

New superintendent on board at BIA

Floy Lori Anderson is the new BIA superintendent for the Warm Springs Agency.

Floy brings several of experience to the position, having worked at the Warm Springs Agency for a number of years.

She first worked here starting in 1984, and for three years was the secretary to the superintendent. She then worked for the BIA in the Portland offices, returning to Warm Springs in 1995.

Most recently she was the administrative officer, before being named this month as superintendent. Lori is a member of the Seneca Cayuga Nation of Oklahoma.

The Warm Springs



Dave McMechan/Spilyay

W.S. BIA Agency Superintendent Floy Lori Anderson.

Agency superintendent oversees BIA activities for the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, the Klamath and Burns Paiute tribes.

On the Warm Springs

Reservation there are 18 BIA employees: five in BIA Roads, four in Social Services, three each in Realty and Administration, and two with Facilities.

In recent weeks BIA Roads has been especially busy. The department is responsible for maintaining roads on the reservation, and in January the task has been to keep the roads as clear as possible, an accomplishment to be commended.

"I really enjoy working with the people here," Lori says of Warm Springs.

One of the positive changes she has seen over the years has been the tribes taking over the 638 programs, "giving the tribes a chance to run their own programs," she says.

And the future will no doubt be interesting, she says, as the new administration takes office in Washington, D.C.

Around Indian Country

Tribe makes history with trust land approval

The Bureau of Indian Affairs last week approved the very first tribal land-into-trust application in Alaska.

The acquisition only covers a 1.08-acre site, but it marks a major milestone in the state and federal history.

Up until a few months ago, tribes in Alaska weren't even able to follow the land-into-trust process. "The journey to this decision has been a long one. Today the federally recognized tribes in Alaska have the same opportunity as those in the Lower 48 states

to maintain a permanent homeland for themselves," Larry Roberts, the de facto leader of the BIA.

The Craig Tribal Association submitted the application last October. The 1.08-acre property includes a building in the city of Craig that houses tribal headquarters, a community hall, a Head Start, a business and other programs that provide services to tribal citizens.

A lawsuit finally forced the BIA to remove the so-called "Alaska exception" from its regulations.

Around Indian Country

Cowlitz looks to hire 1,000 for new casino

The Cowlitz Tribe is preparing for a big year as it debuts a long-awaited casino in Washington.

The ilani Casino Resort is due to open on April 17. The tribe is hiring more than 1,000 people to work there.

A legal cloud, though, hangs over the project. Non-Indian interests, and some tribes, are hoping the U.S. Supreme Court will derail the project on the grounds that the Bureau of Indian Affairs should not have approved the land-into-trust application for the casino site.

A group called Citizens Against Reservation Shopping, non-Indian card rooms and three local property owners filed their petition in October.

But the Department of Justice has yet to file a response, leaving open the possibility for the administration of Republican president-elect Donald Trump to weigh in on the case.

Since the brief is due by

January 27—only seven days after Trump is sworn into office as the 45th president—his incoming team won't have much time to make a mark. But the expected response would be to defend the BIA's acquisition of the 152-acre site.

Non-Indian groups aren't the only ones interested in the case either. Four tribes from California submitted a friend-of-the-court brief that goes against the BIA and the Cowlitz.

"The Cowlitz Tribe will be permitted to build and operate a casino outside of its historic reservation and aboriginal territory," the November 28 brief states. "Other Indian tribes that played by the rules established by Congress are adversely affected by this type of federal action, especially when land is taken into trust outside the homelands of one tribe and within the aboriginal territory of another. This creates a double stan-

dard for tribes."

The Mooretown Rancheria of Maidu Indians and the United Auburn Indian Community signed the brief, along with the California Tribal Business Alliance, a small group that represents the Pala Band of Luiseño Indians and the Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians. All four operate casinos in California—three of them in fact were opened on land recently acquired in trust.

Once the Supreme Court receives the federal government's brief, the non-Indian interests will be able to file one last reply before the justices take the petition under consideration. After that happens, they will announce whether or not they have agreed to hear the case.

Given the rapidly approaching opening date for ilani, it's possible the Cowlitz Tribe will have already debuted the casino by that time.

Union Pacific Railroad sues to exempt itself from Columbia Gorge protections

Union Pacific, just months after it caused an oil train derailment and fire in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area in the town of Mosier, filed a lawsuit in federal court seeking to exempt itself from laws that protect this federally designated National Scenic Area and its communities.

The Friends of the Gorge are planning to oppose the action.

Last November, Union Pacific's rail ex-

pansion application was denied by Wasco County, due to violations of its National Scenic Area ordinance and infringement on Native American tribal treaty rights.

The Wasco County decision is currently under appeal before the Columbia River Gorge Commission.

