

Church group returns for more volunteer work

Volunteers from the Oregon City Evangelical Church were in Warm Springs recently, working on a variety of community improvement projects.

Some of the youth volunteers, with their adult chaperons from the church, built a new bike shed at the Early Childhood Education Center.

The bike shed complements the bike paths at ECE that the church group built last year.

Some of the other youth this year worked on improvements to the rodeo grounds, some painted at Children's Protective Services, while others worked at a private residence in West Hills.

The residence is that of a parent and her child, who has autism. The area immediately behind the residence is a steep ravine. The church group cleaned up the ravine, and built an enclosure on the porch.

The enclosure will prevent the child from wandering away, or accidentally falling down the ravine.

The Oregon City Evangelical Church volunteers, mostly middle school students, were in Warm Springs last month during spring break.

They stayed at the First Baptist



Dave McMechan/Spilyay

The students and adult volunteers (above) stayed at the First Baptist Church in Warm Springs; some of them worked on an enclosure for a residence in West Hills.



Church while they were in town. It has become a tradition with the church to visit Warm Springs each year and volunteer their time and energy on community improvement projects. Two years ago they worked on a fencing project in Simnasho.

News from Indian Country

Climate change threatens artifacts

SAN MIGUEL ISLAND, Calif. (AP) — Perched on the edge of this wind-swept Southern California island, archaeologist Jon Erlandson watches helplessly as 6,600 years of human culture—and a good chunk of his career—is swallowed by the Pacific surf.

It was not long ago that this tip of land on the northwest coast cradling an ancient Chumash Indian village stretched out to sea. But years of storm surge and roiling waves have taken a toll. The tipping point came last year when

a huge piece broke off, drowning remnants of discarded abalone, mussel and other shellfish that held clues to an ancient human diet.

"There's an enormous amount of history that's washing into the sea every year," Erlandson said matter-of-factly during a recent hike. "We literally can't keep up."

The sea has long lashed at the Channel Islands, also known as the North American Galapagos, stripping away beaches, slicing off cliff faces and nibbling at hundreds, perhaps thousands,

of cultural relics.

Past coastal erosion for the most part was a natural phenomenon, but the problem is feared to grow worse with human-caused global warming and higher sea levels.

In a race against time and a rising tide, Erlandson and other keepers of history are hurrying to record and save eroding artifacts, which hold one of the earliest evidence for human seafaring in the Americas.

"We're just hoping there's something left," he said.

Tulalip tribe developing own ID to cross border

EVERETT, Wash. (AP) — The Tulalip Tribes are working to create their own identification cards Indians could use to cross the Canadian border when the passport requirement takes effect June 1.

A tribal policy analyst, Theresa Sheldon, told The

Everett Herald the Tulalips likely won't make the deadline and may need an extension. She says the tribe needs to create a database that can be accessed 24 hours a day by federal border guards.

Jewell James of the Lummi Nation says tribes may create

their own passports for members to cross the Canadian border for ceremonies and to visit relatives. After June 1, anyone re-entering the United States from Mexico or Canada will have to show a passport, not just a driver's license and birth certificate.

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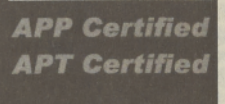


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Agreement to boost Columbia salmon habitat

SEATTLE (AP) — Washington state has entered an agreement with three federal agencies that would add \$40.5 million to protect and restore important habitat for Columbia River salmon.

The partnership with the Army Corps of Engineers, Bonneville Power Administration and the Bureau of

Reclamation was announced Friday. It would nearly double the money available for work on the Columbia River estuary.

The estuary is a critical nursery for juvenile salmon on their way to sea.

BPA is seeking public comments on the agreement through May 4.

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