USDA's failure to maintain its civil rights office and, USDA's failure to accept or investigate the many civil rights complaints filed by Native American farmers and ranchers.

Hester Dillon, who is the area su-

pervising attorney, is urging claimants to complete their paperwork sooner rather than later.

Dillon and her staff met with Warm Springs tribal members recently to answer questions and help them with the process.

"The Keepseagle case was brought forward by a law firm in Washington D.C.," Dillon said. "It was filed on behalf of Native American farmers and ranchers who, between 1981 and 1999 tried to obtain a loan or servicing of a loan from the USDA and complained either written or orally about discrimination in farm loan programs."

So far there are 30 tribal members on the reservation who have requested more information. "We're here today from 9 to 5, and I imagine that there's more people out there who need this information."

See GROWERS on page 5

Warm Springs Library now open

The new Warm Springs library is now open on campus, in the Family Resource Building.

"So far, we've issued about 150 library cards," library coordinator Craig Graham said.

Community members—which includes tribal members, residents and employees—who are ten years or older are able to apply for a library card.

Children 10 to 14 need a parent's consent in order to apply. Children under 10 must be supervised and may check out books under a parent's card.

William Rhoan, librarian, said card holders may check out up to ten books at a time and will have three weeks to

read. "After that, they can apply for a two week extension," he said.

So far, Rhoan said, the most popular section at the library is the Native American section.

The library is accepting donations of books in good condition. "If you've read it once and loved it, someone else might love it too," said Graham. "Bring it by and know that your book will go to a good home and will be read and enjoyed by many."

Patrons have been surprised with the service in the library. "We function almost as a department now," Graham said, "complete with a modern collection of books, Wi-Fi access which can

be used on laptops, and eventually we will have our website operational."

Once the website is up and running, the community will then be able to log in to see which titles are the most popular in Warm Springs. They will also be able to see new arrivals and read outlines on catalogued books.

"Of course, we will be getting more titles," said Graham. Because of budget restrictions, the library staff is selective in which books they acquire.

See LIBRARY on page 5

Inmates hosting powwow at Deer Ridge

By Dave McMechan
Spilyay Tymoo

Next month, Native American inmates at the Deer Ridge Correctional Facility will host a powwow in an outdoor area at the facility. This will be the first powwow hosted by the inmates at Deer Ridge.

There are five inmates from Warm Springs currently serving time at the minimum-security state prison. Another 30 or so are Native Americans from other tribes. Total inmate population at Deer Ridge is 760.

The inmates have been working for the past several months on making gifts to give away during the powwow. They have hand-drums, jewelry, drawings, beadwork and other items for the giveaway. They've raised funding for the event by hosting Indian taco sales in the prison.

At the powwow there will be traditional drumming and dancing, a salmon bake and barbecue.

The inmates are planning the powwow for Friday, Sept. 23. The time will be from about 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The inmates are inviting Warm Springs community members to



Dave McMechan/Spilyay

Inmates—Clarence Bryant, Daniel Lawrence, Stuart Smith, Clifford Arthur and Floyd Tewee—have been making gifts to give away at the powwow.

come and share in event. Dancers, drummers, elders, spiritual leaders and all others are welcome.

A person can attend if he or she has not been incarcerated and charged with a crime in the past five years.

Anyone wishing more information on how to attend the Deer Ridge powwow, call the facility at 541-325-5999.

Chaplain Tim Woods is a contact person. He can be reached by email at: tim.n.woods@doc.state.or.us

The deadline to request permission from Deer Ridge to attend the powwow is two and a half weeks before the Sept. 23 powwow date.

Up to 250 guests can attend. "This will be a way for us to celebrate life in

a positive way," said Daniel Lawrence. "If anyone wants to come and celebrate, they are more than welcome."

The Deer Ridge inmates are also hoping more people from the Warm Springs community, especially sweat lodge and cultural leaders and language speakers, can visit during the regular visiting days.

They explain it this way: Drugs and alcohol can lead to prison; but once there and away from these influences, tradition and culture become most important.

Donations of powwow and song DVDs and CDs are also more than welcome.

Some general information

Deer Ridge is a men's prison with 644 minimum security beds and 1,223 medium security beds. The minimum security facility began receiving inmates in 2007. The medium security facility is not yet in operation.

The prison, on 200 acres, cost \$190 million to construct. Planning for the project began about 15 years ago. An inmate wishes to conclude this article with a say: "Live for tomorrow, because yesterday is gone and today is almost over."

Museum Huckleberry Feast Saturday

The Annual Huckleberry Harvest Dinner and Auction is at the Museum at Warm Springs this Saturday, August 13.

All contributions go to the cultural and educational services offered by the museum.

Local artists can showcase their art at the Harvest auction. In other museum news:

Living Traditions

The ancient livelihoods of the Warm Springs people have continued to survive in many ways, and the museum is appreciative of the arts, works and teachings of the local community. In this spirit the museum is continuing the Living Traditions program on weekends throughout the summer season. Here are the upcoming programs:

Cedar bark weaving by Viola Kalama, August 13-14.

Drum making by Emerson Squiemphen, August 20-21.

Cedar root baskets from museum collections, August 27-28.

First Foods and family heirlooms by Darlene Foster, Sept. 3-4.

All workshops are from 1-5 p.m.