

Warm Springs Interagency Hot Shot crew a national resource



Leroy Allen, Jr.

"My name is Leroy Allen Jr. and this is my first year with the Warm Springs Interagency Hot Shot crew. (let me tell you) this has been one great year for me.

I've been a logger most of my life, from skidder logging to high lead logging. I've also done some helicopter logging. I love being out in the woods and logging was getting old. I contacted Luther Clements the superintendent of the Warm Springs Hot Shot crew, and was hired. Since then there hasn't been a dull moment.

Being a wild land fire fighter is a physical and mental challenge. We stay in physical shape by doing aerobics every morning. We also do a lot of hiking, running, etc. My job duties consist from digging hand line to running a chain saw. I would never trade this job for an office job.

What I also love most about my

job is that every fire is different. For instance, we traveled to Alaska and flew over the North Pole. The mountains we flew over were beautiful but where the fire was located, the land was flat. A month later we traveled to Denver Colorado. We were fifty miles outside of Denver at the elevation of 10,500 feet. The hike to the fire was very steep. After the fire was out, we were loaded on a bus in route to the airport headed to Daytona Beach, Florida to another fire. We were all tired but as soon as someone mentioned the word fire, the adrenaline starts to rush. We have been to a lot of fires this year in states like Alaska, Colorado, Montana, Florida, Washington and Oregon. Every fire we went to, everyone in the communities sure appreciated us for being there. It's been a great fire season for the Hot Shot crew. I've missed spending the summer with my kids,

but they understand that is my job. I encourage all you young people, if you are up to a physical challenge, try the Hot Shot crew. God Bless."

Hiram Yaw is a 31-year-old Tribal member who is married, has three children and resides in the Warm Springs community.

"This is my second season employed as a wild land fire fighter for Warm Springs Fire Management. My first season was with the engine crew as an engine operator. It was there my basic knowledge about wild land fire was received. This season, I transferred from the Engine crew to the Warm Springs Interagency Hot Shot Crew as a crew member.

As a crew member my duties range from digging hand line to being swamper for a sawyer to being a sawyer from time to time.

With nearly eleven years of service in the Navy, I've become accustomed to being a member of a group where professionalism, dedication, discipline, pride and teamwork are some of the core values which we followed day to day. These same values I see in the Hot Shot Organization and was the main reason I chose to transfer. The Hot Shot program is well structured and organized so all members are well informed in order to meet their objectives.

As a member of the crew, I get the most satisfaction from those we help whether it's the local community or complete strangers in different areas of the country. Smiles, the wave of the hand and blessings from those we encounter make this job very gratifying to me. A perfect example is the people in Florida who really supported all the fire fighters with endless gratitude. It was really heart warming to see total strangers go out of their way to say thank you and

take the time to show that our efforts are appreciated. It is very difficult being separated from my family and having to endure the physical and mental challenges of being a member of the Warm Springs Hot Shots but for me, the rewards are well worth the hard work encountered."



Emerson Culpus

Warm Springs resident and tribal member Emerson Culpus is married and has two children, Emerson Jr. and Delina.

"I have been working on the crew for the past nine years in which I am currently a Squad Boss in charge of six people. I am in charge of all the saw equipment that the crew currently owns, which is 12 chain saws and one Brush saw. Therefore, I am the one that the rest of the crew comes to for anything that deals with saws as in any kind of maintenance or who is going to use or operate any of the equipment.

I really enjoy this job for all the things that the crew is involved in throughout the fire season and the times spent on projects in the Spring. In the 1998 fire season, the crew has traveled to Montana, Colorado, Florida, Alaska and a couple of other fires in Washington and Oregon. I myself thought that the most unusual fire was our trip to Florida because of the weather element and the different fuel types. The reason I feel it was different is that we are usually in Ponderosa Pine and Fir trees and there (Florida) we were in Palm trees and swampy areas. The weather was very odd because of the high humidities and a whole lot of rain with thunder and lightning and the different kind of wildlife they have.

There are also a few other things that are involved in my job which are required to be on the Hot Shot crew. Some of things that are a requirement and demanded by the Hot Shot program is to be in top physical condition and be able to learn very quickly. The crew is allotted one hour of PT (physical training) a day where we do a lot of weightlifting, aerobics and running. Another thing that is a requirement is the crew's annual 40 hours of training which is done every year starting in March."

