

# Tribal Council okays health survey

Health surveys are a critical part in planning for community health services.

Community Health Education Team member Judy Charley gives this example:

A Warm Springs health survey in the late 1980s found that the leading cause of death among the membership was chronic illness, such as heart disease, cancer, or stroke.

A survey ten years later found the leading causes of death were behavioral or social, involving alcohol and drug addiction.

Health providers used this

information to give more emphasis in these growing areas of concern. The information can help in determining focus areas of health care funding.

Another example: An earlier health survey found a high incidence of domestic violence in the community. This information led to the establishment of the Warm Springs Victims of Crime Services.

A community health team met last week with Tribal Council, requesting approval to go ahead with a new community health survey. This

will be the first one in over a decade; so accurate results will be especially helpful in health service planning.

Tribal Council approved the request, and the team is now gearing up for the survey, said Shana Radford, tribal health liaison, Health and Human Services Branch.

Preparation will involve training for the survey takers, and possibly the hiring of limited duration workers to help with the survey, Ms. Radford said.

The survey may happen during the early part of next

year, she said, and will likely be conducted door-to-door.

The tribes are working with the Northwest Area Indian Health Board on this project. The health board will provide support and training.

With Judy Charley and Shana Radford, making the presentation to Tribal Council last week were Misty Kopplin, director of Family Preservation; Anita Davis, Community Health Education Team member; and Katie Russell, Community Health director.

# Employee Benefits Fair, Annual Open Enrollment

The Employee Benefits Fair is coming up on Thursday, Oct. 6, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the community center.

The event offers the opportunity for all permanent full-time employees to learn more about benefit options, meet vendors face to face, and listen to benefits presentations.

This is also the start of the open enrollment period, meaning that all permanent full-time employees who qualify for benefits effective January 1, 2017, can sign up for coverage if they missed their opportunity during the new hire season.

If you already have coverage, this is also your opportunity to make any

changes or renew your flexible spending pledge for 2017.

All changes and new enrollments will be effective January 1, 2017. Some other features of the Benefits Fair:

Meet the new prescription benefits manager. Pick up your new 2017 HealthComp insurance card.

Ask providers questions about your employee benefits, and enroll in 2017 benefits.

Presentations will be made at 9:30 and 11 a.m., and at 1:30 and 3 p.m.

Contact the Compensation and Benefits department with any questions about the fair at 541-553-3391.

# Passion Award, new spokesperson at VOCS

Victims of Crime Services has two employees with great accomplishments.

Candace Lillie was awarded the PASSION Award, presented by the Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence.

The Coalition conference this year was held in Sunriver in June. Each candidate for the Passion Award was nominated by his or her respective program supervisor.

The Coalition then reviewed the nominees, selecting six recipients for the award.

Passion means Perseverance Advocacy Sensitivity Strength Integrity



Courtesy VOCS

Michele Gonzales and Candace Lillie of VOCS.

Optimism Nurturance. The award is for outstanding service to survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

The Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence was

founded in 1978, and promotes equity and social change in order to end violence for all communities.

The Coalition seeks to transform society by engaging diverse voices, support-

ing the self-determination of survivors, and providing leadership for advocacy efforts.

### New spokesperson

Meanwhile, Michele Gonzales has transitioned from Victims of Crime Services volunteer to a Victims of Crime Services spokesperson.

She passed her VOCS Bar Exam in July, and was sworn in by acting Chief Judge Lola Sohappay on July 29.

VOCS is proud of these two young ladies for their accomplishments. "We congratulate you both," said Dorothy Kalama, VOCS advocate supervisor.

# Out of Darkness walk

The Out of the Darkness Walk is coming up this Saturday, October 1 in Portland. Community Counseling will provide transportation, leaving by bus from Counseling at 7 a.m. and returning by 4 p.m.

The Out of the Darkness Walk is a hosted by the American Foundation of Suicide Prevention.

This is the biggest suicide prevention walk in Oregon.

If you want to create a

sign to carry during the walk in memory of a loved one lost by suicide, Community Counseling can help.

Come by the Counseling Center from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. this Thursday, Sept. 29.

If you are interested in this event, call Rosanna Jackson or Leighton Pennington at 541-553-3205.

You can sign up by calling. Space will be limited in the Counseling bus.

# On the Tribal Council agenda in October

The following are some of the items on the Tribal Council October agenda (subject to change at Council discretion).

- Monday, October 3**  
9 a.m. - Bureau of Indian Affairs update with the acting superintendent.  
10 - Office of Special Trustee update with Charles Jackson.  
10:30 - Realty items with Urbana Ross.  
1:30 p.m. - Legislative update conference calls, federal and state.  
2:30 - Tribal attorney update.  
Draft resolutions.

- Tuesday, October 4**  
9 a.m. - Warm Springs Community Action Team

- discussion with Chris Watson.  
10 - Miss Warm Springs update with Keyana Yellowman.

- Wednesday, October 5**  
9 a.m. - 12 p.m. - Children's Protective Services discussion with Health and Human Services director Caroline Cruz.

- Thursday, October 6** - Columbia River vessel traffic and safety, and risk assessment workshop with Attorney General.

- Wednesday through Friday**, Inter-tribal Timber Council-SAF conference.

- Saturday, October 8** -

# District meetings

- Monday, October 24** - Seekseequa District meeting on the 2017 tribal budget. Seekseequa Fire Hall, 6 p.m. dinner, 7 p.m. meeting.
- Tuesday, October 25** - Agency District meeting on 2017 budget. Agency Longhouse, 6 p.m. dinner, 7 p.m. meeting.
- Wednesday, October 26** - Simnasho District meeting on 2017 budget. Simnasho Longhouse, 6 p.m. dinner, 7 p.m. meeting.

- Burns Paiute Restoration.

- October 8-14** - National Congress of American Indians conference.

- Monday, October 10**

- 9 a.m. - Review minutes and resolutions with Glendon Smith, S-T.

- Wednesday, October 12** - Health and Human Services cluster meeting.

- Monday, October 17**

- 9 a.m. - Secretary-Treasurer update with Glendon Smith.

- 10 - November agenda discussion/travel delegations/review minutes with Glendon Smith.

- 11 - Draft resolutions with the S-T.

- 1:30 p.m. - Legislative update calls, federal and state.

- 3 - Enrollments with Lucille Suppach-Sampson/Vital Stats.

- Tuesday, October 18**  
9 a.m.-12 p.m. - Finance update and discussion with Alfred Estimo and Dennis Johnson.

- Tuesday-Thursday, October 18-20** - Meeting on

- Future of Our Salmon.

- Thursday-Friday, October 27-28** - Columbia River Inter-tribal Fish Commission meeting.

All draft resolutions and ordinances, including any attachments or exhibits, are due by the first Friday of each month by 5 p.m., either hard copy or email (Word form) for review. No exceptions. Send to:

ldavis@wstribes.org  
glendon.smith@wstribes.org  
cr.begay@wstribes.org

Additional item for consideration:  
Warm Springs Housing budget call back.

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