



Spilyay Tymoc

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Vehicle blaze



Selena Boise/Spilyay

Five people were transported to the hospital following this three-vehicle fire on Highway 3. Most fortunately, no one was in the car when it burst into flames.

1920s land sales again spark interest

By Dave McMechan
Spilyay Tymoc

The late Thomas Jim purchased land near the town of Hood River about 80 years ago.

Forty acres of the property – site of the Confederated Tribes' proposed new casino – remained in the family until 1974, when the tribes acquired the land.

Originally, Jim owned more than just the 40 acres that are now the tribes' Hood River trust property.

Eighty or more years ago, Thomas Jim apparently sold two property interests to the state of Oregon. The first transaction involved a 3.5-acre right-of-way across the tribes' Hood River trust property.

The state used the "right-of-way" for construction of part of the old Columbia River Highway.

For this transaction, the state apparently gave no compensation to Thomas Jim, according to a report commissioned by the tribes.

Apparently, the state also did not obtain the necessary federal approval for the transaction.

"There is a substantial question," the report says, "as to whether the state's use of the right-of-way since the highway was constructed has been legal."

In a second transaction, Thomas Jim apparently sold part of his land – 28.6 acres – to the state. This was in the year 1928.

The state was interested in acquiring this parcel as a "timber preserve" along a stretch of the Columbia River Highway, built in the late 1910s and early '20s.

The stretch of highway is now the Historic Columbia River Highway State Trail, used by hikers and bicyclists.

"The purpose of this conveyance was to prevent further logging adjacent to the highway in order to preserve the scenic views," according to the report.

"The circumstances of this conveyance were unusual..." the report says.

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Museum nets \$40,000 at Huckleberry Harvest

The Huckleberry Harvest recently marked its seventh anniversary.

The event, held at Kah-Nee-Ta and at The Museum at Warm Springs, brought in over \$40,000 for the museum.

"The enterprises and the community were so supportive," said Carol Leone, museum executive director.

For instance, she said, Warm Springs Forest Products Industries and Warm Springs Power Enterprises purchased items at the auction. The enterprises then donated the items back to the museum.

The Huckleberry Harvest this year featured live music by the Gary Small Band.

There was story-telling by Ed Edmo, and Native American flute music by Charles Littleleaf.

A wide variety of items were auctioned off, with the proceeds benefitting the mu-



Dave McMechan/Spilyay

The Gary Small Band provided the entertainment at the Huckleberry Harvest.

seum.

This year just before the Huckleberry Harvest, museum board member Stephen Andersen and his brother David Andersen donated a van to the museum. (See story on page 2. More photographs from the Huckleberry Harvest are on page 7.)

Court rules against tribes in Kennewick Man lawsuit

A U.S. District Court magistrate has ruled against the interest of Columbia River tribes in the case involving ancient human remains discovered six years ago in shallow water of the Columbia.

As a result of the ruling, scientists would be able to study the remains. The Columbia River tribes, the U.S. Department of the Interior and Army Corps of Engineers have sought to have the remains turned over to the tribes for burial. The remains are 9,300 years old.

The recent court ruling "is a continuation of the gross lack of respect for us as a people and our ancestors," said Louie Pitt, director of the Confederated Tribes Government Affairs Branch. "The law has ignored our presence here on the land from the beginning," said Pitt. "The ruling is more of the same."

Skate park advocates seeking input

There has been talk over the past couple of years of developing a skate park in Warm Springs. This year, the hope is to make some real progress on the idea, said Kim LeClaire, who is a local skate park advocate.

Any young people, parents or other adults who are interested in the idea of developing a skate park in Warm Springs should show up at the campus area at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 12.

The basketball court by the school is the scheduled meeting place, said LeClaire.

The meeting will be a preliminary one, for gathering ideas on issues such as where the park might be located, how large it might be, and so forth. LeClaire and Fritz Miller are contact people for anyone wishing more information. 553-3491.

