

Air Life strives to provide quality care quickly



Air Life is a medical transport system designed to quickly reach seriously injured or ill patients and transport them to advanced medical care in the fastest manner possible. Air Life supplements ground ambulance systems and responds both to accident scenes and requests for hospital transfers.

The Air Life helicopter operates within a 150-mile radius of Bend. This area extends north to Heppner, south to Lakeview, east to Burns and John Day, Oregon and to Air Life affiliate hospitals west of the Cascades. This region of Central and Eastern Oregon covers 63,000 square miles and includes 250,000 people. It is the largest region served by a helicopter ambulance in Oregon.

Central and Eastern Oregonians live, work and play in high desert open spaces, scenic mountain passes and recreational wonders. This spacious environment can place residents

and visitors needing immediate and sophisticated medical attention at great distances from medical care. Air Life is able to quickly dispatch a skilled health care team to the scene—a team which can provide advance life support and accompany the patient on a swift flight to the closest medically appropriate facility.

Air Life serves the Northwest with a fixed-wing air ambulance service with a 600 mile radius of Bend as well as the helicopter. With the introduction of the airplane component, patients can now be transported to the hospital of their choice for other than medically necessary (life-threatening) reasons.

Over 2,000 life-threatening patient missions have been flown. In addition, Air Life has saved hundreds of thousands of dollars in potential disability costs by bringing sophisticated medical care and equipment to accident scenes quickly. All this has reduced recovery times and costs for patients.

Air Life is on-call 24 hours a day, ready to respond to accidents and emergencies. Careful consideration is given to weather and the nature of the request when accepting any request for Air Life's services. With the addition of the air plane and twin-engine helicopter, fewer missions are declined because of the added aircraft capabilities. The Air Life helicopter can carry two patients and up to three medical attendants. The airplane can transport one patient and up to three

medical attendants.

Air Life complements the efforts of your local ambulance service. All regional ambulance services are networked with Air Life. It is common for the two to work together to get a patient to medical care quickly and safely.

Air Life's charges are based on a lift-off fee plus a loaded (with patient on board) mileage fee. Charges for helicopter missions range between \$2,000 and \$6,000. It is less expensive to be transported by plane than by helicopter. The fixed-wing transport times are longer as our fixed-wing staff is on call, versus on duty, as is the helicopter staff.

Air Life is funded by payments from insurance companies (66 percent) and membership fees (22 percent). The remaining 12 percent comes from affiliate hospital support as well as individual contributions. An individual's insurance company usually pays a percentage of the cost. Amounts paid by insurance companies vary according to the individual's level of coverage. If the patient is not an Air Life member, he or she is obligated to pay the balance.

Air Life membership provides insurance benefits should the subscriber or any member of their family use Air Life for quick transport to a hospital. It also provides essential financial support for Air Life's daily operations.

For \$45 a year per family (husband, wife and dependent children

under age 23), subscribers receive an Air Life membership. If a family member uses the service under medically appropriate circumstances, Air Life bills the member's insurance carrier and accepts the insurance payment as payment in full. In effect, Air Life absorbs any deductible associated with the service. There is no direct charge to the member.

In addition to the insurance benefits, members will receive the Air Life newsletter "Air Currents", Air Life membership stickers and membership cards, and access to information about Air Life on a periodic basis. Perhaps more importantly, you will have the comfort of knowing that whenever and wherever you travel, work or play in our region, Air Life will be available. You can also enjoy the satisfaction of providing the financial support that keeps Air Life's services available.

To sign up, simply fill out an application, sign it and enclose \$45 for payment. Checks should be made out of Air Life of Oregon. Mail the payment and application to Air Life at 2500 NE Neff Road, Bend, OR 97701-6098. Membership becomes effective three days following receipt of the completed application.

For more information about Air Life or an application form, contact the Air Life staff at 1-800-522-2828 or 382-4321, ext. 7391.

Watershed is stored in soil, then released

What is watershed?
We can think of watershed - using the simplest description as the land on which water falls from the atmosphere, is stored within the soil, and, over a period of time, is released downslope to other locations. All land is part of a watershed.

We also visualize each watershed as a catchment area divided from the next watershed by topographic features like ridgetops. The water that falls within a watershed or catchment, but isn't used by existing vegetation, will seek the lowest points - ultimately, it should appear in the streams and rivers draining the system. All life depends on the soil, the water falling on that soil, and the air above and within that soil. Entire societies have disappeared because they didn't properly understand and care for their soil resource.

No other resource comes close to the soil's importance. Without healthy productive soil, plants and animals - and people - probably couldn't exist.

We don't directly manage soil, for the most part. We manage the vegetation that grows in the soil. We directly manage domestic grazing animals; we indirectly manage

grazing wildlife. We also alter the soil surface on forest and rangelands by building roads and by mining; both activities directly affect the water cycle. With respect to watersheds, the water cycle refers to those processes in which water falls in either liquid or solid form and:

- is captured so it has an opportunity to move into the soil,
- stays and is retained in the soil, or
- moves through the soil by gravity into springs, streams, rivers, lakes - and ultimately the sea.

