

## News from the Clinic Contract Health Program reviewed

From time to time it's good to review the Contract Health Program (CHS) for the benefit of both old and new members of the Warm Springs community. Last year nearly 6000 services were provided to patients. The total cost of these services amounted to \$2.3 million. Every patient who receives care through the Warm Springs Clinic must have on file a current "Individual application for health care." PAO-21. This application needs to be updated annually. If you haven't updated your application within the past year please drop by the clinic and ask for the update form. It is very short and easy to complete.

It may be a good time to review some of the basics of the Contract Health Program (CHS) that is administered through the Warm Springs Service Unit.

Generally, IHS will provide CHS payment for services for CHS eligible patients provided the following criteria are met:

(1) The service must fall within the approved level of care.

(2) The service must be authorized by an IHS physician who will make the appropriate referral. Notification of the CHS office is necessary when non-emergent health services are to be received and the patient expects IHS to pay a portion (if the patient has insurance) of the bill.

(3) When emergency care is received, it is the patient's responsibility to make sure that the CHS office is notified within 72 hours. (The only exception is Mt. View Hospital, which notifies the CHS office directly).

(4) Patient registration information is current and has been updated within the past 12 months.

(5) Patients also need to remember that IHS is required, by law, to exhaust all of patient's alternate resources before IHS utilizes its CHS funds. This includes Medicare, Medicaid, Veterans Administration, and various private insurance carriers among others.

There are some other questions that have been asked by various community members during district meetings that have been recently. These may be issues that concern other tribal members.

Some members have expressed concern that the Warm Springs Clinic is providing care to members of tribes other than Warm Springs. The rules, established by Congress, under which IHS provides care, state that care will be provided to any federally recognized Indian person who requests it. Just as the Warm Springs Clinic provides care to members of other recognized tribes, Warm Springs members who live in other areas may receive care through other service units. Also, each tribe decides on their own rules as to who they choose to recognize as a member. The Indian Health Service provides care to Indian people who have received recognition by their tribe. IHS does not determine who is and who is not an Indian. That is a decision left to each tribe.

The question has been asked as to why some non-Indian women sometimes receive prenatal care at the clinic. IHS has agreed to provide prenatal and delivery care to any woman carrying the child of an Indian man, regardless of race. If the couple is not married, the father must sign a witnessed statement acknowledging paternity. IHS has also agreed to provide care to all members of a family who have been exposed to a contagious disease. For this reason, sometimes non-Indian members of a family may receive treatment for such disorders as hepatitis.

Also, the question has been asked about the service unit's relationship with the state of Oregon

and the Medicaid Program. The Indian Health Service has, for several years, collected funds from the Medicaid programs for various states for services provided to Medicaid eligible Indian patients. These are the same funds that Medicaid would pay to any provider of care. These funds are used to purchase equipment, provide training and hire back-up staff at the service unit. Also, IHS bills private insurance companies of eligible Indian patients for medical services provided at IHS clinics. Again, this is the same money that would normally be paid to any provider of care under the terms of the insurance agreement.

Another issue comes up from time to time that needs to be discussed. Not all Indian patients are eligible for Contract Care. Some are only eligible for Direct Care (care that is provided only at the clinic). Sometimes a patient who is eligible only for direct care receives a referral from an IHS doctor for further care from another physician or hospital. The referral of a direct care eligible patient is done with the interest of the patient in mind by a staff physician. It is not a commitment on the part of IHS to pay for that further treatment. Patients eligible for only direct care cannot participate in Contract Care Services, despite a referral. Resources other than IHS must be utilized for the payment of referrals of Direct Care eligible patients.

## Firebusters earn recognition



Firebuster sweatshirt winners display their prizes. Left to right are third grade student Matti Spino, Prevention Training officer Bob Sjolund, and first grade student Lee W. Hellon.

Warm Springs Elementary students took part in Firebusters Week February 4-8, 1991. The students were required to work on a worksheet involving safety questions around their home. To help with the worksheet they could watch news on television, channels 21 or 2. A VCR tape was also available for students use who missed the news or did not have a television set at home. There were different subjects covered on safety in

homes. Prizes were awarded to winning students, such as smoke detectors, fire safe baseball caps, and sweatshirts. There will also be a contest for the entire 509-J District with the grand prize a bicycle.

