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Spilyay Tymoo

News from the Warm Springs Indian Reservation



VOL. 14 NO. 8

PO BOX 870 WARM SPRINGS, OREGON 97761

APRIL 21, 1989

Coyote News In Brief

Indians receive training

Police Department employees are receiving training which will eventually lead to certification.

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Snags are homes

Standing dead trees provide homes for birds and animals. Snags are an important part of the total forest environment.

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Fire prevention suggestions given

Homeowners in rural areas are advised that certain precautions will help protect homes from wildland fires.

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Pre-schoolers may register

Youngsters entering Head Start and Tribal preschool programs may register for the 1989-90 school year.

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Rodeo planned

The 40th Annual All-Indian Rodeo is scheduled for May 20-21 at Tygh Valley, Oregon. Books open May 8.

Gardens can be small

When garden space is limited or the gardener just wants a few plants, growing vegetables in small pots may be the answer.

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Tribal Court offices moved

Look for Tribal Court offices in the basement of the old administration building.

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Voters registration form for secretarial election can be found on page 2.

Deadline for the next issue of Spilyay Tymoo is April 28, 1989.

Weather

April	High	Low
3	51	30
4	60	36
5	72	37
6	82	36
7	75	46
8	72	39
9	78	40
10	70	37
11	79	38
12	80	40
13	82	46
14	82	46
15	70	55
16	75	46



Sun radiates off newly emerged pussy willows.

Agreement strikes equitable balance

After more than two years of negotiation, tribal, state, and federal authorities with an interest in the Columbia River fishery signed a cooperative agreement April 10 that will increase the amount of water spilled over the mainstem dams. Increased spill levels mean a higher survival rate for juvenile salmon and steelhead on their way to the ocean.

"I am hopeful that this agreement will mark the beginning of a new era of cooperation between fishery and energy interests in the basin," said Tim Wapato, executive director of the Columbia River

inter-Tribal Fish Commission.

The spill agreement was signed by the Warm Springs, Umatilla, Nez Perce, Yakima, and Colville tribes, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Idaho Fish and Game, Washington departments of Fish and Wildlife, the National Marine Fisheries Service, the Department of the Interior, and Bonneville Power Administration.

Specified in the ten-year agreement are the dates, times, and percentages for spill at four dams operated by the Army Corps of Engineers. The affected dams are Lower Monumental and Ice Harbor on the Snake River and John Day and The Dalles on the Columbia. According to the schedule in the agreement, spills could begin April 15, in time for the spring downriver migration.

The success of the plan depends on the cooperation of the Corps of Engineers, which chose not to participate in the negotiations that led to the spill agreement. The Northwest Power Planning Act of 1980 required dams to supply sufficient spill to protect juvenile fish migration. And yet at least half of the salmon and steelhead smolts migrating downstream are lost to the dams.

Increased spill is the only way to reduce fish mortality until mechanical bypass systems are in place at the dams. The parties to the agreement are calling for installation of new and improved bypass facilities at the mainstem dams by 1994. Despite the reservations expressed by the Army Corp of Engineers about bypass systems at The Dalles and Ice Harbor dams, this agreement provides for construction of such systems at these two projects.

In return for higher spill levels, the tribe and agencies agreed not to sue BPA for its plans to continue selling power to California and to expand its interties transmission lines.

Spill is a sensitive issue for the utilities because releasing water over a dam makes less water available for generating electricity. "Monetary value has often been assigned to the power loss that results from spills, but we never see dollar figures attached to the fish that have been lost," said Wapato.

"But now I think we're beginning to strike the equitable balance between power and fish that was called for in the Power Act."

The Northwest Power Planning Council and utility interests have endorsed the signed spill agreement.

Governor designates Oregon Indian Week

The week of May 14 through 20, 1989 has been designated as "Oregon American Indian Week". American Indian individuals, families, groups, organizations and tribes are encouraged to sponsor a ceremony or local activity to share this special week with the people of their community.

In honor of the American Indian people of this state, Governor Neil Goldschmidt will sign the official proclamation on Thursday, May 4, 1989 to highlight the special week's activities sponsored by American Indian communities throughout the state.

The ceremony will be held between 11 a.m. and 12 noon in the Governor's ceremonial office on the second floor of the state capitol building. The ceremony will last approximately 10 minutes.

The text of the proclamation is as follows:

Whereas: The Indian people believe that the spring of each year should be celebrated as a time of

rebirth, and of giving thanks for the bounties provided by Mother Earth; and,

Whereas: Indian reverence for living in harmony with the world around them has helped define that extraordinary quality recognized as "The Oregon Spirit"; and,

Whereas: The unselfish sharing of their customs, beliefs and culture by the Indians has helped make life in Oregon unique and special for all its citizens; and,

Whereas: It is fitting that on this 130th anniversary of statehood, there be an acknowledgement and celebration of the significant contributions of the Indian people to Oregon's rich history.

Now, therefore, I, Neil Goldschmidt, Governor of the State of Oregon, do hereby proclaim the week of May 14 through 20, 1989 as American Indian Week in Oregon in recognition of the inspiration and vision that the American Indians have provided to our past, present and future.

Election set for May 31

The secretarial election concerning apportionment will be held Wednesday, May 31, 1989. Polls at the Community Center will be open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. All enrolled members of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs who are 18 years of age are eligible to vote. However, eligible voters must register to be entitled to vote. All eligible tribal voters received voter registration forms earlier this week. Those forms are to be returned to Warm Springs Superintendent

Bernard Topash no later than May 10, 1989.

Absentee ballots are also available. Requests for an absentee ballot must be received no later than May 19, 1989.

According to the voters information, the constitution will be amended if a majority of the qualified voters vote in favor of the amendment, as long as 30 percent of those registered to vote actually vote.

Please see page 2 for a registration form.

Museum wins grant

The Warm Springs Tribal Museum learned recently that they received a \$200,000 block grant from the office of Housing and Urban Development. This is the third major grant received since the tribal membership authorized building a museum in an October 27 referendum. The Museum has also received grants from the Fred Meyer Charitable Trust and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The total funds committed in the last six months to the museum is

\$3.5 million, according to Dr. Duane King, executive director of the Middle Oregon Indian Historical Society. The goal is \$4.5 million. The capital campaign will continue while the design work for exhibit and architectural plans are underway.

"We are pleased that funding agencies have appreciation of the tremendous effort to develop a museum of national significance on the Warm Springs reservation," said Delbert Frank, Sr., MOIHS board chairman.

ARE YOU INTERESTED?

Tribal Council is seeking interested tribal members to serve on the following nine tribal committees.

Culture and Heritage Committee

Education Committee

Fish and Wildlife Committee

Health and Welfare Committee

Land Use/Planning Committee

Range, Irrigation and Ag Committee

Timber Committee

Water Board

Miss Warm Springs Committee

If you are interested in serving on the above committees, please submit your resume and/or letter of interest to the Tribal Council office.