

Spilyay Tymoo

News from the Warm Springs Indian Reservation

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P.O. BOX 870 WARM SPRINGS, OREGON 97761

APRIL 19, 1991

Coyote News In Brief

Reduce fire hazards
Controlled burns will be offered to Warm Springs residents to help them remove fire hazards surrounding homes.

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Teen parents sponsor conference
Madras High School students are organizing a Teen Conference scheduled for May 18, 1991.

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Powwow, Parade honors serviceman, servicewoman
Shauna Queahpama-Craig and Redmond man Pate Benson were honored in Warm Springs.

Tribal Council agenda offered

The Tribal Council agenda informs community members of Council activities.

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Rodeo draws crowd
Root Feast Rodeo attracted an enthusiastic audience and contestants willing to test their skills.

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Employers can reduce absenteeism
Helping employees feel needed and setting a good example can reduce absenteeism.

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Kah-neeta Mini-marathon is set for Saturday, April 27 at the Village. Races begin at 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. Bus leaves at 8:15 a.m. for Sinnasho. Call the Community Center at 553-3243 for more information.

Deadline for the next issue of Spilyay Tymoo is April 26, 1991

Weather

APRIL	HI	LOW
1	63	38
2	56	37
3	56	30
4	70	52
5	58	52
6	50	28
7	52	26
8	51	23
9	50	34
10	46	44
11	58	28
12	62	28
13	66	29
14	58	33
15	55	32
16	59	40



The "When I Grow Up..." parade started activities celebrating the week of the young child April 15 to April 19 which also corresponds to the beginning of construction of the Early Childhood Education Center.

Commission on Indian Services budget slashed

The devastating effects of the passage of Ballot Measure #5 continue to surface as the state of Oregon prepares its 1991-1993 biennium budget. Suffering a near lethal blow from the figurative budget axe is the Oregon Commission on Indian Services (CIS). The Commission sustained a 33 percent reduction in its proposed budget—a full 17½ percent less than what the Commission received during the 1989-1991 biennium.

Up to this point "no other agency has taken a cut of this magnitude," said CIS director Doug Hutchinson April 15. The cuts take over two times more from the CIS budget than from any other agency. Hutchinson explains that most other agencies have experienced 12 percent reductions in their sometimes inflated proposed budgets. "They're cutting 12 percent of the fat...most agencies have had additions to their budgets."

Once the budget was prepared and at the important Ways and Means sub-committee level, CIS member Wayne Fawbush was "down the hall" and unavailable to vote, says Hutchinson. The bill passed by two to one. Had he been present, Hutchinson believes, there could have been a tie vote among the four members and the Commission's bill might have gone back

to committee and been reworked. Then, when the bill hit the Senate floor, Fawbush, given the opportunity to speak, said nothing. He voted for the 33 percent cut and when the final vote was tallied, he changed his vote to no. "Fawbush has been noticeably silent...his support of the CIS has been questionable," says Hutchinson.

In an interview April 17, Senator Fawbush explained the difficulty of the budget process and dealing with the \$800 million hole caused by Measure #5. "We were real lucky to keep the Commission at all," says Fawbush. "These are tough times—we've got a very difficult situation. We worked hard to keep what we could." Fawbush said he changed his second vote because he is "not in favor of the cuts."

Fawbush added that "Hutchinson is real lucky he's not a half-time position" given the severe cuts the Commission sustained. "I would hope, over time, they (the Commission) would gain the perspective as to how serious the economic situation is."

Currently, the CIS office employs Hutchinson and an assistant. With this latest swing of the budget axe will go the assistant's position and another \$10,000. "The Commission

will survive and will continue to do some of the things it's done in the past," Hutchinson says.

The Commission was established in 1975 and has served as a liaison between the state legislature and the nine Indian tribes in Oregon. Twelve individuals serve as commissioners, including eight who are members of federally recognized Indian tribes, two state legislators, Fawbush and Senator Judith Bauman of Portland, and two urban Indian population representatives. Michael Clements represents Warm Springs.