The WSE Firebuster sweatshirt winners were third grader Matti Spino, and first grader Lee W. Hellon.

Firebusters who received a smoke detector - hat are: Melinda

Polk, K-Graham; Leo Hellon, K-Mrs. Henry p.m.; Julia Heath, 1st-Mrs. Cook; Percy Winishut, 1st-Mrs. Cook; Elaine Howtopat, 2nd-Henderson; Matt Authur, 2nd-Henderson; Faron Kalama, 3rd-Adams; Robert Sam, Jr., 3rd-Mrs. Adams; Adrian Tulle, 4th-Mrs. Wright; Clavin Herrera, 4th-Mrs. Wright; Brian Renfro, 5th-Mrs. Bishop; Alicia Alonzo, 5th-Miss Anderson.

## Kirkpatrick signs books March 26

Author Jane Kirkpatrick will sign copies of her new book "Homestead" at the Warm Springs Community Center Social Hall on Tuesday, March 26 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served to mark the arrival of the non-fiction book featuring many Warm Springs community people who helped the Kirkpatricks while they were homesteading their isolated canyon ranch along the John Day River near Rock Creek.

Jane is an Early Intervention Specialist who works part time for

the Tribal Department of Education. Tribal Council member Bernice Mitchell calls her "Watermelon Jane" remembering the summer she and her family grew and delivered watermelons to area stores and to Warm Springs. The watermelon adventure is highlighted in two chapters of the book called "Rasin' Watermelons" and "Watermelon Whine."

Copies of the full-sized soft cover book published by Word Inc. of Texas, will be available for \$10.99. A limited number of hard

cover books can also be purchased for \$16.99 at the signing. The book will also be available at area book stores and can be bought for autographing that day.

"Homestead" is described as a "rich, compelling story that combines the spirit of adventure with the warmth and humor of a James Herriot tale. And it's an uplifting testimony to love, hope, family, friends and faith."

Promoted nationally, "Homestead" is the story of the Kirkpatrick's decision to buy, build and survive on 150 remote acres in Sherman County, Oregon, 52 miles east of The Dalles, on the John Day River.

The area is known locally as "Starvation point" and the book chronicles the Kirkpatricks as they leave their work and family in Bend, and with many old and new friends and neighbors, battle against wind, rattlesnakes and red tape to carve out their energy efficient home and barn. They acquire water and electricity, clear sagebrush, endure floods and fire, plant watermelons, alfalfa and grapes, survive dog disasters, airplane crashes, the return of adult children and the loss of wild calves as just some of their adventures.

Come and meet the author and read about some of your friends!

## Local VFW news related

February meetings raised voices of alarm at the words of disbanding. Encouragement from members aroused strength and determination to proceed and contribute to the community however small it may be. Veteran visitors from Redmond, the Warrior Association, election of new officers in March, and improved attendance contributed to completion of unfinished business.

Jim Abbot of Redmond and Gilbert Cousinou, the District 10 Commander, attended the meeting of February 26th to encourage and help our Post meet obligations of the National and State Organization. Baked salmon, wrapped on a paper plate, accompanied them home. This meeting was our Potluck Night.

Enos Herkshan also attended and requested Veteran and Auxiliary participation in the Patriotic Parade on March 2nd. He also reported ongoing activities to improve the Indian participation in the Veteran benefits by the Warrior Organization. The Support group of the Mental Health Division of Warm Springs have done a fine job.

Nomination of new officers is in order for March. Elliott Palmer Post and Auxiliary #4217 will

make nominations on March 12th. Voting in new officers will take place in the meeting of March 26th. Come! Nominate and revitalize our participation in the community!! Installation and a District 10 meeting will then take place April 13th in Redmond. The School of Instruction usually follows in short order to inform and orientate the new officers in compliance with State and National regulations and policies.

The Auxiliary, with a quorum of eight members, attended to unfinished business. A treasure report was given with confirmation of a check stub to the Pi-Ume-Sha Committee for \$150. Motions made, seconded, and passed for \$100 for the emergency relief fund; \$100 to Lois Estimo burn out; \$60 to renew license for the trailer; \$160 for four tables from Cosco; \$95 for purchase of 1,000 poppies; \$100 to Penningtons; \$100 to Post Office for postage. The Auxiliary also voted to share and encourage our Veterans Post with a check of appreciation!

