

Spilyay Tymoo

News from the Warm Springs Indian Reservation

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DECEMBER 23, 1992

Coyote News In Brief

IHS plans community forums
The Warm Springs IHS Health Clinic will hold its first community forum January 5. Contract health care will be discussed.
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COCC enrollment begins January 2
Community education classes for winter term range from computer graphics to western dance.
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Students saving labels
Students are collecting Campbell's labels for educational equipment.
Page 3

Students investigate new forest product
Madras High School forestry students are growing shitake mushrooms, a highly-valuable forest by-product.
Page 5

Activity bus schedule changes
During January and February, changes in the activity bus schedule should be noted.
Page 6

Hosts have responsibility for guests
Serving alcohol requires increased responsibilities for hosts.
Page 7

Don't forget the "Last Minute Bazaar"
December 23
10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Community Center

Deadline for the next issue of Spilyay Tymoo is December 31.



A list is not complete without a check by Santa and his helpers.

Indian language classes begin January 11

The Culture and Heritage Department will again sponsor Indian language classes starting the week of January 11. Both Warm Springs and Paiute classes will be offered. (Wasco classes are being conducted separately.) These classes continue the Indian language classes held last summer, but they are open to beginning students of all ages.

Final schedules for the classes have not been set, but the Department tentatively plans to have both afternoon and evening Warm Springs classes and evening Paiute classes. "I'm delighted to work with our Indian language teachers," says Tribal linguist Hank Millstein. "They're coming up with new ideas and approaches all the time." Millstein is convinced that this series of classes will be even more rewarding than the classes held over the summer. "One advantage of our approach to teaching and learning is

that we provide a way for students with some experience to work together with beginners in a way that benefits both. It's not like a regular classroom where the whole course is set in stone from the start; the students

help shape what they learn." To sign up for classes and get information on their schedule, stop by the Culture and Heritage Department at its new office in the Old Boys' Dorm, or call the Department at 553-3393.

Tribal member arrested on wildlife violations

December 12 Oregon State Police Fish & Wildlife troopers arrested Nathan S. Jim, Jr., near Silver Lake, Oregon, on numerous counts of wildlife violations. Nathan Jim, Jr., 31 years of age, resides on Wesley Lane, in Warm Springs. Jim was lodged in the Lake County jail, Lakeview, in lieu of \$65,000 bail. He has been charged with two counts of illegal possession of bald eagles, two counts of illegal possession

of golden eagles, five counts of illegal possession of rough legged hawks, hunting while suspended and numerous warrants and traffic infractions. Federal prosecution under the Federal Eagle Act and Endangered Species Act is anticipated as Jim is currently on federal probation for a similar crime that occurred in 1990 when he was arrested for possessing seven eagles illegally.

Tribes issue tax-exempt bonds

December 10 was an important day for education in Warm Springs and very important for future building projects requiring financial outlay by the Tribes. On December 10 the Confederated Tribes, for the first time ever, offered tax exempt full-faith and credit type bonds for sale to the public. This is believed to be the first time a Native American Indian tribe has gone into the bond business successfully. The endeavor provides permanent financing of the 38,600 square foot Early Childhood Education Center.

"Youth and education are key ingredients for the future of our Tribe," reflected Education general manager Mike Clements on the way the Tribes view education and their new \$5 million education center. However, it was a lengthy process to arrive at the point where the Tribe could go outside usual sources to secure financing.

Tribal members went to the polls May 16, 1989 and approved the referendum for the ECE. The referendum authorized the Tribe to appropriate \$1.125 from the general fund and to acquire through loans or grant an additional \$3.375 million.

A tribal constitutional amendment was passed almost a year later that enabled the Tribe to borrow money from the private sector for projects such as the ECE. The first referendum approved the amount of money that could be borrowed. The amendment allowed the Tribe to pursue a public offering of a tax exempt bond to help finance the project.

It took the full support and extensive work on the part of a five-member team. Tribal CEO Ken Smith said, "We were breaking new ground since the Tribe was the first in the nation to take advantage of the Indian Tribal Governmental Tax Status Act. Because of our unique situation, many people played important roles, including BIA director Stan Speaks in Portland, tribal attorney Dennis Karnopp, tribal chief financial officer John Henning, bond counsel Doug Goe of Ater Wynne Hewitt Dodson and Skerritt and Mike Lewis of Seattle Northwest Securities who acted as investment advisor. Another key player in the strategy was federal solicitor Art Biggs."

Henning said, "This is a real milestone for the Confederated Tribes,

being able to issue full-faith and credit bonds." The bonds received a Moody's rating of A-1 which is investment quality. The coupon bonds are for 10 years with a gradual amortization of the principal over the 10-year life. "We gradually pay off a portion of the principal every year," Henning said. The average interest cost is 5.05 percent, with an additional 1.5 percent of the principal amount outstanding for a standby letter of credit guaranteed by U.S. Bank. This makes a total average cost of 6.55 percent over the life of the bonds, with a range of 3 percent for one-year maturities to 5.5 percent for 10 years, plus the 1.5 percent fee for the letter of credit." Henning said the original target was seven percent, so "we are quite pleased with the results." All the bonds were sold by the end of the day December 10, the first day the bonds were available to the public. These types of bonds are attractive to investors because the interest is exempt from federal and state income taxes.

