

# Youth form new community advisory group

By Leslie Mitts  
Spilyay Tymoo

Several local students dedicated part of their spring break to make their voices heard with a new youth organization.

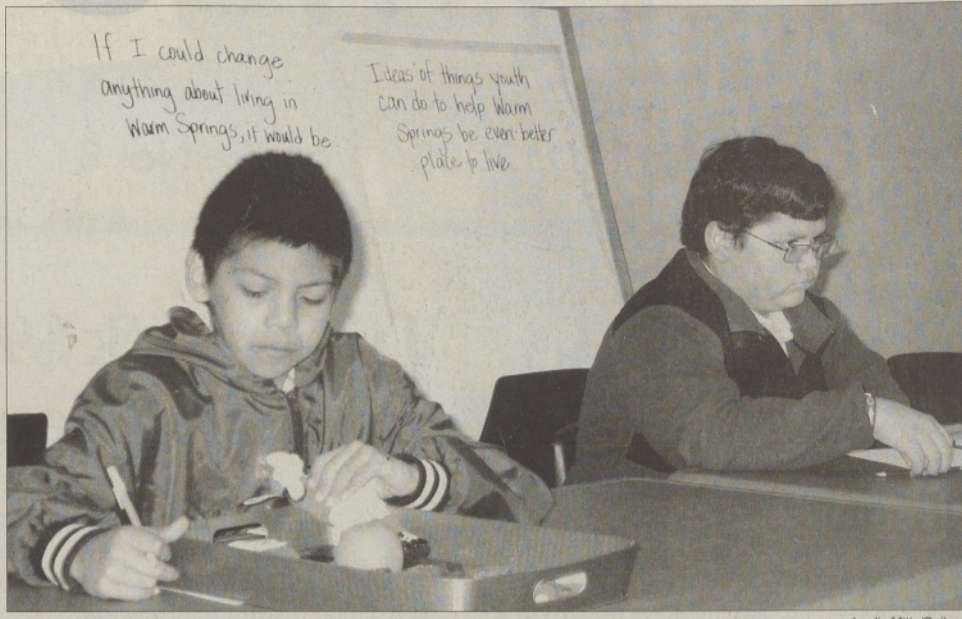
The new Youth Advisory Kouncil aims to help students become involved in the community.

The purpose of the Youth Advisory Kouncil is to give ideas and advice to youth-serving organizations in Warm Springs about the needs and interests youth have.

A handful of students gathered at the Education Building for the first meeting and participated in fun activities as well as brainstormed about ways to improve the community.

The group is open to any middle school youth, and there is no cost to participate. While the focus is on middle school students, high school students are also welcome to help out.

June Smith and Jocelyn Moses from the Boys & Girls Club will be leading the group



J'Von Smith and Vernon Jackson-Smith participated in a memory game during the first Y.A.K. meeting that took place during spring break.

along with Shawn Morford and Bobbie Calica from OSU Extension.

The group will be a combination of the Boys & Girls Club and the 4H program.

Youth will meet once a month and will learn about team

building and leadership in addition to voicing their opinion about the community.

According to Morford, "We're doing all these programs for kids but we don't have any contact with kids who can give us advice."

One project will include sending the youth into the community with cameras and asking them to photograph things that represent three categories: what they like about Warm Springs, what they hope to change about Warm Springs, and what youth

could do to help Warm Springs become a better place to live.

Those photographs will then be made into a collage and presented to Tribal Council, Morford said.

"When I was in middle school nobody ever asked me these questions," Morford explained. "And I had a lot of ideas."

Because of that, she said, the council will serve two main purposes: for youth to give advice to those running youth programs and for local youth to have a voice in the community.

They named the group the Youth Advisory Kouncil—or Y.A.K. for short—to represent the idea of talking with the comparison to the slang word "yacking."

In the future, Morford said, they hope to do much more with the group. Potentially the group will do projects in the community, take field trips and much more, she said.

For more information, or to participate in Y.A.K., contact Morford at OSU Extension.

## KWSO earns awards

KWSO, the radio station of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, has won two 2007 Oregon Associated Press Broadcasters Association Awards. The awards were announced at a banquet last Saturday night in Newport.

In division two of the Best Breaking News category, KWSO took first place with *Talking Circle*, produced by Sue Matters, KWSO station director.

In division two of the Best Treatment – Single Subject category, KWSO won third place with *Health Care and You: Indian Health Services*, by Matters and KWSO announcer William Robbins. In the Best Use of Sound category, KWSO won the division two third-place award for coverage of the Jacoby Ellsburry Parade and Rally, produced by William Robbins.

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## Team releases Shitike assessment

The Resource Management Inter-disciplinary Team met last week in the Natural Resources Conference Room to review a number of projects being planned on the Warm Springs Reservation.

The team released for public review a project assessment analyzing a proposal to restore a segment of Shitike Creek near the Community Wellness Center.

The project would help protect the wastewater treatment plant, decrease the risk of

downstream flooding, and improve fish habitat.

The project would create five new meander bends, along with appropriate side channels, near an area where the creek flowed in the 1930s.

The project would allow the creek to function in a more natural manner than is currently possible.

Comments should be directed to Scott Turo or Mike McKay at 553-2001. The inter-disciplinary team also approved a geologic survey in the Shitike Creek

restoration project area.

On another subject, the team approved a project assessment to construct a transmission line from Warm Springs Forest Products Industries to the switching yard near Round Butte Dam.

The 15-mile long line would provide a means to transport electricity generated at the Warm Springs Biomass Plant to Round Butte. The transported electricity would be sold to Portland General Electric.



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