From that liquid form, it can then return to the atmosphere by evaporation - and start the cycle again.

According to company representatives, counterfeit versions of Ivomec 1% (ivermectin) and Ivomec-F (ivermectin-clorsulon) injections have been distributed in various parts of the United States.

Only the 500 ml containers are involved. The counterfeit products do not contain ivermectin or clorsulon. Counterfeit packaging closely resembles that of the genuine product, but is different.

The company will replace any counterfeit product at no charge. Contact our office, your veterinarian, or veterinary supply dealer for details.

**Official Grand Opening
of the
Warm Springs Branch of
the State
AFS office will be
May 14 beginning at 2 p.m.
All community members are invited
Refreshments will be served
Office is located in the Commodities
Warehouse**

Veterans' help-line available

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has inaugurated a special toll-free telephone help-line for veterans who were exposed to radiation during military service.

Current information on VA benefits and services, medical research related to radiation exposure and legislation, as well as assistance in filing or reopening disability compensation claims related to radiation exposure will be offered.

The 24-hour, toll-free number — 1-800-827-0365 — is available to veterans and family members week-

days from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Eastern time, and is staffed by counselors at the VA Regional Office and Insurance Center in Philadelphia. After-hours and weekend callers may leave a recorded message, which will be returned the following business day.

More than 200,000 veterans were potentially exposed to radiation as a result of atomic weapons testing between 1945 and 1962, as prisoners of war in Japan during World War II, or as members of occupation forces in Hiroshima and Nagasaki after World War II. Exposure also could have resulted from a variety of military occupations or from X-ray therapy.

This new information help-line supplements statewide toll-free service for information on VA benefits and programs at all VA regional offices. The Philadelphia Regional Office and Insurance Center also maintains a national toll-free number for information about government insurance policies. That number is: 1-800-669-8477.

YOUTH CHALLENGES
Tuesdays, June 2, 1992 (1st) to July 7, 1992 (6th)
six sessions -- 6:15 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
Coordinating School Skills with Prevention Skills
at the Warm Springs Senior Citizen Center
June 2nd — session one - Introduction, overview of sessions. Identify "Feelings, Home and School."
June 9th — session two - What's communication in Home and School? Self Identification. Bring an object that represents something about you. Your choice, something you made, earned or you feel proud about.
June 16 — session three - Alcohol and Drugs, Nutrition. The effects, in the Home and School.
June 23rd — session four - Relationships=Communication; "Family, Home, School and in the community."
June 30th — session five - Coping Skills; building your own creativity and self esteem.
July 7th — session six - The Choices I make. "Challenges, Cultural and Spiritual Awareness."
Sessions are open, free of charge to all youth and adults who care and want to support family and community unity. This can be a start for a support group also.

IHS eye clinic scheduled for May 28 in Warm Springs

An eye clinic for patients with diabetes will be held at the IHS Clinic on Thursday, May 28 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. It is very important for patients with diabetes to see an eye doctor every year. Diabetes can damage the smaller blood vessels (capillaries); this in turn affects the eyes.

Why does this happen to small vessels? No one knows exactly why this happens. It is believed that high blood sugar levels can damage these blood vessels over a period of time.

How can diabetes affect the eyes? Retinopathy is a disease of the retina in the eye. The retina sends the pictures of what we see to the brain. When the blood sugar levels are too high, the blood vessels in the retina may become weak over time. The weak spots in the blood vessels balloon out into small pouches. These pouches are fragile and can break easily. Blood leaks into the retina. A scar forms at the broken spot. This is called background retinopathy. In this type of retinopathy, there is usually no change in sight, unless the central part of the retina is affected.

Is there another type of retinopathy? The second type is called proliferative retinopathy. In this type, new blood vessels grow over the retina and out into the clear jelly that fills the eyeball. The new vessels can break and leak blood. You may be able to see signs that this has happened. Your vision may be like looking through blood or a spider web, or you may see black floating spots. As the broken vessels heal, bands of scar tissue form. Proliferative retinopathy is very serious. It can lead to blindness unless it is treated.

Sometimes the bands of scar tissue pull the retina away from where it is attached. This is called retinal

detachment, which is also very serious. You may lose sight suddenly in one or both of your eyes, or it may seem as if a curtain has been pulled over part of your eye. It's important to call your doctor if this happens.

How is retinopathy treated? There are new ways to treat retinopathy. If it is caught early and treated in the right way, most blindness can be prevented.

How will I know if I have retinopathy? There usually aren't any early signs of this problem. Only a specially trained doctor can tell if you have retinopathy. It is very important that patients with diabetes see an eye doctor every year.

How else does diabetes affect my eyes? Vision may become blurred when blood sugar is too high. The blurred vision will usually go away when blood sugar levels come down.

People with diabetes have cataracts and glaucoma more often than people who don't have diabetes. A

cataract happens when the lens of the eye becomes cloudy. This causes your vision to become cloudy, too. Glaucoma is when there is too much fluid inside the eye. This causes high pressure in the eye. Glaucoma can cause vision loss if it is not treated. Both cataracts and glaucoma can be treated if they are found early enough.

