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no. 9
May 6,
1988

Spilyay Tymoo

News from the Warm Springs Indian Reservation



VOL. 13 NO. 9

P.O. BOX 870 WARM SPRINGS, OREGON 97761

MAY 6, 1988

Coyote News in brief

Smith retiring

Lloyd Smith, Sr., after 21 years as a member of the 509-J school board, is retiring.

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Mechanics trained

Tribal mechanics participated in a ten week, 30-hour course in electronic engine control systems.

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Primary candidates, issues listed

A summary of national, state and county candidates, and state and county issues are presented.

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How to handle stress

Extension Service offers a dozen ways to handle daily stress.

Page 5

Teacher receives grant

MHS English teacher Irene Conroy received a grant to attend a six-week workshop on traditional and modern American native literature.

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Be sure to mail your telephone ballot in by May 16.

Your vote counts

Oregon beef producers will help decide the fate of an industry-financed program when they vote in the national beef referendum May 10. All local beef producers are encouraged to cast their ballots.

Artquake postponed

Arts and Craft Show previously scheduled to be held May 14, 1988 has been rescheduled for October 15, 1988.

Weather

by Miller

April	High	Low
19	53	44
20	52	42
21	51	41
22	58	40
23	59	34
24	54	36
25	64	32
26	68	40
27	74	48
28	63	47
29	58	44
30	53	27
May 1	54	27
2	53	34
3	56	31

Gas leak causes closure, clean up, action



The fuel pipes and tanks at the Warm Springs tribal garage were unearthed after the discovery of a fuel leak in the lines. The garages continues to service vehicles, but is no longer pumping gas. It is unknown when the garage will resume pumping.

Authorities are unsure of size of leak

by Donna Behrend

Monday, April 25 may have been an ordinary day for most tribal employees, but for those working at the Warm Springs Community Center and the tribal garage, the odor of gas signaled the end of any normality and regular working conditions for some time to come.

Upon arrival at work that Monday, employees noticed a strong smell of gas and alerted their supervisors. The building was immediately closed and evacuated after thorough inspection. And, at the tribal garage, the suspected source of the leak and just 200 feet away, all pumping systems were shut down. The garage continues to service vehicles, but is not pumping fuel.

Three monitoring stations were set up on Shitike Creek to enable tribal natural resources employees to test for possible pollution of the creek. Early readings of the creek monitoring checks indicated that a "very small amount of gas" entered the creek. "The pollution in the creek is miniscule," said fiscal manager Doug McClelland. Testing continues this week, three times a day.

"We are taking every precaution to ensure that the people, build- Continued on page 3

Two Indian graves desecrated Teenagers remove skeleton...

Warm Springs tribal elders reinterred the bones of a human skeleton after teen-age boys removed it from an ancient Indian grave near Fort Rock, Oregon.

The two boys discovered the skeleton April 10 while looking for arrowheads on Bureau of Land Management land, according to the police report. Instead of notifying authorities, the boys informed friends and the five returned to remove the skeleton.

After attempting to reassemble the bones in one of the boy's home an ownership dispute erupted and they smashed the skull. An anonymous telephone call led Oregon State Police to the garage of one of the teenagers where the skeleton was stored.

Some confusion as to which government agency should be involved finally resulted in Oregon State Police involvement. In handling the case they have been "very sensitive to tribal concerns and very willing to help in any way," says Warm Springs tribal archaeologist Dan Mattson.

The boys reported the skeleton

to be in a crouched upright position facing east. According to Warm Springs tribal elder Prunie Williams this position was traditional. No artifacts were found at the site.

"Paiute people traditionally utilized the Fort Rock area," says Mattson. After contacting other Oregon tribes about the grave, Warm Springs representatives claimed the remains at the OSP office in Bend. They included Silas and Prunie Williams, Madeline McInturf, Gladys Thompson, Bernice Mitchell, Larry Dick, Culture and Heritage director Nina Rowe and Mattson.

Deschutes County District Attorney Mike Dugan is in the process of initiating juvenile proceedings against the three 17-year-olds involved.

The 18-year-old men fall under adult law. Because the incident occurred in Lake County, the men could be prosecuted under Oregon law for a felony offense: desecra-

tion of an Indian grave. Deschutes County could prosecute for illegal possession of human remains taken from an Indian grave. Proceedings by Deschutes County will depend on proceedings by Lake County, says Dugan.