The Commission is an "agency within the legislature to provide information to legislators," says Hutchinson. The Commission's office is a "focal point in the Capitol Building for those who don't know much about Indians." The Commission also publishes the Directory of American Indian Resources

and a quarterly newsletter. Serving as a money watchdog, the Commission ensures that federal funding

earmarked for Indian tribes and projects actually reaches its intended destination.

Choices offered in Trusts

On April 10, 1991, representatives from the U.S. National Bank of Oregon presented a performance report on the Minors Trust Fund for calendar year 1990 at the Agency Longhouse. The fund performed rather poorly in 1990, resulting in a -3.4 percent return for the year. The good news is that by March 31, 1991, the fund had recovered, showing a three-month return of 9.70 percent.

It was explained that the fund is broken out into two types of portfolios: the Basic Fund—consisting of a mix of stocks, bonds and money markets, and the Fixed Funds—consisting of bonds and money markets.

It is recommended that children between the ages of 0 to 13-17 remain in the more volatile of the two types of funds—the Basic fund, which historically has a higher return on investment.

Minors receive four payments out of their minors trust account: One-fourth of the balance when 18 years of age.

One-third of the balance when 19 years of age.

One-half of the balance when 20 years of age.

Balance when 21 years of age.

Prior to children reaching their first payout date, it is recommended

Continued on page 2

Tribe, state begin water negotiations

Concerned water users in the Deschutes River basin listened intently as water negotiations between the State of Oregon and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs opened. In a public meeting April 9 on the Central Oregon Community College campus, government and tribal representatives explained their respective interests, and clarified the negotiation process.

The negotiation process, tribal attorney Jim Noteboom relates, has come about in an effort to curtail litigation which often results in great expense, much time, and often "Hard feelings." Although litigation has been utilized to recognize tribal water rights on other reservations, Warm Springs "was identified as one of the reservations which would be a good prospect for negotiations," says Noteboom. The basin is not overappropriated and the geology of the area facilitates a settlement.

The proposal offered by the Tribe does not take water from current water users and it guarantees a minimum flow in the Deschutes River. The minimum flow will be maintained at 3,000 cubic feet per second from July through February, and 3,500 cfs March through June. Current flow below the reservation

is approximately 4,500 cfs.

The tribe's proposal does not specify an amount of water that may be diverted to the reservation. It does, however, establish the right of the Tribe to divert, store and use water from the Deschutes River for any purpose as long as it does not reduce the river's flow below the minimum guaranteed flow.

In the proposal, the Tribe also calls for the state to assure that the amount of water entering the reservation at Lake Billy Chinook be guaranteed. Attorney Noteboom points at the Tribe's interest in healthy fisheries and continued operation of hydroelectric projects on the Deschutes River as a reason for the guaranteed flow entering the reservation. The state would keep levels above the lowest level recorded.

In return, the Tribe agrees to subordinate its water rights priority date of June 25, 1855, the date the treaty was signed, enforcing it only on the current amount of water being taken from the river. Future claims would not hold that priority date.

19 and 20 on the Warm Springs Reservation. A tour of the reservation is included in the agenda.

Tribal members will be kept informed on negotiations and water-related issues on the reservation. Citizen meetings are being scheduled to discuss the negotiations.

Related stories on page 2

Keep W.S. Clean

Please don't throw that trash out of the window!!! Being a small part of this earth, we should respect the life that is around us. We have a beautiful reservation, we have mountains, trees, colorful rocks, and lots of water. But, there is a lot of litter and garbage along the roads and creeks. This looks like we are abusing the earth and all of the animals that live here also. Spring cleanup is just ahead. A lot of hard work will be going into this community project. Take pride in a clean reservation, come and join the Housing Department with this clean up project. We need volunteers to pick up the trash. If you care, and would like to show your support with this effort, call 553-3250. Leave your name and number.

Attention tribal fishers

Lost Indian fishing nets are being discovered in the Zone 6 fishing area. These "ghost nets" can go on killing fish until they are removed from the river.

All attempts should be made to locate lost gear. If you cannot find your nets, or if you discover a lost net, contact the Warm Springs Natural Resources office at 553-3233 or the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fisheries Enforcement office at (503) 386-6363.