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# Spilyay Tymoo

(Coyote News)

News from the Warm Springs Indian Reservation

## Children and families give thanks for roots



Young ladies wait patiently for the food to be served.

By Lenora Starr

The root feast continues to be a vital part of our cultural identity. As the people of Warm Springs struggle to preserve all that once sacred, Lucinda Greene sacrifices her time to anyone, especially children willing to all that is involved in the root feast held Sunday, April 16, 2000.

Lucinda invited the children and their families to gather roots for a special thanksgiving where the children are responsible for gathering the roots and preparing the meal. The children met with Lucinda Greene and Roma David at 8 a.m. on Webster Flat. Although they were greeted by cloudy skies and dampened ground, the children with cupuns in hand and sally bags at their sides were eager to be digging roots.

They lined up boys on one side and girls on the other. Two of the girls started a prayer song aided by Lucinda. As they finished singing they began digging.

Lucinda explained, "This is a good time for them to learn the work. It helps the children with their self-esteem, self-identity, and they experience a thanksgiving. Thanking the creator for the food, teachings of the culture and for the elders for passing these teachings to us." She continued, "This is also a thanksgiving to the creator for Wilfred Jim, Sr.'s recovery because he has a large impact on the children's lives."

The crew returned to the

longhouse early Saturday evening to enjoy a meal and peel the roots in preparation for the next day. The children were responsible for most of the food preparation under the watchful eyes of Lucinda. As the morning turned into the noon hour, the drummers offered prayer songs while the tables were set traditionally close to the earth on top of cloth and tule mats. The longhouse was full and the food was plentiful.

According to Lucinda, all the food for the ceremony was donated from the people and nothing was requested from the tribes. The way it was done long ago.

Wilfred offered a testimonial saying that the doctors told him that he would probably never be able to use his hands or walk like he did before, but he knew that he would there were a lot of prayers and he thanked everyone for offering those prayers. Wilfred and his wife have already been on the road doing the work that they have always done.

A birthday cake was presented to Geraldine Jim, the reluctant birthday girl.

Peeled roots were placed inside plastic bags and distributed to the elders of the tribe.

Another prayer song was offered and as everyone lifted their cups in unison to take their last sip of water in thanks, there was enough food to take home. Most important, the children took with them a lifetime worth of education and strengthened sense of self.



\*Just a lift

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## Vote set for May 23 on gaming expansion

Adequate revenue to assure stability of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. The highest possible profit from the Tribe's gaming activities as a primary source of long-term Tribal revenues.

These are the chief aims of a recommendation for gaming expansion. Tribal Council recommended the proposal and has now forwarded it to the members of the Tribe for their vote on May 23rd.

Two strategies are involved. A long-term strategy calls for the pursuit of a gaming facility at Government Island, within the city limits of Cascade Locks. The Tribe recently completed purchase of the Island from the Port of Cascade Locks.

Tribal officials last year presented a Cascade Locks plan to Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber, but were denied approval.

While studies indicate Cascade Locks has the highest earning potential, it now appears it will take considerable time and effort for the Tribe to establish gaming in the Mid-Columbia river area.

An intermediate plan is recommended as the second part of the strategy and referendum to the people. It calls for the development

tions, a new facility at Madras will produce three times the net annual cash from Indian Head Casino and double the amount that could be expected from another facility on the reservation.

The proposal of situating a casino near Madras would address the Tribes revenue shortfalls of approximately \$7 million a year, beginning in 2003. The Madras expansion will allow the Tribes to maintain current reserves and not have to dip into them.

The intermediate plan to site a casino near Madras allows time to effectively implement the long term strategy for Cascade Locks without facing critical revenue problems in the meantime.

Even if a Madras facility is approved by the people and developed, the intent is to maintain gaming devices at Kahneeta Resort as an amenity to guests.

A new reservation gaming site would not return adequate cash flow to warrant the investment that would be necessary. If the Madras site is rejected by the members, Indian Head Casino will remain operational. Efforts would continue to establish a casino in the Mid-Columbia River area.

## Meeting set for IIM account holders

The Department of the Interior manages property it holds in trust for individual Indians and maintains revenue, in Individual Indian Monies (IIM) accounts, that accrues to individuals holding an interest in trust lands. The Department recognizes that as a result of past weaknesses in its accounting and information systems, IIM account holders have not always had sufficient information to be able to ascertain whether income from their trust assets was properly credited, maintained, and distributed to and from their IIM accounts. As directed by Congress, the Department is continuing development of a reconciliation process to evaluate the reliability of past account activity.

This notice initiates an information gathering process with IIM account beneficiaries and the public, to comply with Congressional directive to determine the most reasonable methods for providing account holders with information to evaluate their accounts and to determine whether there are discrepancies due to past management practices.

On April 26th, the Warm Springs Agency will hold a meeting in the Forestry Conference Room from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. for interested account holders.

If you need any information prior to the meeting, please call me at (541) 553-2437.

Gordon E. Cannon,  
Superintendent

## Accident claims one on Hwy 3

A motor vehicle accident occurred on the Warm Springs Indian Reservation that resulted in one fatality and one person being transported to Mt. View Hospital in Madras, Oregon.

Warm Springs Police and local Fire & Safety personnel were dispatched to the accident at 8:46 p.m. the evening of April 6, 2000.

The scene was found to be at the intersection of Highway 3 and the E-140 road, commonly known as the Wolfe Point road.

Nathan Hale, 20 years of age of

Warm Springs was pronounced dead at the scene while Carlos Lopez, also age 20 from Warm Springs was transported to Mountain View Hospital with possible injuries.

Mr. Hale, who was in a 1990 Dodge Dynasty, was believed to be heading north on Highway 3 at the time of the crash.

Lopez, who was operating a 1975 Chevrolet Monte Carlo is listed in stable condition. The cause of the accident is still under investigation pending further interviews and follow-up.

The Spilyay Tymoo (Coyote News) newspaper is having an art contest in search of a new look for the new millennium

Prizes will be awarded to the winner, which include:

- One night at Kah-Nee-Ta, a shirt & cap donated by KNT
- \$100.00 cash donated by Warm Springs Forest Products
- \$10 gas donated by DMJ Automotive
- \$50 cash & gift certificate donated by Warm Springs Market
- and various other prizes.

The deadline for entries is May 30, 2000

Rules:

- All rights to winning picture will belong to Spilyay Tymoo.
- Artwork must pertain to Spilyay Tymoo (Coyote News).
- Size of artwork is limited to 11x13 (horizontal).
- Contest is open to the readership of Spilyay Tymoo.

# Happy Easter from the staff at Spilyay Tymoo