

A fond farewell

Friends, family, students and co-workers gathered at Abby's Pizza last Thursday to celebrate the 18 years that Foster Kalama served as Community Liason for the 509-J school district.

Foster's position was based out of Madras High School, while other liaisons are based at the elementary and middle schools.

Foster worked with and helped many Native students through high school. Flute student Wyle Yazzie said, "I feel closer to my Native culture because of Foster."

Co-workers shared stories of their time working with Foster. They all say they will miss having him at the high



Yvonne Iverson/Spilyay

Friends, family, students and co-workers held a retirement party for school liaison Foster Kalama.

school.

Mrs. Whitcomb remembers when she first came to work at MHS. "His presence made me feel like I belonged

there," she said.

Parents also attended Foster's retirement party, to show their appreciation of the work that he did.

Nancy Collins thanked Foster for allowing her daughter to take part in the Culture Club. "He made her life much better," Nancy

said.

Foster Kalama is moving on to enjoy his days of retirement, and plans on going fishing.

The Community Liason position has not been filled by the 509-J school district at this time.

— Yvonne Iverson

Site readied for school construction



Dave McMechan/Spilyay

Heavy equipment operators have been at the school construction site, levelling the ground. A GPS-satellite system is used to determine when the ground is level. A person monitoring a computer communicates the information to the machine operators by radio.

Several tribal members are among the heavy equipment operators. Emhoola Trucking, for instance, is among the crews. The Warm Springs k-8 school is scheduled to open in about a year. The teachers and other staff will move in next summer, and the school is scheduled to open for the 2014 school year.



More News from Indian Country

Company's plan to open horse slaughterhouse faces setbacks

ALBUQUERQUE—A New Mexico company's hard-fought attempt to convert its cattle plant to a horse slaughterhouse was dealt a series of new blows Monday, with the state denying its wastewater permit and actor Robert Redford, former Gov. Bill Richardson and the state attorney general announcing plans to intervene in a lawsuit seeking to block a return to domestic horse slaughter. The New Mexico Environ-

ment Department told Valley Meat Co. of Roswell, which has a lapsed discharge permit, that it won't renew the permit without a public hearing because of extensive comments already received.

Valley Meat Co. attorney Blair Dunn said the lack of a permit would not prevent the plant from opening as planned Aug. 5, but it would increase the cost of doing business because the plant would have to haul its waste.

Dunn accused the state of unfairly targeting a small, family-owned business. He noted that many dairies are operating around the state with lapsed permits.

He said the state ignored Valley's request for a renewal until the horse slaughter debate became so divisive and Gov. Susana Martinez announced her strong opposition.

The denial came the same day that Redford and

Richardson joined the fray, announcing formation of an animal protection foundation whose first act was to seek to join a federal lawsuit filed by The Humane Society to block the planned Aug. 5 opening of Valley Meat and another recently approved horse slaughterhouse in Iowa.

Indian reservations in the West are contending with serious unclaimed horse overpopulation, as there is no market for the animals.

Attention all Warm Springs and Simnasho Schoolie Flats water users:

As a public water system, we are required by the United State Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) to publish the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). Copies are available by calling the water treatment plant at 541-553-1472.

Legal Aid Services of Oregon provides free assistance to low-income Oregonians in many civil cases. Phone Legal Aid Services of Oregon to schedule an appointment to speak with an attorney on the first Monday of the month (excluding Holidays) at the Warm Springs Community Action Team building, 1136 Paiute Ave., Warm Springs. Call (541) 385-6944 on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday mornings between 10 a.m. and noon, or on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.