

Wyam Salmon Feast and Powwow



In mid April people of Celilo hosted the Wyam Salmon Feast and Powwow. Hamilton Greeley of Warm Springs was in attendance, and took these photographs of the event.

Clinic has new record system

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During the month of April, some of the patients seen by the Warm Springs Health and Wellness Center Diabetes program and Dr. Rudd had their visits documented using the Indian Health Services Electronic Health Record.

The Health and Wellness Center was chosen as one of the first four sites in the country to utilize the Electronic Health Record (EHR), and 18 more sites will begin using EHR during the rest of 2004.

Following are answers to frequently asked questions concerning EHR:

First, what is it? The EHR is similar to the electronic record used by the Veterans Administration. The IHS has adapted it for this community.

Why is IHS going to start using it? Everyday someone hears, "We'll call you in as soon as your chart gets here," or "We'll give you your medications as soon as your chart arrives."

With the EHR, your records are available at each and every computer in the Health and Wellness Center, and many providers can look at it at the same time. This means that you don't have to wait for your chart to be delivered. Also, you won't have to repeat yourself so much.

Things that will improve over time with the EHR include: completeness of documentation, timely notification of abnormal tests, increased efficiency and better continuity of care. The EHR is being integrated throughout the IHS, making it possible for providers across the country to access your record, if you are present at any IHS clinic for care.

How does the information in my old chart get into the computerized record? Much of it is already there. For several years, our Data Entry Staff have been working to type your information into the clinic's computer system. Things like your diagnosis, immunizations, medications, labs, and education provided are in the system.

Will my blue chart go away? No. For several years to come,

we will use your chart to read the detailed notes that your providers have written. We will still need to make a new blue chart for all new patients, including newborn babies. This chart will be kept in medical records.

What will happen to my blue chart? We will keep your blue chart as long as you are an active patient. We won't need to pull it off the shelf each time you come to the clinic. Instead, we'll use a computer to view your medical information. If you do not come to the Health and Wellness Center for five years, your chart will be sent to the federal archive warehouse in Seattle.

Where does the information go when it's entered in the computer? Your information will never be deleted or go away. We have an enormous amount of computer space in which to store your patient information (182-gigabyte hard drive, for those computer types who are interested). We also "back up" the information each night, so your data can be retrieved and will not be lost.

Will my waiting time decrease? Using the EHR will make us more efficient in many areas, and will decrease overall waiting time. Certainly, the time you used to wait for your chart to arrive will be eliminated. You still may need to wait to see your provider, for the lab, for X-rays, and for your medications, depending on the clinic workload that day. As we become experts with the EHR, we will document more quickly and get you on your way.

Will my prescriptions be ready faster? The pharmacists will still need to read the provider's note on the computer and check to assure that you are getting everything you need safely and appropriately. The time spent filling your prescriptions and counseling will remain the same. The time spent waiting for your chart will be erased. The pharmacists will verify and check your prescriptions that are entered by your provider. This will also decrease your wait.

Is my information secure once it gets into the computer? Your information is more secure in the computer than anywhere

else. The people who have access to your medical information are trained and accountable to the Privacy Act and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability (HIPAA).

How will my medical information get to my doctors outside the Health and Wellness Center if it's in the computer? The Medical Records Department will continue to mail your information to your specialists when requested. If you need the information to be sent to someone else or you just want a copy, we will print it for you once you have completed a Release of Information form in Medical Records. In emergencies only, we will print and fax records to your physician as needed.

Please be patient with us as we make the change to using the Electronic Health Record. Please call Michele Gemelas at 553-1196 ext. 4420 any time you have comments or suggestions about your care and thanks for allowing us to serve you.

Small Hands to Hold Love ... Not Fire

Fact: Children from age two to seventeen start fires that endanger lives, cause injuries, death and burn millions of dollars in property.

Fact: Children under the age of three cause a majority of these fires and lose their lives in the process.

This does not have to happen. Parents need to teach their children about the dangers of fire and create a fire-safe home.



Install Smoke Detectors ... Plan an Escape Route

AMERIND offers Home and Fire Safety Training to Children in Indian Country.

Contact AMERIND's Loss Prevention Team for more information:
www.amerind-corp.org 800-352-3496



AMERIND: A Consortium of Tribes Protecting Tribes and Their Families



VERN BOWERS

Your Best Choice For

COUNTY COMMISSIONER

SUCCESSFUL BUSINESSMAN

- Owns 1200-acre ranch
- Long-term real estate investor
- Owns and develops properties throughout Jefferson County
- Hands-on business management

GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE

- Career police officer (retired)
- U.S. Army Reserve Officer (retired)
- Local government leader - Crooked River Ranch
- Currently serves on county committees

ISN'T IT TIME TO ADDRESS OUR NEEDS FOR:

- Family wage jobs in agriculture, tourism and service industries
- User-friendly county government
- Fairness and respect for all county residents regardless of location, race and economic status
- Results-based leadership

VERN BOWERS WILL:

- Diligently recruit new business and industry
- Support existing businesses
- Seek value-added agricultural opportunities
- Remove barriers and create pathways for growth

"I will apply the principles that make my business successful to create growth and prosperity for Jefferson County"

VOTE CHANGE, VOTE VERN FOR JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMISSIONER

IF WE WANT GOVERNMENT TO RUN LIKE A BUSINESS, WE NEED BUSINESSMEN TO RUN THE GOVERNMENT.

Paid for by Friends of Vern Bowers

Drawing for dental program

Health technician Lila Martinez will be drawing for all the CHX patients who have finished the first phase and are still actively involved with the program.

The drawing will have one winner for \$500. There will be another drawing in about five or six months for all

mothers who have been enrolled since the last drawing and have completed the first phase.

To date, there are about 20 mothers whose names will be in the drawing, said Martinez.

The winner will be announced by mail or by the phone.