Active year beginning for SMILE Club

By Dave McMechan
Spilyay Tymoc

A group of 15 or so Warm Springs Elementary School fourth-graders this month may travel to Lake Billy Chinook, take a boat ride up one of the arms of the lake, and then spend a few hours cleaning up a mile of shoreline.

Or they may travel to OMSI in Portland to check out an exhibit on Oregon history.

One of these two events – the choice is still up for discussion – will mark the kick-off of the 2002-03 SMILE program at the elementary school.

SMILE stands for Science and Math Investigative Learning Experience. During the course of the school year, the students in this club will travel

to the coast, and will take many educational field trips.

"There are a lot of outdoor experiences for the students," said Kevin Rodin, who is a SMILE Club teacher at the elementary school. John Nelson is the other SMILE Club teacher at the school.

Rodin has been a SMILE teacher for about four years, and Nelson has been a club teacher for about 15 years, since the program started in the region.

The club members – there are usually about 15 fourth-graders in the club each year – hold their regular meetings at the school on Thursdays, from 3:30 till 5 p.m.

The purpose of the program is to help students excel in math and science. SMILE specifically benefits students from groups

There are many examples of the SMILE Club helping students excel in their studies.

Candice Miller, now studying to become a doctor, is one example.

who are under-represented in colleges.

In the region, this would include Native Americans and Hispanic young people.

The Warm Springs SMILE Club is the only one involving fourth-graders. Students continue in the club through the middle school and high school.

There are many examples of the SMILE program helping students excel in their studies.

Candice Miller, who gradu-

ated from Madras High School at the end of the last school year, is a good example.

Miller is planning to become a doctor, and is attending the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia. She mentioned the SMILE program as one of her favorite extracurricular activities during her middle and high school years.

The SMILE program statewide is coordinated by Oregon State University.

OSU receives funding for the program annually from different organizations.

The focus of the SMILE clubs for the school year depends on who is the sponsor.

For instance, said Rodin, if NASA is the agency that has provided the funding, then the clubs for the year might focus on subjects related to outer

space.

As another example, he said, if a health agency provides the funding, then the clubs for the year might focus on human fitness.

The first SMILE Club formed 15 years ago at a middle school in Pendleton. Over the years, the program has expanded to Warm Springs and Madras, Nyssa, Ontario and Chiloquin, to name just a few.

The SMILE Club kick-off event, Lake Billy Chinook Day, will begin a school year of many activities.

One focus of the program is family involvement, said Rodin. For instance, he said, parents are invited to attend Lake Billy Chinook Day with the club members, if they go this year.

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A great first day



Dave McMechan/Spilyay

Bryson and Larry Spino take some time for playground activities before the first bell on Wednesday morning, Sept. 4, the first day of the new school year.

Budget cuts may delay new Warm Springs school

By Shannon Keaveny
Spilyay Tymoc

School session started this week for Jefferson County District 509-J.

Students were getting busy with their class work, while school officials were occupied with balancing the district budget, a task of increasing difficulty.

At their meeting last week, the district board members agreed to reconvene to discuss specific cut possibilities after Sunday's special state legislative session.

On Tuesday, the fifth special session continued looking for solutions to the state's budget problems.

Gov. Kitzhaber called the special session to address a large shortfall in state revenue, requiring major budget cuts or some new source of revenue.

As a result of the state budget shortfall, school districts are

also facing financial uncertainty.

As for now, said district superintendent Phil Riley, big school projects for 509-J are on hold.

One of those big projects could be the new Warm Springs Elementary School, said Julie Quaid, manager of Warm Springs Essential Education.

"Of course the budget cuts will have an impact on us," said Quaid.

"We need to start looking at other sources of funds to reduce the [district and the reservation] debt service. We need to make some hard decisions, based on the current economic environment for the state and the tribe."

District 509-J was originally anticipating cuts from Kitzhaber's tobacco revenue veto to be \$76 per student.

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