

Library Grand Opening

The Warm Springs Community Library hosted its Grand Opening on Tuesday. Tribal elder Arlita Rhoan gave the blessing, followed by introductions by coordinator, Craig Graham. About 30 people attended the open house. There were also refreshments and a book raffle. From here, the library will prepare the Book Mobile to serve the community. For information about the library, call 541-553-1078.



William "Yummy" Rhoan, Sheryl Archer, Angel Archer, Jolene Walters, Neda Wesley, Mona Smith-Cochran, Rosemary Lewis and guests at the library's grand opening.

Wash. Legislature consider tribal rights bill

YAKIMA (AP) — Lawmakers in Washington are considering a proposal to start dismantling the state's civil jurisdiction over American Indians, a step many consider long overdue. But some say they worry that restoring full sovereignty to tribes over their members might subject outsiders to unfair treatment in tribal courts.

Congress passed a law delegating jurisdiction over tribes to some states in 1953, at a period when the government was forcing Indians to assimilate. The law was sparked in part by public demand for improved law enforcement on reservations and a desire to offload financial burdens in the wake of World War II.

States such as Nebraska and Oregon have unraveled parts of the federal mandate in the years since. In Washington, the idea has garnered broad support following a series of meetings last year by a task force that included law enforcement, prosecutors and representatives of counties and cities.

Some people, though, fear tribes may fail to ensure due process for everyone, given a perceived lack of separation between some executive and judicial tribal government branches. They contend state courts must remain an option to settle disputes.

Jack Yearout spent months trying to get a parenting plan approved by the tribal court of the Yakama Nation, the state's largest tribe, which resides on a sprawling reservation east of Washington's Cascade Range.

Yearout is an enrolled member of the Nez Perce tribe in Idaho. The mother of his 5-year-old daughter, meanwhile, has ties to the Yakama Nation.

After several rulings in his favor, allowing him to visit his daughter, the Yakama Tribal Council adopted a resolution last summer stripping authority over child custody cases from the Yakama tribal courts, an example of the executive branch removing authority from the judicial branch.

"I support tribal sovereignty, but in my case, I didn't get due justice from the tribal court," Yearout said.

The federal law mandated civil and criminal jurisdiction over tribes in six states and authorized several others to assume jurisdiction if they chose. Washington did so in 1963, assuming state involvement in such matters as juvenile delinquency, truancy, mental illness and adoption proceedings and enabling state courts to hear cases involving Indians.

Tribes have long considered the law a breach of the treaties guaranteeing their sovereignty.

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Taurus PT-917C 9MM, SS, 20-shot C-136	\$595	New Sportster Youth 22L/R, 20" BL B-397	\$150
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Handi-Rifle, Como, 444 Marlin and 270 win C-259	\$495	NAA 22 Mag/22L/R "The Earl", 4", SS E-036	\$365
Tri-Star 12 GA. 3", Semi Auto, wood, Blue C-262	\$495	S&W M632, 327 Fed., 3" BL, 6-shot, blue E-037	\$995
Savage 300 Mag. L/Hand, Syn., Blue C-268	\$549	Excel Armes MP-17 17HMR Pistol, 9-Shot E-057	\$433
Savage Youth 243 Package (scope) C-333	\$550	ArmsLor M200, 38spl., 4" BL, Blue E-058	\$275
Rem Mod. 7XCR 243 Win, Camo, fluted C-382	\$895	Cimarron "Holy Smoker" 45LC, 4.75" 13L E-062	\$890
Savage 223 Tactical, 24" BL, L/Hand C-387	\$595	Rem No 4#, Rolling Block 22L/R E-071	\$1,095
Rem 700 CDL 270 Cal., Bolt L/Hand C-389	\$795	Rem 700 300 Rem S/A ULTA MAG., SS E-073	\$650
Fox, (side by side) 12 GA. shoots 2 3/4 A-537	\$495	Win Mod. 12 Skeet, VR, (1958) Full, pump	\$1,995
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