David LeClaire, Sr. is a Tribal member and father to four boys and one girl.

"I hardly see my family during the Summer months, but I really have enjoyed being a member of the Hot Shot crew the past six years. The crew works all Summer and never gets to spend much time with families at home. Sometimes we are home for only two or three days and then we get dispatched to another fire.

Being on the Hot Shot crew requires long walks to and from a fire when there are no roads. The job also

requires crew members to be in good physical and mental condition. So far this fire season the crew has fought fire in Alaska, Montana, Colorado, Washington and Florida. It seemed that everyone we came in contact with really appreciated us being there even after the fire had already gone by and had burned their homes.

At times, the crew has to work long shifts sometimes up to 12 or 16 hours a day. The first shift is always the longest because we stay at the fire until relief crews arrive and that sometimes could last up to 38 hours straight. Sometimes we travel all night and have to fight fire all day and all night until relief arrives or the fire is contained. Fighting fire is not for everyone, but if you think you have what it takes, don't hesitate to join the Warm Springs Interagency Hot Shot program."



David LeClaire, Sr.

Warm Springs Early Childhood Education news

A Mean Mother

I had the meanest mother in the world. While other kids ate candy for breakfast, I had to have cereal, eggs and toast. When others had cookies and candy for lunch, I had to eat a sandwich. As you can guess, my supper was different than the other kids also.

But at least I was not alone in my suffering. My sister and two brothers had the same mean mother as I did.

My mother insisted on knowing where we were at all times. You'd think we were on the chain gang. She had to know who our friends were and what we were doing. She insisted, if we said we'd be gone one hour, that we be gone one hour or less, not one hour and one minute. I am almost ashamed to admit it, but she actually struck us. Not once, but each time we did as we pleased. Can you imagine someone actually hitting a child just because he disobeyed? Now you can begin to see how mean she really was.

The worst is yet to come. We had to be in bed by nine each night, and up early the next morning. We could not sleep until noon like our friends. So, while they slept, my mother actually had the nerve to break the child labor law. She made us work. We had to wash dishes, make the beds, learned to cook and all sorts of cruel things. I believe she laid awake at night thinking up mean things for us to do.

Mom always insisted on our telling the whole truth and nothing but the truth, even if it killed us....and it nearly did.

By the time we were teenagers, she was much wiser, and our life became even more unbearable. None of this tooting the horn of a car for us to come running. She embarrassed us to no end by making our dates and friends come to the door to get us. I forgot to mention, while my friends were dating at the mature age of 12 and 13, my old fashioned mother refused to let me date until the age of 15 and 16. Fifteen that is, if you dated only to go to a school function. And that was maybe twice a year.

My mother was a complete failure as a mother. None of us had ever been arrested or beat his mate. Each of my brothers served his time in the service of this country. And whom do we have to blame for the terrible way we turned out? You are right....our mean mother. Look at all the things we missed. We never got to march in a protest parade, not take part in a riot, burn draft cards and a million and one things that our friends did. She forced us to grown up into God-fearing educated, responsible adults.

Using this as a background, I am trying to raise my three children. I stand a little taller and I am filled with pride when my children call me mean.

Because you see, I thank God. He

gave me the meanest mother in the whole world.

Author Unknown

Head Lice: Advice for "Back to School" & some Useful Resources

Summer is over and many children are now returning to group settings such as childcare and school. Because many of us think of this time as a "fresh start", the fall is a good time to consider how to deal more effectively with the problem of head lice (also known as "pediculosis").

Head lice are not only a recurring problem, but they cause considerable anxiety and disruption to children, parents, and child-care providers. Despite the frustration that many feel when it comes to coping with head lice, this problem can be greatly reduced if everyone tries to anticipate outbreak before they happen and has a carefully thought out plan in place for prevention and management if an outbreak does occur.

