

TeleCo hires operations manager

The Warm Springs Telecommunications Company announced the appointment of Jose Matanane as operations manager of the tribally owned enterprise.

As operations manager, Matanane will serve as the senior technical manager for the Warm Springs Telecommunications Company (WSTC). He will be responsible for supervising the construction, build-out and operations of the company.

The WSTC will bring high-speed Internet, telephone and video to the reservation. About 1,000 local homes and businesses will have access to the company's services. The company is funded through a \$5.6 million grant and loan from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development.

Matanane comes to Warm Springs from Ft. Mojave Telecommunications, a tribally owned company serving the Ft. Mojave Indian Reservation, a tribal nation in Arizona, Nevada and California, along the Colorado River, about two hours south of Las Vegas.

For the past 14 years, Matanane served as the general manager of Ft. Mojave. Jose was the fifth employee of Ft. Mojave Telecom during its start-up phase, first serving as outside plant supervisor and then plant manager.



Jose Matanane

As Adam Haas, WSTC general manager, said in announcing the appointment, "We are so fortunate that Jose has joined our company. He was instrumental in helping educate us about the potential benefits of a tribally owned telephone company and on three separate occasions, he hosted tribal delegations from Warm Springs to Ft. Mojave. He not only has an excellent technical background and has worked in a start-up, but he also understands the needs of tribal nations."

Matanane is an enrolled member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes.

Unlike the 95 percent of non-tribal Americans, who have access to basic telephone service, most tribes are under-

served and have limited telecom services on their reservations. Like Ft. Mojave Telecom, the WSTC was created to solve the problems of the under-served on the Warm Springs Reservation.

As telecommunications has become a critical infrastructure—enabling job development, educational opportunities and even access to new health care options in rural communities—the lack of telecommunications has become more problematic for tribes who are without these services.

"I have seen first-hand the positive impact of creating a tribally owned telecom," Matanane said. "Before we started Ft. Mojave, fewer than 60 percent of tribal members had basic telephone service, and very few had Internet access. Now, 98 percent of everyone has access to both telephone and broadband services. Not only has the tribal enterprise significantly increased these services, but there has been a big improvement in the quality of life on the reservation, including newly created jobs. I'm excited to do my part in bringing the same opportunities to the people of Warm Springs."

WSTC is the ninth tribally owned and operated telecommunications company in the United States. The oldest com-

pany, Cheyenne River Sioux in South Dakota, is more than 50 years old. Matanane is past president of the National Tribal Telecommunications Association, the trade group representing these nine tribal companies, as well as companies serving Alaskan Native villages, and the Hawaiian homelands. He also served as president for the Arizona/New Mexico Telecommunications Association (ANMTA).

Service in the fall

After 10 years of research and planning, last summer the Warm Springs Telecommunications Company obtained \$5.6 million of ARRA broadband stimulus money from the Rural Utility Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. This award enables the company to begin building out the new network, and plans to begin service on the reservation this fall.

WSTC is committed to building a network to serve all with basic telephone service, as well as broadband Internet access.

Jose's wife, Beth, has been active in Arizona with CASA, Court Appointed Special Advocates Association where they have been fostering children in the court system for many years. Last year, they adopted two of these children who will be moving to Oregon with their parents.

Team competes at 3rd Language Bowl



Warm Springs had the youngest team at Language Bowl 2011.

Warm Springs competed in the Third Annual Language Bowl last week at Nixyaawii Charter School in Mission, OR.

The games bring together competitors from the four Sahaptin language tribes.

Warm Springs students included Tashina Eastman, 10, Adrienna Switzler, 12, Inez Queahpama, 10, Kaiwan Clements, 6, Keeyana Yellowman, 13, Soraya Mendez, 12, and Chris "Taylor" Arthur, 17.

"Kaiwan opened one contest by singing the National Anthem in Ichishkiin," Merle Kirk said. "Warm Springs was doing great. Tashina, Adrienna and Inez competed as a team, with five schools competing. The score was 12 to four."

"All the kids did great.

Their hard work and dedication really showed. I'm so proud of all the participants and teachers for taking the time to learn and teach our language."

On the first day of competition, Warm Springs was the youngest out of six teams.

Keeyana, Soraya and Chris competed on the second day against Walla Walla. Warm Springs, 25. Walla Walla, 9.

