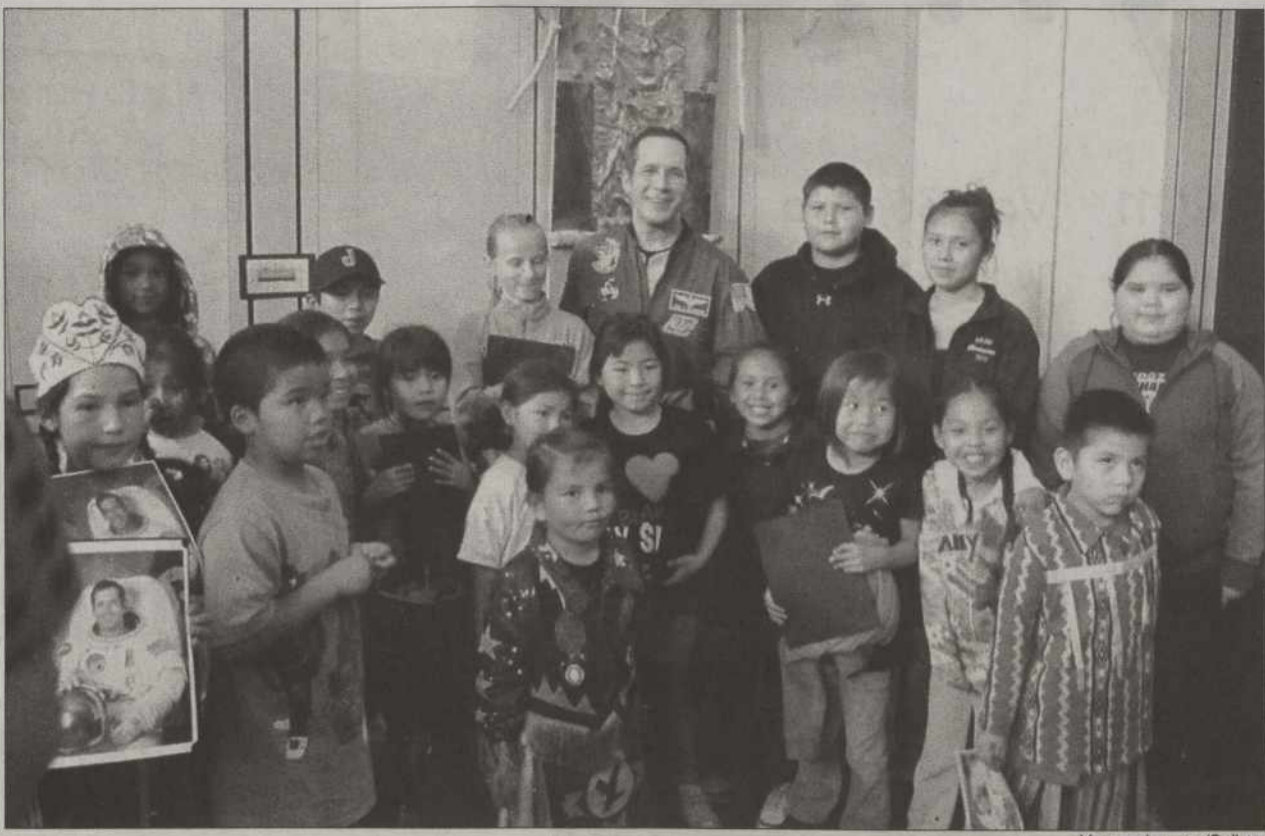


Museum honors first Native astronaut



Yvonne Iverson/Spilyay

Commander John B. Herrington of the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma (above at center) took some time to visit with children and other community members last Friday at the Museum at Warm Springs. He shared some his experiences as the first Native American Astronaut, and answered questions from the curious audience. Commander Harrington received the museum's Twanat Award in Portland on Saturday, April 16th.

Pet clinic on in Warm Springs on Saturday

There will be a pet clinic from 2-4 p.m. on Saturday, April 23.

The location of the clinic is

the old ambulance bay across from the Post Office.

Shots for pets are \$15; licenses, \$5. Also available: spay/

neuter vouchers.

All transactions are cash only.

Births

Shannin Robert Richardson

Shannan W. Richardson and Allyssa M. Richardson of Warm Springs are pleased to announce the birth of their son Shannin Robert Richardson, born on April 6, 2011.