The National Pediculosis Association is celebrating its 15th year offering materials and information that can provide advice and specific help to those who have to deal with head lice. One item is a free brochure, "Keep Your Wits, Not Your Nits", which describes various ways to prevent head lice. It can be obtained by calling 781-449-6487 or by sending a self-addressed business sized stamped envelope along with your request to: NPA, PO Box

610189, Newton, MA 02461. The NPA also has a web-site, at www.headlice.org, which provides other useful information, including "NPA's 1998-99 All Out Comb Out", a back-to-school head lice prevention campaign.

Reprinted from Child Health Alert, PO Box 610228, Newton Highlands, MA 02461-0228.

Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Early Childhood Education Department Manual

Subject: 6.3 Health Policies/Head Lice

Definition: Head lice are small, wingless insects that live and breed in human hair. Head lice are contagious. State requirements for certified child care facilities require that children with head lice and/or nits be excluded. A procedure for head lice screening and dealing with outbreaks shall exist.

Responsibility: Teachers Action: All ECE classrooms do routine head checks on all children on Mondays and Fridays. Head checks may also be done if staff observes a child scratching their scalp or if the child complains of itchiness.

Responsibility: Teachers Action: Head checks will be conducted on each child in a comfortable & discreet manner. Teachers will wash their hands or discard gloves after each head check.

Responsibility: Teachers/Janitorial Action: Classrooms will be main-

tained to prevent spread of head lice. Each child will have an individual cubby. Each child will maintain an individual comb for hair combing. Children will not share personal combs, brushes, hats, etc. Blankets & dress up clothes will be washed & dried weekly. Head lice combs used for head checks will be cleaned & disinfected. Floors will be vacuumed daily.

Responsibility: Janitorial/Teachers Action: After the exclusion of a child with head lice, the classroom carpet, sofa, chairs, etc. will be vacuumed immediately. Any possible infected coats, mats, dress up clothes, blankets, stuffed animals, etc. will be cleaned immediately.

Responsibility: Teachers Action: Head lice education will be worked into classroom lesson plans for Head Start & School age children, at least once at the start of the year.

Responsibility: Parent/Health & Social Service Coordinators Action: A parent education curriculum will be offered during the program year, to give parents information about: what head lice and nits are; how head lice/nits can be treated; what methods of prevention are most effective; and the ECE policy.

Responsibility: Program Supervisor or Coordinator Action: Children with lice/nits will be excluded from ECE until they have been treated and no evidence of lice or nits can be found. Children can be readmitted

by a program supervisor or coordinator.

Responsibility: Teachers Action: Parents will be notified that there was a case of head lice in their child's classroom, so they can be alert to any symptoms at home.

Responsibility: Teachers Action: Head lice exclusion/readmission certificates will be turned in when received to the appropriated program coordinator and will be placed in the child's file.

Responsibility: Program Supervisor or Coordinator Action: The second time a child is excluded for head lice/nits, parents will be offered additional information regarding the treatment of head/nits and the opportunity to view an educational video on the subject.

Responsibility: Program Supervisor or Coordinator Action: A child who has been excluded three (3) times in one month period will be referred to a Public Health Nurse at the Warm Springs Health and Wellness Center, for support and education. A copy of the third exclusion form will be forwarded to the PHN office, in a timely manner.

Responsibility: Supervisor or Coordinator Action: A child who is excluded five (5) times in a month period may be referred to the Warm Springs Police Department as possible neglect.

Warm Springs Elementary news

Calendar Updates

- October**
- 9th-No School/Statewide inservice
- 27th-School pictures
- 29th-End of first quarter
- 30th-No school/report card prep.
- November**
- 6th-No school/Parent Confer-



- ences
- 11th-No school/Veteran's Day
- 25th & 27th-No school/Thanksgiving holiday

WSE Handbooks mailed

Bright yellow student/parent handbooks were mailed to all households who have students attending WSE. If you have not received a handbook, please stop by the school office to pick one up. The calendars located in the back of the handbook have all of the special dates marked up to press time. During the year other important events will be scheduled so please take special notice of the calendar updates in the newsletters.

No, the July calendar wasn't a mistake. WSE will be extending the school year with the month of July. Breakfast will be served from 8 to 9 a.m. Class time will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily.

