



Spilyay Tymoo

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Telecom in third year of growth

The Warm Springs Telecom has seen great progress since beginning operation in early 2012. The Telecom is now serving about 80 percent of the residential market on the reservation.

The enterprise also has several hundred non-residential customers. These include Indian Head Casino, which was the Telecom's first customer; tribal administration and most other departments; Power and Water, Natural Resources, and some telecommunication aspects of the clinic.

The Telecom this week is establishing a new tower that will greatly enhance the broadband service at Kah-Nee-Ta. New towers are serving Simnasho, the Schoolie and Sidwalter Flat areas, and Seekseequa.

The primary focus is providing the best phone and high-speed Internet service to reservation customers, said Jose Mantanane, general manager.

There is potential for business growth off reservation, but that will happen after the reservation is fully covered, he said. "We're working to close the digital divide that exists in Indian country," he said.

Many rural reservations have not



Gabe Walker points out the location of one of the new Telecom towers serving the reservation.

seen the benefits of telecommunications improvements over the past decades.

Warm Springs is among the tribes active in implementing state of the art technology.

The Warm Springs Telecom is a tribal enterprise, relying on its own revenue for operation and expansion. The telecom has 10 full-time

The importance of future generations is a strong theme at the Telecom...

employees, and three working through the Workforce Education and Development Department.

K-8 Academy

Another recent development: The Telecom will provide broadband Internet service to the Warm Springs K-8 Academy. Telecom won this school district contract through the competitive bid process.

The Telecom is currently installing fiber-optic cable to the new school, from a connection point by the Utilities Department on East Tenino.

When finished, the K-8 school will have a high-speed connection to the 509-J schools in Madras. This will allow for distance learning, for example. If a specialty class is being taught only at Madras, the Warm Springs students can participate without having to commute. The connection will also allow access at the Warm Springs school to data bases at Madras, said Josh Richesin, operations manager and engineer.

The cable installation work is being done at no cost to the school. The goal is to provide the students at the Warm Springs Academy with the best quality service for a Twenty-First Century education, Mantanane said.

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Saturday market starting

The first Warm Springs Outdoor Market of 2014 is scheduled for this Saturday, May 4, at the campus park.

The market this year is being organized by a group of volunteers who are forming a co-operative business. Members include Marge Kalama, Gerald Danzuka, Marcia Macy and Pinky Beamer, among others. The Warm Springs Community Action Team is helping with the market.

"We're so excited to get this grassroots effort off the ground, and thankful for those who completed our survey," said Marge Kalama. "The survey will guide us and confirm our goals."

The community action team was the organizer of the market last year, but has seen a staff reduction; so the co-op group is stepping up.

Vendors can set up for free. The co-op and community action team will provide the tables and tents for the vendors. Bring beadwork, roots, crafts and other items for sale.

"If folks want to bring yard-sale type items, that would be okay," said Chris Watson, of the community action team. The Txtaimat Pama Outdoor Market will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday.

Warriors Gathering at HeHe

Veterans and their family and friends met at the HeHe Longhouse for the Annual Veterans and Family Healing Circle.

Larson Kalama and family have organized this event for the several years now. Many kinds of healing practices—sweat lodge, talking circle, washing and healing touch, music and poetry among them—are used at the gathering.

The Healing Circle brings veterans and family from many areas to HeHe for the four-day gathering. They camp in tents and RVs at HeHe by the Warm Springs



River.

The Healing Circle is an event of dedication: No fees are charged.

Volunteers give their time to cook and clean, and provide healing service.

Veterans of all ages, several of the Vietnam and the Gulf wars, attended this year.

Rejuvenation and cleaning service Saturday at the HeHe Longhouse.

Dave McMechan/Spilyay

Honor Seniors Day May 9

The Confederated Tribes will host the Twenty-Fourth Annual Honor Seniors Day in May.

Honor Seniors Day will be from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Agency Longhouse on Friday, May 9.

The Honor Day is a chance to showcase the local attractions, such as the Museum at Warm Springs, Indian Head Casino, Kah-Nee-Ta Resort and Spa, among the others. A courtesy shuttle service is provided to all points of interest during Honor Seniors Day. Each person's name tag also provides free admission to the museum.

For information contact the Warm Springs Seniors Department at 541-553-3313, or 553-3520. Or email:

fay.hurtado@wstribes.org

wilson.wewa@wstribes.org

(More on Honor Seniors Day on 4.)

The Agency District has a meeting scheduled for this Thursday, May 1 at the longhouse. The meeting is to update district members on recent developments of the Confederated Tribes.

Root Feast Rodeo



Barrel racing and wild horse racing at the Root Feast Rodeo, hosted on Saturday by the Warm Springs Rodeo Association.



Dave McMechan/Spilyay



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See page 12 for details.