Grandparent on the father's side is Oletta Slope of LaPine. Grandparents on the mother's side are Robert and Denise Hill of Warm Spring.

born on April 16, 2011.

Shasta joins brother Clarence, 7, and sisters Janelle, 28, Machell, 22, and Rochell, 12.

Grandparents on the father's side are Charles and Nancy Tailfeathers of Simnasho.

Grandparents on the mother's side are Robert Sr. and Marella Sam of Warm Springs.

Shasta Lynette Nancy Tailfeathers

Craig Tailfeathers and Elsie Tailfeathers of Warm Springs are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Shasta Lynette Nancy Tailfeathers,

Memorial

Marvin T. Meanus Sr., "Cowhand"

Saturday, May 14, 2011
Simnasho Longhouse
Stonesetting at the mouth of the Warm Springs River Cemetery.

Name Giving

Son of Tatum Kalama
Jadrian Thane Gilbert Kalama

On May 14, 2011
Simnasho Longhouse
Stonesetting for Gilbert "Gibby" Kalama Jr.
Simnasho Longhouse

Memorial

Memorial for Mary R. Danzuka (Sam) April 30, 2011 starting at 8 a.m. with head stone dedication at Agency Cemetery, then move to the Agency longhouse for give away, name giving and a meal. If there are any questions please feel free to contact William Sam at 553-3495-work m-f 8-5.

Oregon tribes gather at KNT

Representatives from Oregon's tribes met last week at Kah-Nee-Ta to discuss matters of concern to all tribes.

David Smith and Bill Austin, attorneys at Kilpatrick Townsend in Washington, D.C., presented an overview of the Cobell Settlement.

Cobell Update

Smith gave a detailed history of the settlement including when it began, why it was necessary, and the details of the award.

"There are critical deadlines approaching," Smith said. "People have an option. They may feel they have a better right to go ahead and file a claim on their own. They are able to opt

out, but that notice must be post-marked by April 20." (See story below.)

Legislative Update

Michael Mason, lobbyist for Warm Springs, then gave the state legislative update and informed the tribes on the status of Senate Bill 412.

"There shouldn't be an argument," Mason said. "Some are asking, 'Why hasn't this passed?' The Sheriff's Association hasn't formally taken a position."

There is support for the bill, Mason said.

Another bill of concern to tribal governments is 2566, dealing with tribal government property tax exemption.

"This is inspired by a Wash-

ington State law that says most property owned by tribes in fee outside of the reservation is exempt from property tax if it is used for government purposes... It's basic fairness. Tribes are governments and shouldn't be taxed."

Some petitioners, Mason said, are concerned that the tribes would have an advantage. Warm Springs currently pays property taxes to Jefferson County on a share of the Pelton dam.

Other items on the agenda included the 2012 National Congress of American Indians Convention, the methamphetamine memorandum of understanding update, and the Chemawa land into trust review.

— by Duran Bobb

Attorneys explain Cobell Settlement

For 15 years, David Smith and Bill Austin have represented plaintiffs in the Cobell class action law suit, which was settled in December of 2009.

Last week, the two gave a presentation to tribal members at Kah-Nee-Ta.

"First off, we are not lawyers for the government," Austin said. "We're on the side that's been fighting for individual Indians as beneficiaries. Now our mission is to provide you with enough information and to let you know what steps you may need to take in order to join in on the outcome of the settlement."

The history of the claim goes back 120 years, Austin said. That was when the U.S. imposed upon the Indian people a trust relationship.

"The U.S. got to serve as trustee. They were the ones who said whether the land can be used for other purposes and which moneys will be deposited into which accounts. We know today, all too well, that the U.S. made a complete mess of that."

From the offset, the system was poorly managed. "There's a report from a century ago that

describes the fraud and corruption which almost defies the imagination. There were hundreds of reports over the next 80 years. A report to Congress stated that reform needs to happen. But things did not change."

In 1994, Congress passed the trust reform act. However, nothing got better.

Eloise Cobell and other individuals stepped forward and filed a lawsuit, demanding an explanation of how the U.S. had managed the trust land and management resources.

"Since then, it has been more than 250 days in court. Thirty-six hundred filings. Ten separate appeals. One removed judge... destroyed records."

The result was a \$3.4 billion settlement.

Beneficiaries claims fall into specific areas.

Historical accounting claims state that the government violated its trust duties by not providing a proper historical accounting relating to IIM accounts and other trust assets.