Please call now to sign your child up for the July session. While students are not required to, it is hoped that they will be encouraged to attend this pilot program. As the year progresses more information will appear in the newsletter and letters to parents regarding the details of the July scheduled for class.

Ground broken for new out-

door track!

During the first week of school construction began for a new 1/8 mile (200 meter) asphalt surfaced track. The new track will be located right where the old track was; next to the upper playground. Proceeds from pepperoni/jerky sales made this project possible. Watch upcoming newsletters for notification of the dedication ceremony.

SMART volunteers needed!

Once again WSE is looking for volunteers for the SMART reading program. New and previous volunteers are asked to contact the school office to leave your name, address and phone number if you are interested in volunteering this school year. All it takes is 1/2 hour of your time once or twice each week to listen to or read to a kindergarten, first or second grade student. SMART stands for Start Making A Reader Today. Volunteer to help make a difference in the life of a child. For more information contact Wanda Buslack at WSE 553-1128.

Messages to students

If your child's after school desti-

nation changes, please send a note to the school office. If you are unable to send a note, please call the office before 3 p.m. to leave a message (including late bus students). The secretaries need to have time to write a complete message and have it delivered to class to help students get to the right place. The bus drivers will not deliver a child to a different address without a note from the parent or the office.

School Pictures

School pictures will be taken on October 27th in the WSE gym. Only WSE students will be allowed to have their picture taken. Packet information will be sent home with students and included in the October newsletter. To avoid confusion and mistakes in your children's picture packet, please use a separate envelope for each child who will be photographed. The photographers will have change in the gym if you plan on attending when your child has their picture taken.

Reduced meals

Applications for free or reduced meals need to be in the office by October 1st. If you haven't filled out a new application for this school year, please stop by the office as soon as possible to fill one out.

Sit anywhere Fridays

Monday through Thursday students sit with their class during the lunch break. If all goes well during the week, such as students picking up after themselves and helping to keep the cafeteria neat, they may sit anywhere they choose on Friday. So far students have been very receptive to this and are looking forward to "Free Fridays".

It is always a treat for the kids to have a family member come eat lunch

with them. Adult meals are \$2.25.

- The lunch schedule is as follows:
- Kindergarten-11 a.m.
- 1st Grade-11:15 a.m.
- 2nd Grade-11:30 a.m.
- 3rd Grade-12:10 p.m.
- 4th Grade-12:20 p.m.

Update your child's records

Did you move, change your phone number or mailing address during the summer? If so, please contact the office to update our records. If your child becomes ill or is hurt at school, we need to know how to reach you or another authorized individual specified by you.

Medicating students at school

This year our procedures for administering medicine to students at school have changed. The following conditions must be met before office staff will be allowed to medicate students.

1. Prescription and non-prescription medications must be in the original container with the complete label.

2. The office will only be able to give medication that cannot be given at home.

3. A permission slip signed by a parent/guardian must accompany the medication which includes: a.) Time of day & dosage to be given. b.) Start and end date to give medication.

WSE is participating in Campbell's Labels For Education

program to earn free education and athletic equipment. You can help by saving labels from hundreds of varieties of Campbell's products. The products eligible for redemption are included in the listing of the newsletter. For more information on how to be a part of our Campbell's labels For Education Label collection drive, contact Judy Keane, program coordinator. Thank you for your support!

Halloween Family Movie Night Wednesday, October 28

Warm Springs Community Wellness Fall Schedule

October 2-23	Embroidery for Adults	11:30 to 1:30 p.m.
Wed., Fri.		
October 5-23	Lil Miss WS Learning Act.	6 to 8 p.m.
Mon., Wed.		
October 6-22	Art for Teens	10 a.m. to Noon
Tues., Thurs.	Home School/out of School)	
Nov. 5-26	Reading for Information	6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Thurs.	(Ages 7 and up)	
November 2-23	Art Thru the Scriptures	6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Mon., Wed.	Teens and Adults	
Daily/Ongoing	After School Program	3:30 to 6 p.m.
Mon. thru Fri.		

Annual Halloween Carnival Thursday, October 29 Warm Springs Community Center

Bring the whole family!

Family Movie Night
October 21
6 to 8 p.m.
Free popcorn, drinks and hot dogs!