

Agency gathers tribal river history



Pinky Beymer, Pat Courtney Gold and Terry Courtney Jr. (from left) meet at the administration building with Tabitha Whitefoot of Cooper Zietz Engineers Inc. They are reviewing maps of the river from before the dams, pointing out the location of homes and other buildings, now inundated.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is gathering information about tribal housing and other structures that existed at the Columbia River before construction of The Dalles and the Bonneville dams.

The information will be used in planning for construction of new tribal housing on the Columbia River by the Corps of Engineers.

The current series of information-gathering sessions could provide the justification and documentation to proceed with eventual construction.

A few years ago, the Corps completed the Celilo Village redevelopment project, an infrastructure and housing project at the village. This process serves as the model for the next phase, which may involve the construction of tribal housing on the Columbia.

On Monday of this week,

Tabitha Whitefoot, of Cooper Zietz Engineers, met with tribal members at the administration building. She gathered information about the tribal presence at the river prior to the construction of the dams.

The information will help inform the Corps of Engineers decision regarding the federal government obligation to construct new housing at the river.

Tribal members who met with Whitefoot gave information about their memories of housing and other tribal structures, such as drying sheds, at the river before the dams. The information from tribal members will be used to calculate the replacement

housing. "The historical memories of Native peoples on the river is that 200 to 500 houses have been promised," according to a statement in the summary of the project. However, government documents are not consistent with this recollection, the summary indicates. Part of the purpose of the present information-gathering is to resolve the inconsistencies.

After meeting in Warm Springs, Whitefoot went next for interviews at Hood River, then Toppenish, followed by Goldendale and then Umatilla.

- Dave McMechan

Walk the Walk, on Monday, Feb. 11, starting at Warm Springs elementary and finishing at the Diabetes Prevention office. Keep your heart healthy by staying physically active. If you participated last week, Diabetes Prevention keeps your times and encourages you to try and improve it. Prizes and free lunch provided, after you finish! Sign in at 12:05 p.m. Or call 541-553-7718.

American Legion honoring Eugene 'Cougar' Greene Sr.

The Warm Springs American Legion Post 48 has chosen the image of Eugene "Cougar" Greene Sr. to appear on the Legion Post flag. Post 48 is the first American Legion Post to serve on the Warm Springs Reservation.

The post, located in the Veterans Hall, hosted a welcoming dinner event on Tuesday of this week. Charlie Tailfeathers is Post Commander.

He provided a biography of Eugene Cougar Greene Sr., explaining why the veterans chose Mr. Greene to represent them on the American Legion Post 48 flag.

Eugene Greene Sr. was born in his grandparents' house on Miller Flat on May 16, 1933, when Celia Greene gave birth to the second of her eight children. Francis Greene was the father of the baby boy who would become a respected leader on the reservation, and steward of tribal treaty rights.

Eugene Greene was born a little more than a year before the Indian Reorganization Act was enacted. The preamble to the act states its purpose, in part, as: "To conserve and develop Indian lands and resources." Gene Greene would spend many years working within the framework established by the legislation passed shortly before he was born.

Gene joined the United States Army on May 22, 1950. Before departing for combat duty in Korean



Eugene 'Cougar' Greene Sr. Courtesy of Greene family.

he returned to Warm Springs and married Norene Queahpama.

In Korea, the young man from the Warm Springs Indian Reservation was awarded one of the nation's highest honors on the battlefield, the Silver Star. "The Silver Star is given out for gallantry in action against an imposing force."

After being discharged, Mr. Greene went to work as a police officer in the Simnasho area. He later worked for Elmer Quinn as a heavy equipment operator. He assisted farmers and was also responsible for all irrigation ditches requiring annual cleaning.

In the mid-60s, Mr. Greene earned his GED certificate and enrolled in junior college to study fisheries and wildlife. He became a permanent employee of the tribes in 1969, when he was hired as a conservation officer. In 1972 he became the first Director of the tribal Natural Resources Branch, holding the position until the tribal reorganization in 1988.

In an interview some years ago, Mr. Greene said, "Many people became role models,

especially the Elders of the tribe who were constantly teaching me of the old ways of our people. My family and grandparents had a great influence on what I do."