Because the desecration took place on federal land the offenders are also in violation of federal law. However, the priority is for prosecution for violation under Oregon State law 97.745 which is much more "stringent" says Mattson.

The Oregon statute reads: "...No person shall willfully remove, mutilate, deface, injure or destroy any cairn or grave of any native Indian."

It continues, "No person shall: a. possess any native Indian artifact or human remains from a native Indian cairn or grave...other than that authorized under ORS 97.750; b. publicly display or exhibit any native Indian human remains; c. sell any native Indian artifacts or human remains taken from a native Indian cairn or grave.

A person found guilty of violating this law may receive one year imprisonment and/or a \$25,000 fine. All artifacts, human remains, and equipment used in violating the law may be ordered forfeited by the court and disposed of in any manner the court feels appropriate.

A tribe or tribal member may also pursue civil action for damages and fees incurred with the incident.

Warm Springs Tribal Ordinance 68 also refers to the Oregon State Law regarding Indian grave protection. The Tribe supports enforcement of this act.

Prosecution in grave site disturbance cases is necessary feels Prunie Williams. "It seems to be the only kind of language anyone understands. They don't seem to understand the Indian sacred way of burial. They just look to dig them up."

Another grave disturbed

A disturbed Indian grave has been discovered in the Deschutes National Forest south of Bend by a Forest Service archaeologist surveying the area.

According to Warm Springs tribal archaeologist Dan Mattson who has visited the site, excavation took place approximately in the past several years. It appears a screen had been used to sift through the dirt, probably in search of artifacts. Bone fragments were scattered throughout the area.

After examination by the Deschutes County medical examiner, the bones were determined to be that of an adolescent human.

According to Warm Springs tribal

archaeologist Dan Mattson, "a number number of artifacts of obsidian were found including projectile points and scrapers."

Warm Springs tribal elders visited the site and collected skeletal fragments. They sang medicine songs because "I felt we needed to spiritually leave the place at rest," says Prunie Williams.

It was determined that the remains had been buried facing east, a traditional Indian burial position. The remains were transported back to Warm Springs where they were reinterred along with remains from the Fort Rock area.

Investigation continues by the U.S. Forest Service on the illegal excavation.

Assistance requested

The Bureau of Indian Affairs is requesting your assistance in preparing "Miller Heights" Streets for a face lift (sealcoat). Project WSIR M-917. Depending on weather conditions and other factors, the project is to be done in 70 degree weather and is estimated to begin sometime in May or June, 1988.

Prior to the startup of the project we must complete street cleaning and crack sealing. Before this work can be done, however, the curblines of the streets must be

cleared. This is where you come in. We are asking that all vehicles parked along the street be moved by Wednesday, May 11, 1988. As you know, the street is public property, so if your vehicles are not removed by May 11, the situation will be turned over to the tribal police.

Thank you for your assistance in helping us keep your streets maintained and in good working condition.

Say "No" walk scheduled

The Warm Springs Elementary School will be holding a "Say No to Drugs Walk/Run" on Friday, May 13. All parents, family members and neighbors are invited to join the students. This activity will be one of several community activities held during the month of May to raise community consciousness regarding alcohol and drugs.

While no administrative leave

will be given, Tribal Council and management strongly endorse this activity. They encourage supervisors to work with employees who wish to participate by rearranging their work schedules to permit involvement. Some Council members have indicated they plan to participate in the walk/run and hope there is a good turnout for the activity.

Oregon Indian week begins May 15

The week of May 15-21, 1988 has been designated as "Oregon American Indian Week."

In honor of the American Indian people of this state, Governor Neil Goldschmidt signed the official proclamation on Tuesday, May 3, 1988 to highlight the special week's activities sponsored by American Indian communities throughout the state.

The official proclamation reads:

Whereas: The vitality of Oregon is reflected in the rich diversity of its people; and

Whereas: the influence of the Indian culture, its values, customs, traditions and language is significantly woven throughout the fabric of Oregon history; and,

Whereas: The unique spirit that is Oregon continues to grow and be enhanced by the contributions of its Indian citizens in art, industry, education and government; and,

Whereas: The quality of life in Oregon is daily enriched by the presence of its American Indian people.

Now, Therefore, I, Neil Goldschmidt, Governor of the State of Oregon, hereby proclaim the week of May 15 through 21, 1988 as American Indian Week in Oregon in recognition of the unique cultural heritage of the American Indians which has shape our history and influence our future.