Final results for 12 and under for Knowledge Bowl 2011: Nimipu, first place and second place. Warm Springs, third. In the 13 and over category, Nixyaawii took first and second place. Warm Springs, third.

The Ichishkiin teacher is Arlita Rhoan, and the coach is Dallas Winishut.

In total, 22 teams competed from different tribes.

Warm Springs Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4

Water aerobics class will be held this morning at 10:15 at the KNT pool.

Vendors, **sign up for the Mother's Day Sale** (to be held Friday) by calling Carol to reserve a table. 541-553-3243.

Recreation will make **craft cards** at 3:30 p.m. in Carol's Room.

The Sewing Circle will meet this evening at 5:30 at the Community Center.

Kiksht language class will be at 5:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 5

Snack Attack in Carol's Room at 3:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 6

The Mother's Day Sale will begin this morning at 10 in the Social Hall at the Community Center.

Safe Routes to School will meet from 10 a.m. to noon at the administration building, conference room 3.

Blue Folder Friday. Parents of WSE students should check their child's blue folder and return it by Monday.

The Museum at Warm

Springs will have the **Seeds of Discovery** field day for Jefferson County fourth grade students today.

The 44th Annual **Mother's Day Pow-Wow** will be held in Eugene at MAC Court today and tomorrow. A free salmon bake is scheduled for 12:00 p.m. Grand entry is at 7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 7

Water delivery day for Simnasho residents.

The **memorial and rejoining** for Earl Spino will be held at the Wapato Longhouse at 9 a.m. For more information, 541-307-4395.

MONDAY, MAY 9

The glucometer class will be held from 2-3:00 p.m. at the Health and Wellness Center kitchen conference room.

Board Games will be in Carol's Room at the Community Center beginning at 3:30 p.m.

Monday Night Quilters will meet in Carol's Room at the Community Center at 5:30 p.m.

Women's Support will meet this evening at 6:00. For more information, call 541-553-2293.

TUESDAY, MAY 10

Jeri Kollen will talk about "Diabetes Complications" at this morning's **Healthy Breakfast**, 9:00 a.m. at the Health and Wellness Center.

Snack Attack in Carol's Room at the Community Center, 3:30 p.m.

Cyrille Mitchell will teach a **yarn belt-making class** this evening at 5:30 at the Community Center. Class is limited to the first 10 to sign up. 541-553-3243.

Positive Indian Parenting Class will be held this evening at 5:30 at the Community Counseling Center. The topic this week is "Lessons from Mother Nature."

Today the Madras Class of 2011 will **draw for the Kah-Nee-Ta package.** This is a fundraising effort for the All-Night Alcohol and Drug-Free Party on June 4.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11

Water aerobics class will be held this morning at 10:15 at the KNT pool.

"Lunch and Learn" will begin at noon, hosted by the **Diabetes Prevention Program.** The topic will be "Living Well

with Chronic Conditions" in the Health and Wellness atrium.

Learn to manage your carbs at the **Carb Counting Series**, Thursdays this month at 3:30 p.m. at the Health and Wellness kitchen conference room.

Culture and Heritage will have **fun social dancing** this evening beginning at 5:00 at the Senior Center.

THURSDAY, MAY 12

There will be **community health screenings** today at Three Warriors Market from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.

Food Handler's certification class will be held in the Health and Wellness atrium

from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Culture and Heritage will have **social dancing** at the Senior Center from 5 to 7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 14

Stone setting for Marvin Meanus, Sr. will be held at 8:00 a.m. at the Mouth of the Warm Springs River Cemetery.

Stonesetting for Thane Colwash is at 10:00 a.m. at the Simnasho Cemetery.

Stonesetting for Gilbert Kalama is at 11:00 a.m. at the Simnasho Cemetery.

There will be a meal at the Simnasho Longhouse at 12:00 noon, followed by **memorials and a give-away.**

The Museum at Warm Springs annual **Noteboom Memorial Golf Tournament** will be held today at Kah-Nee-Ta. For more information, call 541-553-3331.

"**Off the Rez**", a documentary featuring Shoni Schimmel, is scheduled to premier on TLC at 9:00 p.m. eastern.

Honor Seniors Day

May 13

Agency Longhouse
For more information
541-553-3313

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