

Park Heights Fire



A suspected arson fire, currently under investigation, happened the evening of July 1. The fire continued to restart, so on July 2 fire personnel allowed it to control-burn for the safety of surrounding homes and residents.

Canoe Journey starting next week

The N'Chi Wanapam Canoe Family is leaving this month on the Canoe Journey. This year's Journey is to Quinault, Wash., and will be from July 18 to August 7. The gathering is expected to draw hundreds of tribal members and dozens of canoes for a week-long celebration. The Canoe Family meets every Tuesday at 4 p.m. in the Family Resource Center.

Hicks named CRITFC Chief of Enforcement

The Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission has promoted 20-year CRITFC Enforcement veteran Sergeant Mitch Hicks to Chief of Enforcement.

Hicks is a member of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes from the Fort Hall Reservation of Idaho. He will begin his Chief of Enforcement duties on August 1.

"I am honored to lead one of the best enforcement entities in the region," Hicks said.

"I personally know how this work benefits Indian fishers along the Columbia River. My family, friends, and I were subjected harassment while exercising our tribal hunting and fishing rights. I remember having our salmon fishing camp shot at and being held at gunpoint while hunting in Idaho. My experiences have driven me to do what I can to prevent the harassment that I experienced as a boy from happening to anyone else."

As the chief of law enforcement, Hicks is responsible for the overall management of CRITFC's Enforcement Department. Based in Hood River, CRITFC Enforcement employs 17 patrol officers, dispatchers, and administrative staff and is responsible for patrolling 147 miles of the Columbia River and 31 tribal fishing access sites.

Affordable Care Act exemption for members

The Affordable Care Act permanently reauthorizes the Indian Health Care Improvement Act.

The act provides new opportunities for health insurance coverage, eliminates cost sharing such as copays and deductibles, and provides special monthly enrollment periods for members of federally recognized tribes who enroll in health plans offered through the Health Insurance Marketplace.

In June the Obama administration issued a final rule allowing all American Indians who are eligible to receive services from an Indian health care provider to receive an exemption from the shared responsibility payment if they do not maintain minimum essential coverage under the Affordable Care Act.

Prior to development of the final rule, only a portion of the American Indian and Alaska Native population—members of federally recognized tribes—would have access to an exemption from the requirement to maintain minimum essential coverage under the law.

The final rule reflects comments and feedback received from Indian Country through rulemaking and the tribal consultation process.

"The administration is taking steps to honor our historical commitment to the rights of American Indians and Alaska Natives and ensure that individuals protected under the Indian Health Care Improvement Act benefit from the special provisions in the Affordable Care Act," said Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius.

"Today, we continue to fulfill our responsibility to consult and work with tribal communities."

The final rule adds a hardship exemption category for American Indians and Alaska Natives who are eligible to receive services through an Indian health care provider,

such as the Indian Health Service (IHS) or tribally-operated facilities and Urban Indian clinics.

"We appreciate our tribal partners who advocated to ensure that all American Indians and Alaska Natives eligible for IHS can receive an exemption from the penalty for not having insurance coverage," said IHS Director Dr. Yvette Roubideaux.

As a result of this final regulation, all American Indians and Alaska Natives who are eligible to receive services from an Indian health care provider will have access to an exemption from the shared responsibility payment.

And there will be a Social Media for Business computer class that will be held on July 23 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the COCC Madras Campus. Transportation is provided. Call 553-3324 to register for classes or to find out about other upcoming training.

Job skills training

Warm Springs Job Creation and Development has several Training opportunities available for employees.

Next week they will have a Business Skills Training titled "Financial Fitness" on July 24 from 8 a.m. to noon at the Credit Building.

And there will be a Social

BIA Roads workers were filling in the potholes on Highway 3 this week.

Later this summer the department will chip and seal Highway 3 from the Highway 26 intersection to the Warm Springs River bridge near Kah-Nee-Ta.



Dave McMechan/Spilyay

4202 Holliday St. Call 541-615-0555

WARM SPRINGS TELECOM

INDIAN HEAD CASINO

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UPCOMING JULY PROMOTIONS

- "The Heat is Rising" Cash Giveaway! - Sunday, July 28th
1pm: \$500, 2pm: \$1,000, 3pm: \$2,500, 4pm: \$5,000, 5pm: \$10,000
- "Mad Hot Mondays" - Win up to \$500
- "Break the Bank" Thursdays - Win up to \$600
- "Can You Take the Heat" Fridays - Win up to \$1,500
- \$1,200 Blackjack Tourney - Friday, July 19th, 7pm
- \$1,200 Slot Tourney - Saturday, July 20th, 7pm

Highway 26, Warm Springs • indianheadgaming.com • 541.460.7777

The Heat is Rising!

MORE THAN \$50,000 IN CASH & PRIZES!

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