Because of new-found patriotism in the community since the Gulf War, the members saw a need to inform of Flag etiquette. Julie Quaid will submit an article to Spilyay and distribute pencils with the Pledge of Allegiance to students of Warm Springs Elementary.

Adeline Miller requested help and donations of prizes for Senior Citizen Day March 16th. A prize donation in the name of the Post and Auxiliary was volunteered.

There are now 63 members in the Auxiliary. Winnifred Howtopat was welcomed in washing cups and Adeline Miller and daughters rejoined and added to our echoes in the Veterans Building.

Dates to remember: March 26th-voting in new officers; April 13-district elections and reports due; June 20-22-convention at Baker City, Oregon.

Let us thank our Service People, pray in our hearts and make a Big Bang when they get home!!! Show your support and appreciation!!! Join VFW!!!



Scientific Research Abounds

Science students at Madras Junior High School participated in the annual Science Fair March 12. Students prepared projects that answered questions such as "which dye affects a flower the fastest" and "does temperature affect the soil's ability to retain water."

## Northwest Power Planning Council endorses wildlife mitigation project

The Northwest Power Planning Council has endorsed a wildlife mitigation project on the Columbia River near Umatilla, Oregon. At its March 13 meeting in Missoula, Montana, the Council authorized a letter to the Bonneville Power Administration supporting 1991 funding for the acquisition of the 2,000-acre Conforth Ranch just above McNary Dam, pending completion of feasibility studies.

The ranch would be used as waterfowl and bald eagle habitat to compensate for habitat lost due to hydropower development in the Columbia River Basin. The Council's program is one of the largest efforts in the United States to rebuild wildlife populations.

Construction of hydropower dams had far-reaching effects on many species of wildlife as well as fish. Some floodplain and riparian habitats were inundated by reservoirs. In other cases, fluctuating water levels resulting from operation of the dams have created barren vegetation zones. Some of the species affected include waterfowl, bald eagles, deer, elk, beavers, otters, grouse, mink, cougars, bear and many other species.

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## Osage tribe honors Schwarzkopf

The Osage Tribal Council of Oklahoma has granted Gen. H Norman Schwarzkopf a battlefield commission as honorary chief, and will invite him to a special ceremony to receive his Osage name as soon as he returns from Saudi Arabia.

The tribe decided to honor Schwarzkopf with the title after Sam Donaldson on ABC's "Prime-time Live" reported during an interview with the general that he had earlier been named an honorary chief.

In the interview Schwarzkopf told Donaldson he had been named an Osage honorary chief and had been given two eagle feathers. The general said he kept the eagle feathers at his Saudi Arabian headquarters on his confidential lines to the White House situation room and the Pentagon.

Apparently an Osage in Missouri had granted Schwarzkopf the title originally, and the general had not been aware that only the Osage Tribal Council possessed that authority.

"We are elated over his accepting our offer," said Osage Principal Chief Charles O. Tillman. "There is no man I could imagine at this time who deserves to be an honorary chief more."

Schwarzkopf heads U.S. forces in Saudi Arabia, and currently is working out with Iraqi leaders the United Nations requirements for a formal end to the Persian Gulf war.

## Happy Easter, bunnies!

Before action can be taken to repair or replace lost wildlife habitat, the Council requires the region's fish and wildlife agencies and tribes to assess both positive and negative impacts on wildlife at individual dams. Only net losses are addressed in mitigation.

Before a project can be funded, it must be reviewed by the Council's wildlife advisory committee and Bonneville's policy review group. In addition, projects must be reviewed for technical merit by a group of biologists from the region's fish and wildlife agencies, tribes, utilities and land management agencies. The review process helps determine priorities for funding.

Council approval of funding allows Bonneville to begin implementation. Bonneville's fish and wildlife budget includes \$5.2 million for wildlife projects during Fiscal Year 1991. About \$2.3 million of that amount is obligated to ongoing planning and the Montana Wildlife Trust.



Water and its importance in electricity generation was explored by Warm Springs Elementary students during a recent poster contest. Contest winners were awarded savings bond certificates and will have their posters displayed at the Warm Springs Hydroelectric Project office. Poster winners include: (left to right) Clayvin Herrera, grade 4, Lynn Knight, grade 4, Chris Clements, grade 4, David Fuentes, grade 5, Bruce Howtopat, grade 5, Marlow Little Boy, grade 5.

## Spilyay Tymoo

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