The Confederated Tribes' vision statement reads in part, "In order to carry on the tribal legacy, our children must have knowledge of the past and a view to the future. They must make us of all education benefits available...from the family, community, culture, school and religion." This was an example of the Tribes business practices of the past setting the stage to ensure favorable terms for not only the ECE but future projects as well.

"It couldn't have been done without a lot of assistance from many people on and off the reservation," Smith commented. "The Tribe was instrumental, along with a number of other tribes, in getting the Indian Tribal Governmental Tax Status Act passed. It feels good knowing Indian tribes will be able to operate with the same advantages state and local governments have enjoyed over the years."

New WSFPI board selected

The new Board of Directors has tentatively set December 30 as the date of their organizational meeting. Board members are: Jody Calica, Mike Clements, Jim Manion, Zane Jackson, Enos Herkshan, Walt Parks and Ed Wilson.

Cooperative, unified effort required to stop, prevent local gang activities

"The number one way to fight gang activities is to overcome denial," said Dick Stein of the Oregon State Police Youth Gang Strike Force. Stein was in Warm Springs December 14, at no cost to the Tribe and at the request of concerned community members and the Warm Springs Police Department, to present his views on gang identification and the current rise in suspected gang activity. Prevention is today's game.

Warm Springs, not unlike many other communities in Oregon, is faced with the increased threat of gang violence. Police statistics show a sharp increase in violence among local youth. The community is not immune to drive-by shootings, assaults and other crimes committed by local youth under the age of 18.

Stein, a 25-year veteran of the OSP and a member of the Youth Gang Strike Force since its inception in 1988, explained that gang-related activities in the Portland metropolitan area have quadrupled in the last year. Stein explained that the reason

gangs flourished in Portland is because of denial and lack of consequences. "People recognized there was a problem," he said, but few, in the beginning, realized the seriousness of the situation. "People kept saying, 'Portland is not like L.A.'"

Stein said, too, that lack of consequences only enforces a "gangster's" way of life. "There's no jail time because there is no jail space." Because "state courts aren't equipped to deal with" hard core criminals affiliated with gangs, the state turned to federal prosecution. One federal prosecutor is assigned to gang cases in Oregon. If an individual is indicted by a grand jury, he must appear to hear charges and he cannot "deal down." Federal courts deliver mandatory minimum sentences with no possibility of parole. There are "teeth in the law through the federal prosecution route."

Stein said that early on, gangs, primarily young blacks, concentrated their activities in north and northeast Portland. As time passed, however,

gangs established themselves throughout Oregon. There have been more gang killings this year than ever before. Another grim first hit this year, too: There have been four gang-related homicides outside the Portland area—two in Salem, one in Eugene and one in Umatilla—within the last 12 months.

Stein spent a good part of the evening showing slides depicting gang members, their signs and typical gang activities.

Crips identify with the color blue, while red is a Bloods' color. Hispanic gangs, such as the 18th Street gang, L.C.G.s and the 12-16s, identify with either color. Most wear color-appropriate "do-rags" or handkerchiefs on their heads. "The color is important," said Stein, because by wearing one particular color, an individual exposes himself to his enemies. He warned, however, that "you must be careful not to paint with too broad a brush" when identifying gang members by color.

Many Warm Springs youth wear "colors" in the form of athletic team jackets and hats. It must be determined in the clothing is "worn as a uniform", if those individuals "are always together", if they're "committing crimes and if they're claiming gang affiliation." He added, "Portland averages 350 assaults and robberies a year because of sports attire."

Stein discussed three other types of gangs existing in the Portland area. Hispanic gangs, originating before the Bloods and Crips, identify themselves with the numbers 13 and 14 and come from southern and northern California. The neo-Nazi faction, or skinheads, have no recognized leader. The members of Asian gangs are the children of immigrants who came from southeast Asia after the Viet Nam war.

"Most gang members are looking for a sense of family, love, support and acceptance for who they are," said Stein. "Kids fall into gangs to fulfill that need. They may also be intimidated into joining. They may be scared into hanging with gangs to avoid assault or death." Most gang members are very young, 14 to 16 years of age.

Typically, kids are led by a "small group of older youth who are psychotic. They tell gang members what to do but don't get involved themselves for fear of being caught." A young gang member probably will not receive stiff sentencing if caught and convicted.

Graffiti is another obvious sign of gang existence in a community. Stein explained that gangs mark their territory by defacing buildings with elaborate drawings and writing. Gang members also mark up school books, folders and homework papers, even their bedroom walls, with gang signs.

Through graffiti, gangs exhibit their intent to harm or even kill members of other gangs. "Graffiti is a gang's signature...and it is the ultimate insult to write graffiti over other graffiti."

Stein does not believe in "wannabe" gangs. "If they're hanging out together, committing crimes, they are a gang member." He advised to "pay attention to what's going on in Warm Springs...No one knows Warm Springs better than you." Additionally, "gangs are not outsiders, they come from within the community."

Community members are encouraged to work with the police department, establish a neighborhood watch program and find ways to supervise unsupervised time. A united effort among all community and governmental entities is required to effectively combat the problem.

Stein encouraged those present to not only take responsibility for their own kids, but for the kids down the street as well. "We've lost that community feeling and the jointness of the community." There's no time like the present to get that feeling back.

Stein feels it's a "lot cheaper to keep kids out of gangs than it is to get them out." Something must be done now to prevent disaster in the future.

Stein concluded, "We're losing our kids—they're the ones who are dying on the streets."

Wings