



Leslie Mitts photos

The Recreation Department sponsored a "Spooky" Indian Nite Out Drummerz Jammz Powwow on Oct. 18 at the Community Center.

The event featured drummers and dancers, as well as door prizes and a special "clown" dance.



Fire camp crews bring local benefits

By Dave McMechan
Spilyay Tymoo

During the summer months, Warm Springs Fire Management has more fire camp crews than any other organization in the Northwest.

During the summer months of this year, seven fire camp crews from Warm Springs helped in the response to 15 separate fires in Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

The Warm Springs fire camp crew program, in its fourth year,

provides jobs that help the local economy, said Bobby Eagleheart, camp crew leader.

During 2007, the camp crews from Warm Springs earned total wages of \$528,160. The income provides a boost to the Warm Springs economy, said Eagleheart.

The Warm Springs fire camp crews are very dedicated to their profession, said Ken Lydy, assistant fire management officer at Warm Springs Fire Management.

The crew members go

through training in the spring, in preparation of fire season. They go through the training as volunteers, without pay, which shows their dedication, said Lydy. He mentioned also that he is trying to find a way to fund the training sessions, so the people who participate can be paid for their time.

The camp crews consist of the crew leader, and eight to 10 crew members. They travel by bus to the fires, and then stay in the field anywhere from a couple of days to over a month.

The crews provide support to wildland fires under any fire management jurisdiction. In most cases the jurisdiction is that of the U.S. Forest Service. The agency of jurisdiction provides the funding.

Warm Springs usually has eight fire camp crews. This year the number was seven, as one camp crew leader was out due to injury. During the summer, 130 people participated in the camp crew program. They logged a total of 46,283 paid working hours.

High river breaches earthen coffer dam

SANDY, Ore. (AP) – The first high-river flows of the season triggered the last stages of the removal of Marmot Dam on the Sandy River Friday, breaching the earthen coffer dam that held back water during Portland General Electric's demolition activities.

Crews finished removing the 47-foot-high dam on September 30. Workers had built an eight-to nine-foot-high coffer dam on top of the reservoir sediment to keep the work area dry.

The coffer dam forced the river to bypass the old dam site.

Scientists and regulators had decided the best thing was to allow its autumn flows to remove the coffer dam and distribute accumulated sediment behind it.

In 1999, PGE decided to remove Marmot Dam and the rest of its Bull Run Hydroelectric Project to help threatened salmon and steelhead runs.

It was determined that removal would cost less than upgrading the facility with salmon and steelhead protection mea-

sures and years of expensive maintenance.

As the Sandy River rose, demolition crews removed sump pumps in the coffer dam, making it more likely to slide downstream.

A notch was cut in the coffer dam, then earth movers dammed the bypass channel that had routed river water around the construction site, building additional water pressure on the coffer dam.

Salmon and steelhead now can go to upstream spawning grounds without a fish ladder or

human help for the first time since Marmot Dam construction in the early 20th Century.

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