

# Home improvement thru HIP

The Home Improvement Program, or HIP, helps tribal members with the remodeling of their homes. Two homes are currently being remodeled, and three more have been approved.

HIP is a program of the BIA. People who are interested in a home remodel are encouraged to apply through the Housing Authority.

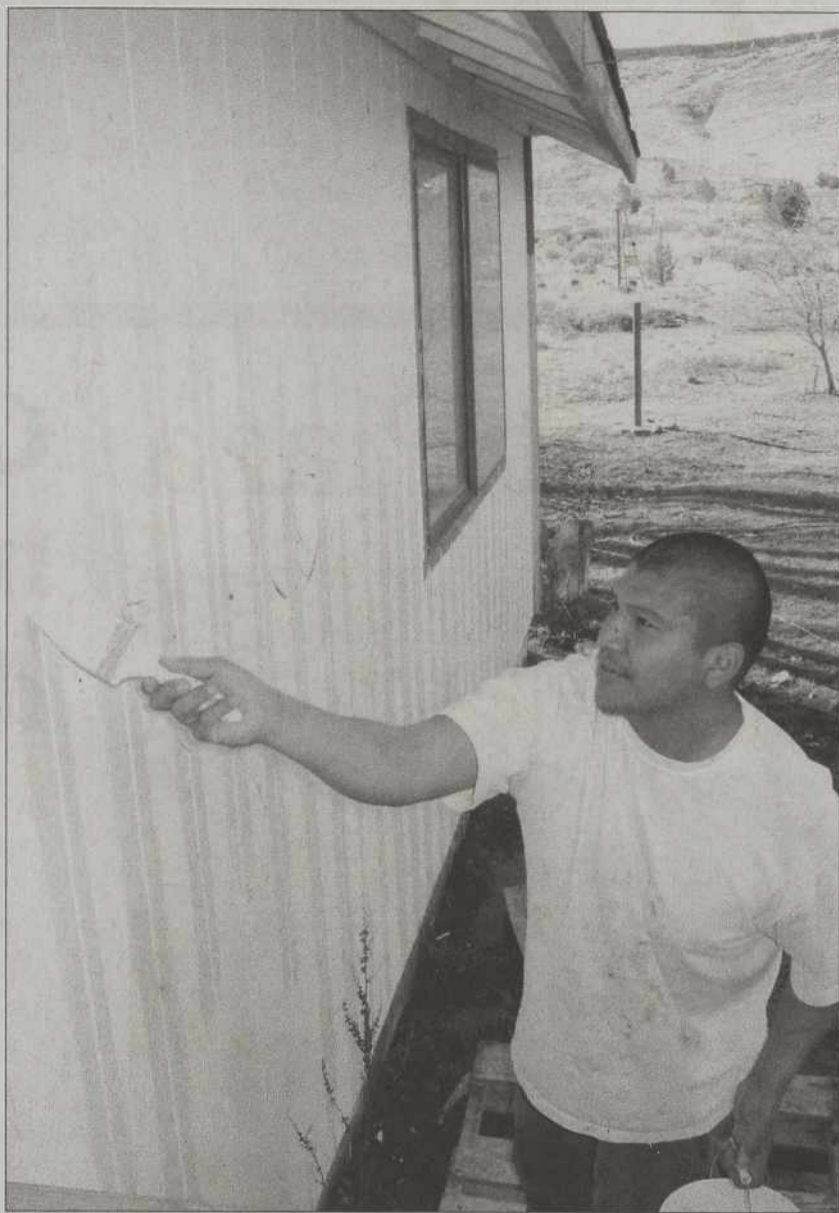
The more people who apply, the more HIP funding is made available to the tribes, said Austin Smith, who is working on Neda Wesley's home through the program. "The more applications, the better chances we have for funding," Smith said.

For Wesley's house, the remodeling work has brought new flooring, dry-wall and cabinetry work, new windows, and new paint for the interior and exterior, among other improvements.

HIP applications are approved based on the need of the household, family size, and income. Chet VanPelt and Rudy Clements administer the HIP program at the Housing Authority. In some circumstances, emergency funding can be made available, speeding up the process, said VanPelt.