Mr. Greene and his wife had six children. He gave his thoughts about military service in the earlier interview:

"Most Indians enter the service at an early age and usually end up in a combat zone as a 17 or 18 year-old member of the Armed Services. At this age you have a lifetime in front of you to struggle with your conscience. This is no easy task trying to forget how you had to protect yourself from both the enemy and your ground and air support. You have the enemy usually in front of you, and your own support staff can also harm you with short rounds, tanks trying to blow you off the hill, and your own Air Force hitting you and creating high casualties.

"Our veterans try to forget these things and never mention them. I only bring this up in the hopes that the people can better understand what a veteran goes through and why they may not be totally committed to participating in veteran events. The hurt never goes away."

The telephone number at the Veterans Hall is 541-615-0347. The telephone number for the tribal Veterans Service Office is 541-615-0348.

Warm Springs Community Calendar

Brought to you by KWSO 91.9 FM

Wednesday, Feb. 6

Nutritionist Linda Porter will be providing a Seminar on **Healthy Eating** at the community center from 5:30-6:30.

An **IRMP III** Joint Committee and Public Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 6th at the Agency Longhouse from 9am to 5pm.

A "Positive Brain Injury" **Support Group** for survivors will meet Wednesday from 4:30- 6 p.m. at 124 SW 8th Street in Redmond. FMI: Nancy 541-330-4428.

A Jefferson County **Middle School Family Night** starts with a Teachers vs. Students basketball game at 5pm and then at free dinner at 5:30. From 6-7pm will be open gyms for basketball, volleyball, indoor soccer and more.

The **Shaker Church** will have a Business Meeting beginning with a potluck meal at 6.

Warm Springs

Re-Awakening classes feature volunteer teachers sharing their knowledge. Gatherings are open to all - they take the first 5 people to sign up. This month on Wednesdays at 5:30 - Jeanine Kalama is teaching how to make a Baby Board. Call 553-3243 to learn more and sign up.

Thursday, Feb. 7

VFW Post 4217 will meet at 6 p.m. at the Veterans Hall in Warm Springs.

St. Charles Hospice will hold a Grief Support Group every Thursday in February from 5-6:30 p.m. at High Lookee Lodge. Pre-registration is requested by calling St. Charles Hospice at 541-420-8673.

Friday, Feb. 8

Today in **MHS Sports** - the boys basketball teams host

Molalla today - games are going to start at 4, 5:30 and 7pm. Girls' basketball will travel to Molalla and the Swim team Districts are being held in LaGrande today and tomorrow.

Saturday, Feb. 9

This is the Earth 2o **water delivery** day for Simnasho and Schoolie residents. Please set empty bottles outside.

A can and bottle drive fundraiser to support the **MHS Class of 2013 All-Night Drug & Alcohol Free Graduation**

Party will be held in both the Warm Springs Elementary parking lot and Erickson's Thriftway in Madras. It will begin at 8 a.m. both locations.

Sunday, Feb. 10

Services are held every Sunday at the Agency Longhouse. Classes begin at 9, Washaat Services start at 10. FMI: Deanie Johnson 541-460-3015.

The Warm Springs **Community Food Bank** is open on Sundays from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. For information contact Pastor Rick at 541-

553-1237.

Monday, Feb. 11

509 J schools are closed Monday and Tuesday for staff in-service. Warm Springs Elementary will have parent conferences from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. JCMS will have parent conferences today from 8:30 til noon at the middle school and from 2-6 p.m. at the Warm Springs Community Center.

Tuesday, Feb. 12

There will be a meeting about **growing your own food**. Sponsored by the Warm

Springs Community Action Team, the agenda will include: Community Gardens, Farming and plans for the Warm Springs Outdoor Market. The meeting is at 5:30 p.m. at the Agency Longhouse. Dinner will be provided.

The IHS Diabetes program will have a **Diabetes Self Care** Session from 11 til noon and lunch after in the Health & Wellness Center Kitchen Conference Room. They will talk about "being active" and "coping with diabetes."

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