Anyone alive on September 30, 2009 who had an open IIM account anytime between October 25, 1994 and September 30,

2009 and whose account had at least one cash transaction may be a part of the historical accounting class.

Fund administration claims state that the government violated its trust duties and mis-managed individual Indian trust funds.

And land administration claims state the government violated its responsibilities for management of land, oil, natural gas, mineral, timber, grazing, and other resources.

Today, April 20, is the deadline if you wish to opt out of the settlement. "You don't lose your right any time in the future to say give me my money... but you lose your right to sue."

Today, April 20, is also the deadline for commenting and objecting the settlement.

"The judge will consider comments and objections. You can say it's good, bad, you don't like it. But April 20 is the deadline."

Smith said many would have questions and offered his toll-free number: 866-383-6554.

You may also call 800-961-6109 or visit Indiantrust.com.

— by Duran Bobb

509-J Schools in Action!

www.jcsd.k12.or.us

Jefferson County's Health Challenge

For the second year in a row, Jefferson County has ranked as one of the least healthy counties in the state of Oregon. The report, provided by the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, looks at the length and quality of life of local residents as well as health-related behaviors, clinical care, social and economic factors and physical environment.

Our schools have been working hard to help students and families focus on healthier habits and lifestyles, but there is still a lot of work to do.

"We have some really active wellness teams in our school buildings," said Jamie Smith, school nurse for JCSJ 509-J. "We are promoting physical activity during regular classroom time and really trying to work with the students to help them understand why this is so important," added Smith.

The wellness teams partner with district food service staff to promote healthy, homemade foods and all food vending machines have been removed from the school buildings. In addition, there is an effort to steer away from unhealthy food fundraisers (cookie dough, pizza...etc.) and focus on other opportunities like gift wrap sales. Teachers and staff are also on board and working to promote and model healthy living.

The district is currently partnering with OSU and Mountain View Hospital to provide curriculum and activities centered around healthy lifestyles. Nutrition Kitchen is an after-school program at Jefferson County Middle School that offers hands-on, healthy cooking fun.

For more information about these and other activities underway to make our schools healthier, call Jamie Smith at (541)475-7265 x307.

READ to SUCCEED!

More literacy. More choices.

Thanks AGAIN to Central Oregon Seeds, Inc.!

Once again, Central Oregon Seeds Inc., has stepped in to support our school district. For more than 15 years, COSI has contributed to everything from computers and equipment in the classrooms to facility and athletic improvements or construction. Now, they are contributing \$60,000 to help us replace our 22-year-old track.

"All of the partners at Central Oregon Seeds, Inc. have had children, and now grandchildren and great grandchildren in the Jefferson County schools," said Mike Weber, managing partner of COSI. "We all strongly believe in giving back to the community," added Weber.

COSI partners include Mike Weber, Dean Brooks, Don Boyle, Jack Root and Larry Sullivan. The generous COSI donation will contribute \$30,000 toward the \$450,000 - \$500,000 total needed for improvements.

"COSI has really stepped up and taken the first important step for our track," said Rick Molitor, superintendent for JCSJ 509-J. "We're looking at ways to cover the full cost of replacement by using some of the funds we have available for capital improvements and hopefully we'll see additional donations from community members," he added.

The district goal is to have the new track installed before 2012. Renovations may begin as early as this summer.

For information, contact MHS Athletic Director Paul Brown, at (541) 475-7265.

Parents & Families Can Help with These Healthy Eating Tips*

There's no great secret to healthy eating. To help your children and family develop healthy eating habits:

- Provide plenty of vegetables, fruits, and whole-grain products.
- Include low-fat or non-fat milk or dairy products.
- Choose lean meats, poultry, fish, lentils, and beans for protein.
- Serve reasonably-sized portions.
- Encourage your family to drink lots of water.
- Limit sugar-sweetened beverages.
- Limit consumption of sugar and saturated fat.
- Remember that small changes every day can lead to a recipe for success!

*These tips are from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention

Calendar

A public meeting of the Budget Committee of Jefferson County School District 509-J, Jefferson County, to discuss the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012 will be held in the Support Services Building, 445 SE Buff St., Madras at 7 p.m. on May 3. A copy of the budget document may be inspected on or after May 4 at the Support Services Building or at the Jefferson County Public Library, 241 SE Seventh St., Madras.