"This action is predictable, as they do not wish to respect local, regional and National Scenic Area process. We urge for justice at this level and protection of our communities," said Arlene Burns, mayor of

Mosier.

The Federal Railroad Administration determined that Union Pacific caused the oil train derailment and fire in Mosier last June by failing to properly inspect and maintain its tracks in the Columbia River Gorge.

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, and other Columbia River tribes, have opposed large-scale oil transportation by rail.

Calif. county limits marijuana near tribal land

Officials in Yolo County, California, approved an interim marijuana ordinance that bars cultivation within 1,000 feet of tribal lands.

The Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation asked for the limits, The Davis Enterprise reported. The tribe is concerned about outdoor marijuana farms close to its reservation.

"The tribe requested the proposed buffer to ensure the continued use and enjoyment of tribal lands is not impaired by nearby outdoor medical cannabis cultivation," a memo prepared for the board of supervisors reads. "This is a valid basis for county regulation and, as explained further below, the buffer is neither arbitrary

nor unreasonable."

The issue was not without controversy, though. The board voted 3-2 at a public meeting on Tuesday to include the buffer in the ordinance after some questioned the tribe's reasoning, The Enterprise reported.

Cultivation of medical marijuana is permissible in the county.

Parents:

Did You Know that 62% of Jefferson County Youth indicate that hard liquor is easy to obtain?

- Of students who report using alcohol, 42% report drinking hard liquor.
- 75% of youth respondents say that they get alcohol at home.

Ways to Safeguard Alcohol From Youth:

- Put all alcohol in a secure place that is out of youth's reach.
- Monitor the levels in liquor bottles and watch for alcohol that has been watered down.
- Don't store extra alcohol in places like the basement or garage – it's easy for bottles or cans to disappear.
- If you drink, model healthy alcohol use to your children.
- Don't allow teen drinking. Don't host parties or allow your children to go to parties where alcohol is served to those under 21. Make your rules and expectations clear to your children and enforce those rules.
- Exercise your influence. Data shows that teens continue to care what their parents think, even while they are in high school and college. Let your teen know that you don't want them to drink and that most teens in fact don't drink.

Talk to Youth About How to Say No to Alcohol:

It's okay to role play ways to say no, and to talk about avoiding places where people may pressure youth to drink:

- No, thanks.
- I don't feel like it. Do you have any soda?
- Alcohol's not my thing.
- Me? Alcohol? Forget it.
- You're pressuring me. I said no.



Jefferson
County

PREVENTION
TASK FORCE

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<https://www.facebook.com/Jefferson-County-Prevention-Task-Force>

Free family days at High Desert Museum

The Warm Springs community is invited to the opening of a new exhibit, *A Community Forgotten: Uncovering the Story of The Dalles Chinatown*, at the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center and Museum.

The exhibit opens on Saturday, January 28. For the opening, doors open at 5:30 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m., followed by the 7 p.m. program. Meet the exhibit curators

For tickets or information, call 541-296-8600 x 201 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. daily,

or visit:
www.gorgediscovery.org

A Community Forgotten: Uncovering the Story of The Dalles Chinatown tells the tale of the largely forgotten community of overseas Chinese immigrants who once populated First (Main) Street in The Dalles.

The exhibit features artifacts from the time, and shines a light on the discriminatory laws once used for racial exclusion.

The Chinese came to The Dalles, Oregon, begin-

ning in the 1850s on the heels of the gold rush, and the overseas Chinese community grew with the 1860s railroad expansion.

By the 1880s, The Dalles was a community dominated by Chinese stores that served a multitude of functions beyond just selling goods:

They served as home to both transient and established residents, engaged in labor contracting and laundry work, and provided social diversions including gambling, and opium consumption.

Free family days at High Desert Museum

The High Desert Museum will offer free admission on two upcoming Saturdays, January 21 and February 25, thanks to a sponsorship by Mid Oregon Credit Union.

Added attractions, opening January 28, at the museum are the *Buzzsaw Sharks of Long Ago*, and *WWII: The High Desert Home Front*.

The Buzzsaw Sharks of Long Ago exhibition explores the relationship between artist Ray Troll and a

300 million-year-old bizarre "whorl-toothed" creature known as the buzzsaw shark.

To commemorate the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the United States' entry into World War II, the exhibition *WWII: The High Desert Home Front* explores contributions from the High Desert to the war effort and the war's lasting effect on the region.

Legendary Landscapes is an exhibition which will open February 18, just in

time for the February free day. It features breathtaking images of the High Desert landscape taken by the public, and explains the stories behind how these places got their names in this community-curated exhibition.

A special schedule of wildlife programs will be held throughout the day.

The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., including the Rimrock Café and Silver Sage Trading.