

Community Education—try it you'll like it

Learning is an ongoing process throughout a person's life. Everyone continues to gain knowledge and understanding by reading, talking and doing new things. Sometimes however there is a disposition to learn but no one there to teach. Community Education is an effort to meet that need.

For the past three and half years Central Oregon Community College in Bend has been operating a formal Community Education program in Warm Springs. The college offers both credit and non-credit courses.

This winter over 100 people enrolled in classes and are held throughout the week at the Community Center and the Warm Spring elementary school. The classes include everything from Photography to Geology of the Cascade mountains.

Community Education coordinator Cynthia Stowell makes an effort to find out what people would like to learn and then she tries to follow up by providing an instructor and facilities. A suggestion for a saddle repair and maintenance class has resulted in the class being offered spring term. Any suggestions are taken seriously.

Without input the Community Education program fails to produce what people want. Stowell says, "You wonder if people care." Enrollment this term indicates that many members of the community are very favorable towards Community Education.

The only thing lacking, Stowell feels, is adequate space to conduct classes. She says, "A nice workshop area would be good." Only a few rooms at the elementary school are suitable for adults due to small sized furniture, and there are only two available rooms at the Community Center to hold classes.

All of the Community Education students asked feel the Community Education program is well worthwhile. One student said, "At least I'm not at home getting bored." Another student praised the program by saying "I think it's just great."

Spring term will have many new classes offered. Some of them are; beadwork, advanced photography, western swing, vegetable gardening, pilots grounds school, mathematics, traditional food, corn husk bags and as previously mentioned saddle repair and maintenance.

Community Education provides the opportunity to add to your valuable store of knowledge. A sense of achievement upon completion of a project is always an ego-booster. Community Education can only be good for you. Try it you'll like it.

Learning is growing— A chance to stretch— and it's fun.



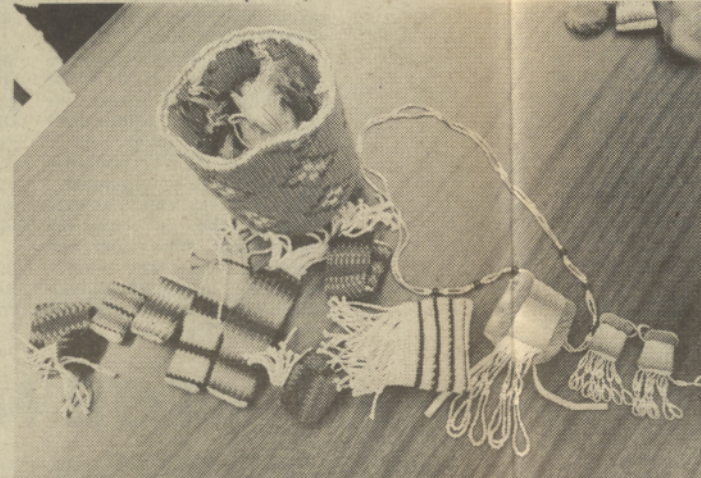
Shorthand makes your day at work a little simpler



Creating a quilt for cold winter nights and to beautify your home is an endeavor worth trying.



Learning traditional skills such as beadwork requires a teacher who knows all the shortcuts.



The skills you learn and the objects you create by taking Community education classes are something you have forever.

Photos by
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The silk-screen transfer method can be used to design your own stationery, T-shirt and wall prints.