

Treaty: arrives at Museum at Warm Springs for rare display

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The museum partnered with the High Desert Museum in Bend to fabricate a new exhibit case to NARA specifications. The museum's archivist Evaline Patt selected six pages of the treaty to be displayed, including the signature pages.

In late September, on a sunny, cool, and crisp morning, Carol met NARA conservator Beatriz Centeno and I at our hotel in Madras, and we drove to the museum, where we discussed plans for the installation of the treaty.

Claus Koch from Security Pros joined us to review security protocols while the treaty was on site.

Later that morning, Gus Bradley and Cindy Bradley from the High Desert Museum joined us. Gus and his colleague Dustin Cockerham had fabricated the case in Bend.

Our greatest challenge was low relative humidity. With the very helpful museum staff, we were able to have the relative humidity in the gallery raised up to an acceptable and sustainable level (in the weeks that followed, regular reports showed the environment inside the case was being maintained within



Photo courtesy Jim Zeender

The 2018 Museum at Warm Springs Treaty Exhibit installation team: Museum curator Natalie Kirk, former director Carol Leone, Joseph Brisbois, Cindy Bradley and Gus Bradley (from left).

NARA's specified limits). When all was ready, National Archives conservator Beatriz Centeno carefully placed each of the six pages into the display case. After taking some time to obtain balanced light levels, everyone agreed the case could be closed.

With our mission completed, Carol took us on a driving tour of the high desert, and we rode out to the Deschutes River Dam.

On our way back to the airport

in Portland, we traveled through the Cascade Mountains and had great views of the majestic Mount Hood.

Meanwhile, the museum hosted a prayer service to bless the arrival of the Treaty.

On October 25-27 the Museum at Warm Springs hosted a Treaty conference, where *Living Treasures* awards were presented to Redline Billy, Geraldine Jim, Foster Kalama 'Ku-Na,' Arlita

Rhoan and Maxine Switzler.

We are most grateful to former museum executive director Carol Leone and her talented staff, especially Natalie Kirk, Sunmiet Maben, and Joseph Brisbois for their warm welcome and help in making the installation go so smoothly. Dana Whitelaw, Director, Dustin Cockerham, Head Preparator, Gus Bradley, Assistant Preparator, and Cindi Bradley, Director of Exhibits at the High Desert Museum pro-

vided invaluable assistance that helped make the treaty display possible. Back home at the National Archives, Patrick Kepley, Jane Fitzgerald, Michael Hussey, Beatriz Centeno, and Abigail Aldrich helped with all the essential preparations behind the scenes.

Interested in learning more about Native American records?

At the National Archives, we are in the process of digitizing hundreds of Indian Treaties. They will soon be available for free on our online catalog. Our Professional Development webinars will feature Native American themes during the coming year.

At the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, DC, visitors can view the original Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868 in the "Nation to Nation" exhibition.

And for even more information about Native American records at the National Archives, visit our website.

(This article was originally published as a National Archives blog, and is reprinted here with permission, at request of the Museum at Warm Springs.)

A Year in Review ~ 2018 ~

(Continued)

April

April 2018 saw the grand opening of the **Plateau Travel Plaza**, project of the Confederated Tribes and Indian Head Casino. Many customers, tribal members and friends showed up for the opening day.

The Travel Plaza offers some many amenities—convenience store and fuel stations, restaurant and gaming room, laundry facilities and large parking area for trucks—for local residents and visiting travelers.

The Travel Plaza and casino hosted a number of job fairs leading up to the opening, with tribal members hired for most of the new positions. In other news:

Mary Olney was chosen as the 2018 **Wheeler County Fair and Rodeo Queen**—a first for both Warm Springs and Wheeler County. Mary is a junior at Madras High School, where she excels at academics, being an Honor Society student.

She plays varsity softball, and is president of the Lyle Gap 4-H Livestock Club. Mary was voted incoming president of the Future Farmers of America Madras Chapter. The Wheeler Fair and Rodeo is coming up this summer. Elsewhere:

Tribal Council and management learned that decontaminating the **Agency Longhouse**—closed to the public earlier this year—will cost more than initially thought. Upon inspection of the building, cleaning companies said they could not address the methamphetamine contamination until the completion of asbestos and lead paint mitigation.

This would require two consecutive bids—first for the asbestos-lead paint mitigation, followed by the methamphetamine decontamination. And meanwhile:

The deadline to respond to a purchase offer from the **Warm Springs Land Buy Back** program is this month. The percentage of respondents wishing to take part was not as high as had been expected.



Spilyay photo

Gaming board chairwoman Fran Ahern addresses the gathering at the grand opening. With her in the picture are board members Ted Kulongoski and Elizabeth Furse, Miss Warm Springs Thyreicia Simtustus, and Tribal Councilwoman Brigette McConville.

A major funding piece of the **Warm Springs ballfields** renovation project came into place in April.