For the HIP work being done now, a total of \$70,000 was approved for the two projects. A single household can receive up to \$35,000 if approved.

The program helps homeowners, and also those who are renting, if the owner



Dave McMechan/Spilyay

Kelsey Kalama, working with Austin Smith's crew, paints the home of Neda Wesley at Upper Dry Creek.

is in agreement. Tribal members on and off the reservation may apply.

Once an application is submitted and approved by Housing, an inspector will check the residence and determine what improvements are needed. The remodeling can include electrical and plumbing work.

The process requires some persistence on the part of the applicant, said Smith. "There is some footwork involved, but if

you keep trying you can get it done," he said.

The first rule of the program, he said, is that it serves those most in need. Elders are a priority, and single mothers with children.

The HIP applications are available at the Housing Authority offices. For more information, call Housing at 541-553-3250.

— by Dave McMechan

# Culture classes to start again

The latest series of culture classes begins Feb. 28

Wasco language courses are on Mondays. Warm Springs language courses are on Tuesdays. And Paiute language courses are on Wednesdays.

Classes are held on those days from 5:30 p.m.-7 p.m. in the basement of the Education Building.

First hour of each class focuses on language and the remainder of the time is spent

highlighting tribal history, culture and practice.

Classes are open to community members and employees, and are also considered an alternative sentence some defendants can take in service to the community.

The goal is to help guide these tribal members to be a positive part of the community--as is tribal tradition.

The attendance of defendants is monitored and atten-

dance is confidential.

Attending all three language sets also is encouraged because it offers full perspective about the confederation by offering information about the Wasco, Paiute and Warm Springs tribes.

Each series lasts eight weeks. While subsequent series are educationally progressive, teachers will adapt to the needs of newcomers.

Well-behaved children are welcome.

# Reawakening at community center

The Warm Springs Community Wellness Center and the Recreation Department are hosting the Reawakening gatherings.

Carol Sahme, the Recreation Arts and Crafts coordinator, has scheduled the gatherings through May. They begin at

5:30 p.m. at the community center.

On Tuesday, Feb. 22 and on March 1 the gatherings will be about ribbon shirts, taught by Jeanine Kalama.

On March 8 and 15, the event will feature twining corn husk bags, taught by Kelli

Palmer. Further topics will be announced.

Recreation Arts and Crafts is also hosting sewing circles on Wednesdays from 5:30-6:45 p.m. in Carol's room.

For more information, call Carol Sahme at 541-553-3243.

# Mini Penny Carnival Feb. 15

Turn over those sofa cushions and gather up every penny.

The Warm Springs Community Center Social Hall will be the location for the Mini Penny Carnival.

This family event will be from 5:30 p.m.-7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 15 and will offer ac-

tivities everyone can enjoy. Every offering will cost just one cent per person.

Community Center staff and ECE Head Start are organizing this family night out.

For details, call Carol at 541-553-3243.

# Not too late for your flu shot

February is a peak month in the flu season and there are recently reported cases in influenza in Central Oregon.

Vaccinations are the best way to prevent getting the illness and we encourage everyone over the age of 6 months to make sure they have had a flu shot this season.

Warm Springs Clinic still has flu vaccine available. Flu

shots are available at many areas in the Warm Springs Clinic.

Community Health Nurses available for children and adults. For appointment with Community Health Nursing call: 553-2640.

Pharmacy department available for adult immunizations no appointment needed.

# Baby, this event is all about you

The Sweet Heart Baby Fair and Family Photo Shoot will be from 5:30 p.m.-7 p.m. on Feb. 23 in the Community Center Social Hall.

There will be door prizes and a light meal.

Janet Bissell, the tribes' maternal child health nurse, will answer questions. And sign up for Baby College, an upcoming event that will focus on baby brain development.

