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News from the Warm Springs Indian Reservation



VOL. 17 NO. 16

P.O. BOX 870, WARM SPRINGS, OREGON 97761

AUGUST 7, 1992

Coyote News In Brief

Miss Warm Springs serves community

Merle Ann Kirk, selected Miss Warm Springs in June, looks forward to involvement with community members in projects and activities.

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Secondhand smoke presents health hazard

Smoke from cigarettes can be bad for infants, children and those exposed to it over long periods of time.

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Tribe acquires river property

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs recently acquired 965 acres of land near and bordering the Deschutes River in the Maupin area.

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Lookouts keep fire watch

Three lookouts watch for fires on Reservation land during hot, dry summer months.

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Summer Youth Program runs through Aug. 14

Students participating in the Summer Youth Program gain experience and learn skills.

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Sports Festival scheduled in Yakima

Athletes of all ages will be brought together at Festival August 14-16.

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Youth experience adventure at camp

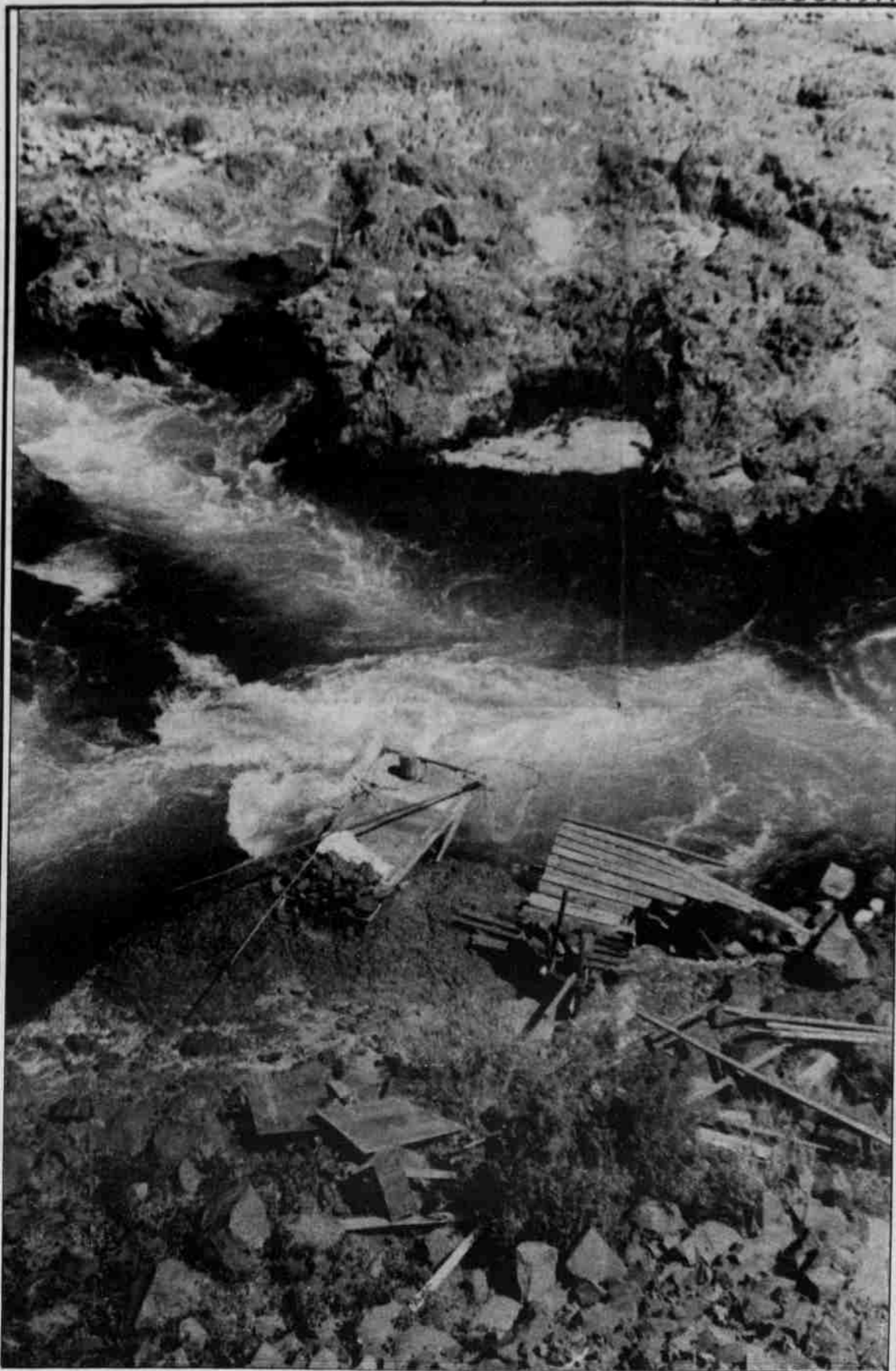
The 4-H Wilderness Camp set for August 9-12 allows youth to enjoy outdoor recreational activities.