Can eye problems be prevented? Good blood sugar control can prevent or delay eye problems. Most blindness in people with diabetes can be prevented if treated early enough. One of the best things you can do for yourself is to see the eye doctor.

If you have diabetes and have not seen the eye doctor in a year or more, please plan to attend the Diabetic Eye Clinic on Thursday, May 28 at the IHS Clinic from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. If you have any questions about the eye clinic or about the Warm Springs Diabetes Program, call Candace Reich at the Clinic at 553-1196.

natural resource management have begun a new understanding of fire's relationship to developing ecosystems and how this development relates to property and resource investments. Fire is a necessary part of western plant communities and can be integrated into common management techniques to optimize resource management goals. Fire can also be destructive, erasing years of labor and investments. It also threatens life and property as homesites continue to expand into the wildland urban interface. We identify these situations as needing some kind of management action to reduce the threat of catastrophic fire.

Wildfire is a natural process and is predictable. We know from historical information how often certain plant communities burned. We can also predict how intensely a fire will burn using factors that describe fuels, weather and topography. We are now aware that fire can be a management tool used to provide long term resource benefits. The use of fire as a management tool at Warm Springs is long and rich with pioneering intelligence. There are documented projects of understory burning in natural fuels to reduce fire hazards and reduce the presence of incense cedar in ponderosa pine stands. These projects took place during the 1930s through 1950s. This vision of reintroducing fire using prescribed conditions to help resource management was started by Harold Weaver who developed much of his management philosophies here at Warm Springs. Fire Control Officers like Vic Sisson had the courage to implement these ideas and leave tracks for us to follow. These people recognized that a

Memorial, other ceremonies scheduled

Memorial for the late Maggie Waters Jim of Celilo, Oregon, and name giving for Daisy Begay, June 20, 1992 at Celilo Longhouse, 9:00 a.m. Also a stone setting for Maggie and her brother Bocus Charley. Starting at 9:00 a.m. Chief Howard Jim, Bronco Jim & family, Lester Jim, Ronald Jim, Lucille Begay & family, Marcela Jim.

Madras Jr. High students study aquatic biology

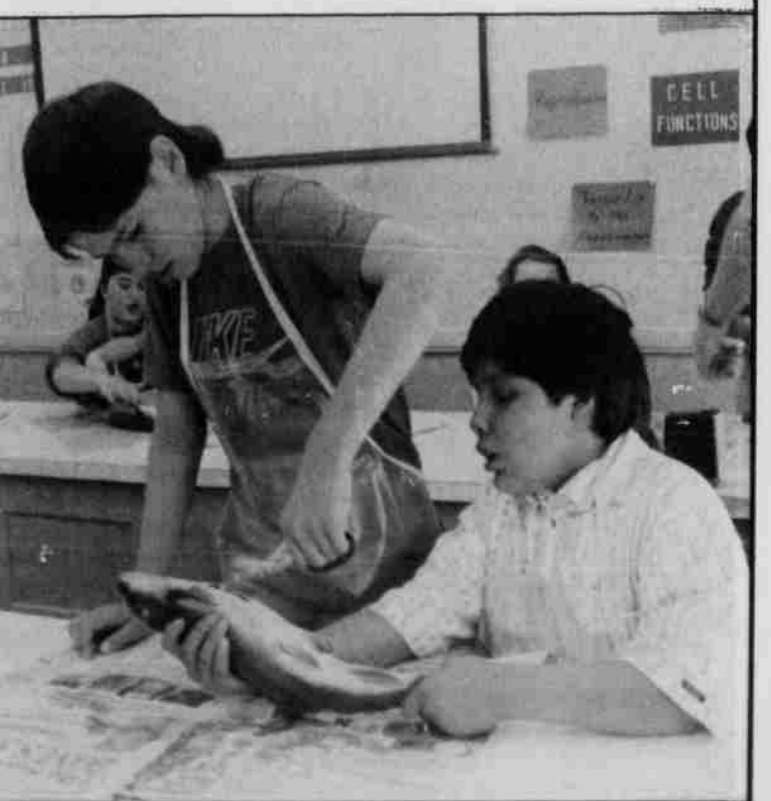


Warm Springs Fish Hatchery biologist Steve Turner explains the sensory organs of fish.

Throughout the school year seventh grade students have learned scientific procedure and scientific principles. They have just completed looking at vertebrate and invertebrate animals.

Since 1981, the Warm Springs Fish Hatchery has taken the time to bring suckers to the science room so students have the opportunity to learn about fish. Biologist Steve Turner brought enough large scale suckers to the school so 10 classes could receive instruction on the biology of a fish and participate in dissection of one.

According to science teacher Vic Delamarter, the students anticipate the activity "with some trepidation," but once they start dissecting the fish and seeing how it works "they enjoy it."



Madras Jr. High seventh grade students Jerrod Miller (left) and Sean Brunoe (right) dissect large scale sucker during science class.

Spilyay Tymoo
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