The Oregon Parks and Recreation grants division this month awarded the tribes \$360,500 to help complete the work. The tribes will match this amount, bringing the total budget for the renovation to \$721,000. In youth sports news:

The Warm Springs Academy Eagles hosted a **three-school track and field meet**. This was the first track and field meet hosted by the Academy. And this:

An emerging tradition in Warm Springs is the **Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Parade and Expo**, hosted by the Eugene 'Cougar' Greene Sr. American Legion Post and Auxiliary No. 48. This year the parade and expo were held the last Saturday of April. In a legal development:

A federal judge has approved a new *U.S. v. Oregon* fisheries management agreement, as proposed by Columbia River treaty tribes, states and federal agencies.

The approval is a great achievement for the tribes, and all parties involved—Warm Springs, Yakama, Umatilla, Nez Perce and Shoshone Bannock; the states of Oregon, Washington and Idaho; U.S. Fish and Wildlife, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the BIA.

Originally filed 50 years ago, *U.S. v. Oregon* became among the longest-standing open lawsuits in U.S. history. But then in approving the new *U.S. v. Oregon* management plan, the judge in the case closed *U.S. v. Oregon*. The Judge's action to close the case came as a surprise to all of the parties to the case, who plan to ask for a reconsideration of the closure.

May

There is much to like about the **Lil' Miss Warm Springs Pageant**. "It's great seeing all the supporters, the family and friends who show their support," said Norene Sampson, Recreation fitness coordinator, who also helps with Lil' Miss Warm Springs.

This May at the pageant, the judges chose Jessica Bruised Head as 2018-19 Senior Lil' Miss Warm Springs, Junior Lil' Miss Warm Springs Julia Wolfe, and Lil' Miss Warm Springs Kyra Eastman. In other pageant news:

2108-19 **Miss Warm Springs** Thyreicia Simtustus has been invited and hopes to attend powwows and other tribal events in 2018, representing the Confederated Tribes. There is a need for funding for her travel expenses, though, as there is no tribal budget for Miss Warm Springs. Thyreicia goes to Central Oregon Community College, and

also works part time; so her time for fundraising is limited.

To raise the travel money, Thyreicia's family and friends decided to host a Coronation and Banquet. Elsewhere:

Warm Springs Power and Water Enterprises has been researching the possibility of developing a **solar farm on the reservation**.

Power and Water has worked with an experienced partner, Cypress Creek Renewables, on some of the preliminary research, keeping Tribal Council updated from time to time. And tribal leaders met this month with Cypress Creek for a tour of the solar farms east of Bend. Elsewhere:

Tribal executive management announced the start this week of phase 2 of the BIA obsolete building **abatement and demolition project**.

Phase 2 will be in Warm Springs and at Simnasho, namely the old Simnasho school. Work includes the abatement and cleanup of buildings, demolition of the buildings, and removal of underground storage tanks. In sporting news:

The Warm Springs Academy **Eagles track and field teams** had a tremendous day at the District Championships at Gilchrist.

The students, in grades 6, 7 and 8, won 13 individual district titles, plus numerous runner-up and top three finishes. The Eagles were competing against teams from 12 other schools. Also in May:

The Warm Springs **Meth and Opioid Work Group** is working on a resolution with specific steps to help address drug-related problems on the reservation.

The work group this month presented a draft resolution to Tribal Council, listing some of the adverse consequences the tribes are experiencing due to meth, other drugs and alcohol abuse.

June

The critically acclaimed **Netflix series** *The OA* was filming in Warm Springs in June. And

the show from some local talent to serve as extras. Elsewhere in June:

For years the **Dry Creek Landfill** has been used for illegal dumping, including dangerous and toxic chemicals, and the problem has now reached a level of serious concern.

The issue has come to the attention of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the need to plan for a long-term solution is now at hand. In land-use news:

The second wave of offers from the Warm Springs Land **Buy Back** program continued in June. The earlier buy-back resulted in some allotment purchases for the tribes, but the hope is generate more, prompting wave 2. And this:

An interesting new exhibit—**Patriot Nations: Native Americans in Our Armed Forces**—is on display at the Museum at Warm Springs. This is a traveling exhibit from the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C.

Patriot Nations tells the history of American Indian and Alaska Native men and women who have served in the United States military.

The Confederated Tribes were joined in a **lawsuit with PGE**, regarding operation of the selective water withdrawal, or fish tower, at the Round Butte dam.

The tribes and PGE co-own and -operate the hydro-facility. The plaintiff to the lawsuit, the Deschutes River Alliance, argues the temperature of the lower Deschutes is being affected by operation of the tower.

This month the tribes celebrated the **Forty-Ninth Annual Pi-Ume-Sha** in June, marking the sixty-third anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of 1855, signed in that year on June 25.

Meanwhile, the Museum at Warm Springs this week will open the new exhibit *Memory of the Land: The Treaty of the Middle Columbia River Tribes and Bands*.