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Deadline for the next issue of Spilyay Tymoo is August 17, 1992.

Employee picnic August 12 at Community Center 6:00 p.m.

Potluck:
A-F Hotdish
G-L Dessert
M-S Dinner rolls, butter
T-Z Salads



Nets have been abandoned at Sherars Falls scaffolds until next fishery.

Fire at Shaker Church keeps crews occupied

Firefighters, a cat, helicopter, a spotter plane and a couple of bombers converged on a fire near the Shaker Church, July 30, 1992. The blaze charred some 25 acres of under brush and grassland along the Shitike Creek. The blaze was reported around 4:49.06 p.m. The local Hot Shot crew, who just returned from a big fire in Idaho, were on R & R at the time of the fire. Just the stand by crew was on hand until crews from ZigZag Ranger station and the Ochoco National Forest came in to give a hand on the fire. The Helicopter was very busy dipping right out of the creek keeping the hot spots cooled down. High winds picked up the blaze and it was burning toward the crest of the hill above West Hills housing.

The bomber came swooping down dropping retardant on the flames and calmed the fire where there was no threat to the homes. The fire jumped across the creek at the pump house where the under brush is quite dense.

A crew of about 65 men were on the fire line all night long, keeping the hot spots in check. The fire was pretty much contained about 8:36.02 p.m. But there were about 65 people on the lines throughout the night. The following morning a crew from the Deschutes National forest came in to mop up.

It was reported that this is the largest fire on the reservation so far. The cause, is said, may have been man made but it was still under investigation.

Open Meeting On YOUTH AND VIOLENCE

Thursday, August 6, 1992 at 7 p.m.

Senior Citizen's Center

Parents, youth, elders, youth workers, and other community members are welcome.

Purposes of the meeting are to present information about youth and violence, to give community members a chance to discuss concerns, and to discuss ways of dealing with this problem.

Meeting hosted by Children's Treatment Services, Community Counseling Center.

Toy donations help children

The Victim Assistance Program is requesting a Toy Donation to begin in the community. Every now and then there are young children who will be going through the Court System and a lot of times they wait from one (1) hour to eight (8) hours before they can go to Court. These donations will occupy the children in the Victims Assistance program by helping them relax and concentrate on other things.

Victims Assistance would like the donations to start as soon as possible. If you have any toys, crayons, or books that will catch the interest of children between the ages of 2 years through 12 years, they will be greatly appreciated. Please bring donations by the Victim Assistance Office in the Tribal Court building and leave them with Foster Kalama or Corina Domingo. Thank you for the time and effort for making the Victims Assistance program successful.

Give Victim Assistance a call at 553-3357.

Plan on attending the Warm Springs Victim Assistance program mini-conference called, "Empowering Our Indian Community," to be held September 29, 1992 at the Agency Longhouse.

There will be workshops about domestic violence, victimization, child abuse, sexual assault, elder abuse, spirituality, alternative education, juvenile justice. And to end the conference there will be an honor dinner. Workshops will be presented by tribal members.