**I BUY OLD BASKETS**  
Cornhusk Bags, Old Beadwork Navajo Rugs and Related Items  
475-6317

Check out the Spilyay Tymoo's Web site:

[wsnews.org](http://wsnews.org)

## Advertise in the Spilyay Tymoo

If you are interested in advertising in the Spilyay Tymoo, call Yvonne at 541-325-1089. Or email [yvonne.iveron@wstribes.org](mailto:yvonne.iveron@wstribes.org)



# 509-J Schools in Action!

[www.jcsd.k12.or.us](http://www.jcsd.k12.or.us)



## Leadership Corner A Message from Rick Molitor Superintendent

As most of you know, we are once again faced with an opportunity to apply for significant state funding for one of our schools. Last year, we received approximately \$3.6 million over a three year period to support improvements at Madras High School. This year, we've been given the opportunity to apply for a similar grant to support Warm Springs Elementary. Along with these grant opportunities come some difficult decisions that we, as a community, have to look at carefully and thoughtfully.

In order to be considered for the grant in Warm Springs, we are being asked to look at a number of changes - including the replacement of our principal, Dawn Smith. There has been a lot of information and misinformation about what will happen to Dawn Smith if we receive the grant. It's important that everyone understands that Dawn Smith will continue to be an important part of our school district administrative team -- no matter what happens with the grant. Dawn has been an effective and valued leader for our district and losing her expertise is not an option for us.

Warm Springs families, community members and school district staff all agree that we need to explore every available resource for our students. The decision to move forward will include Dawn Smith as her advocacy for the students of Warm Springs always has been -- and continues to be -- at the forefront of her leadership. Our plan is to look at all options:

- 1. Submit a grant application that keeps Dawn Smith in place as the principal of Warm Springs Elementary.

OR

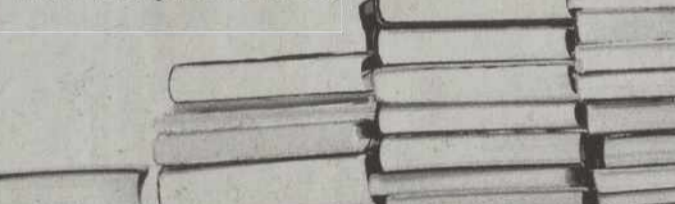
- 2. Apply for funding that establishes Dawn Smith in another critical administrative position for Warm Springs Elementary and the district.

Once again, any grant application we look at will have Dawn Smith remain with the Jefferson County School District. Throughout the process, we will be asking for input from Warm Springs families and community members. After this process, a recommendation will be provided to our School Board, who ultimately has responsibility for the final decision.

With all of this in mind, the only decision made so far is our intent to apply for the grant. Our goal is to keep you informed as we move forward and we encourage you to seek information through the school or district offices. Please feel free to contact us at (541) 553-1128 or (541) 475-6192.

## READ to SUCCEED!

More literacy. More choices.



### Next Steps for Warm Springs Grant Application:

- A Warm Springs Elementary team will attend an informational meeting on February 16.
- Team members and additional constituents will write a grant to address everyone's needs.
- The grant application will be presented to the school board in March.
- Negotiations with the Department of Education will take place from March to May.
- Grant recipients will be notified in May (with the funds to be provided starting July 1, 2011).

"I think what people need to know right now is that we're simply exploring opportunities for our students at this point. Our team has been working hard to increase student achievement and attendance and we need to understand if this grant will help us move forward in our efforts. Our current leadership team will remain in place as we evaluate and advocate for the things we know are right for our kids."

Dawn Smith  
Principal  
Warm Springs Elementary School

## Safe Routes to School in Warm Springs!

JCSD recently received a grant to make it safer for Warm Springs students to get to and from school. Tribal government members, policy makers, parents and grandparents -- in partnership with school district staff -- identified the following concerns and opportunities and put together a safe walking/bicycling program.

### Safety Concern #1: Speeding cars through residential and school zone areas

Plan: Develop a media campaign to educate and raise awareness about safety issues

### Safety Concern #2: Cars not consistently stopping at cross walks for pedestrians

Plan: Train and provide crossing guard volunteers

### Safety Concern #3: No adult supervision for children walking & biking to and from school.

Plan: Raise awareness about safety issues and recruit parents to serve on a community team and as crossing guards

The grant, provided by the National Center for Safe Routes to School, will help expand the Madras program to the Warm Springs community. The goal is to raise awareness about safety issues, take visible action to address speeding and get cars to stop at cross walks. For more information, contact Ashley Aguilar at (541) 553-2243.