Fetal Alcohol Syndrome to be discussed August 27

Children with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome have a wide range of physical and mental disabilities which effect their growth and development throughout their lives. This was a finding of the Warm Springs Alcohol and Drug Council after reviewing the results of a recent project at Warm Springs. The project was designed to help parents accurately identify children who are Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and to assist the parents in getting services for their children.

Prompted by the findings of this project and other studies the Council passed the following resolution to begin addressing this problem in the community.

"The Warm Springs Alcohol and Drug Council has examined and reviewed the studies concerning the effect of alcohol and other drugs on the developing child during pregnancy and has found that:

1. Prenatal exposure to alcohol and drugs results in multiple effects on the young child ranging from mild damage to the brain to severe effects such as Fetal Alcohol Syndrome.

2. These effects continue throughout the development of the child into adulthood.

3. The effect of alcohol and drug exposure during pregnancy on the child is totally preventable.

Therefore, the Warm Springs Alcohol and Drug Council resolves to support community wide prevention efforts to encourage families not to

use alcohol and drugs when they are expecting a child; to support non-punitive education and treatment programs for those families experiencing problems with alcohol and drugs during pregnancy; and to encourage and support the continued development of intervention and rehabilitation services for young children and adults who have been exposed to alcohol or drugs during their prenatal period."

The Council would also like to

invite everyone to come to a community conference on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. This will be a one day conference at the Community Center Social Hall on August 27, 1992 starting at 8:30 a.m. Topics include a report on the success of last years FAS project, the needs of older children and adults who experience FAS and an afternoon presentation on ways to assist effected children in managing their behavior in the school and at home. Ms. Carol Cole, Special

Projects Director for the Los Angeles School District, will be here to provide training for families and teachers in working with some of the problems FAS children experience such as hyperactivity and impulsiveness.

There is no charge for the conference and lunch will be provided. Anyone who wants to attend should call Eraina at 3205 and leave a message so we can plan for the lunch meal.

ECONOMICS:

*Unemployment for Native Americans averages 40 percent. Areas dependent on farm work can see that rate rise to 60 percent in the winter.

*For those who do work, only 10 percent are employed in private industry.

*The rate of business ownership is half that of other minority groups.

*Over twice as many Indian people live below the poverty line compared to the rest of the country, while per capita income on reservations is less than half the national average.

HOUSING:

*Over 24 percent of homes in Indian Country are without complete plumbing.

*Twenty-one percent are without indoor toilets, compared with six percent for all U.S. homes.

these reports, as well as economic data, business development rates and census statistics as they become available later this year. Such information will be assimilated and distributed to the public and government offices. This is the first attempt to maintain and continually update an overall view of conditions on Indian lands.

The following information was gathered from the above mentioned reports, as well as figures from the U.S. Department of Commerce Bureau of the Census, the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development and the National Indian Housing Council.

EDUCATION:

*Only 43 percent of the Indian population completes high school, compared to a national average of 67 percent.

*Eight percent attends four or more years of college, a rate half that of the rest of the country.

NATIONAL INDIAN POLICY CENTER BECOMES CLEARINGHOUSE

To date, there has never been a central location reporting on the conditions of Native Americans living on reservations. Information on health care, education levels, economic indicators and other factors has been available on a sporadic and limited basis through a variety of agencies, committees and university projects.

Data on Indian country has been in short supply, as there were only two major studies published in the last year: the U.S. Department of Education Indian Nations at Risk Task Force report titled "An Education Strategy for Action" and the University of Minnesota Adolescent Health Program's study "The State of Native American Youth Health."

The National Indian Policy Center at The George Washington University seeks to become a clearinghouse and source of information on

*Sixteen percent are without electric lighting.

*Over half have no telephones.

HEALTH AND YOUTH:

*Suicide is the second leading cause of death for Native American teens. For children age 15 to 19, the rate of suicide is over two and a half times the national average.

*The death rate for teenage boys is three times that of other ethnic groups.

*The death rate for girls is 1.8 times that of other ethnic groups.

*Death from automobile accidents is twice the national rate.

*One in four Native American 12th graders is identified as a problem drinker.

*One in three Native American youths reports constant anxiety about financial security at home.

*Less than half of Indian youths report living with two parents.