

Teams getting ready for Language Bowl

The 2017 Language Bowl is a little over a month away, and the Culture and Heritage Department and language students are gearing up for the competition.

Numu, Ichishkeen and Kiksht language students with the Warm Springs Academy Rise & Shine program will be going, with teachers from Culture and Heritage.

The Language Bowl this year will be at the Wildhorse Resort and Casino in early May.



Dave McMechan photos/Spilyay



Rise & Shine Numu language students Sebastian Bisland, Lilian Libokmeto, Leland Libokmeto, Gunner Bailey, Ovienda Bisland, Serenity Bisland and Felix wallulatum, with teacher Charmaine Billey (top photo right).



Danial and Garret Jackson, Rise & Shine Ichishkeen students, with Culture and Heritage teacher Arlita Rhoan (top).

With Culture and Heritage teacher Jefferson Greene, students Ashland, Jessica, Marie, Kara, Knekt, Red Sky and Jessiah; and at front Delmer, River, Edwards, Dream, Mathew, Braden, Daniel and Kaden.

Kiksht students Mariah Johnson, Erin Sanchez, Sierra Sanchez, Arima White (front); and Jeremiah Blackwolf, Skytus Smith, Mark Johnson III, Glen Brunoe (back).

Judge: More water over dams for fish

A judge this week ordered federal agencies to spill more water over Columbia and Snake river dams to help threatened and endangered salmon and steelhead, though not until next year after testing.

The order from U.S. District Judge Michael Simon came in response to a motion filed by conservation groups together with the state of Oregon and the Nez Perce Tribe.

The groups represent the plaintiffs in a long-standing lawsuit over dams in the Columbia River Basin.

Last year, Judge Simon rejected the federal plan for managing dams to protect salmon. Federal agencies are now in the process of writing a new plan.

The plaintiffs had asked the court to order as much spill as the law allows starting in April. State laws set limits on how much water can be spilled over dams be-

fore the gases produced in the process become harmful to fish.

In his response, Simon said the federal agencies need time to test the effects of additional spill to avoid unintended consequences.

He delayed the court order for increasing spill until the spring of 2018 to allow the agencies to test out spill options and develop tailored plans for individual dams.

Klamath fishery may completely close

Both sport and commercial salmon fishing near the Klamath River could be completely closed this year as a result of what the Pacific Fishery Management Council is projecting to be the lowest return of spawning Chinook salmon on record.

"The salmon runs this year will present a challenge for ocean fishermen and managers throughout the West Coast," council executive director Chuck Tracy said.

"In the north, several coho runs will keep ocean quotas lower than normal. In the south, the low forecast for Klamath River fall Chinook

is unprecedented, and the most restrictive alternative the council will consider allows no ocean fishing between Cape Falcon, Oregon and the U.S./Mexico border after April 30 this year."

The council recommends fishery management measures to the federal government each year and provides several alternative options.

For the Klamath Management Zone, which runs between the Oregon border to the Humboldt Bay south jetty, every alternative the council is recommending would close sport and commercial ocean salmon fish-

ing. Local salmon fisherman David Bitts who serves as the California troll salmon advisor to the council said that this year's season looks very much like 1992, which he said was the leanest year he's experienced. Bitts said they expect about 12,000 Chinook salmon spawners to return to the river this year when they would want to see about 35,000 to 40,000.

"It's going to be a grim year and I hope there are enough fish in the ocean that people can catch enough to get through the year," he said.

School: board meeting April 4 on superintendent

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Deanie Smith of the Education Committee has said the matter may be put to mediation, with a state Education official, such as Ms. Campbell or Holcomb, acting as mediator.

Meanwhile at the 509-J district: The positions of three members of the current board—tribal member Laurie Danzuka, Tom Norton and Lyle Rehwinkel—are up for election this spring. At least three candidates from Warm Springs have said they are

interested in running.

The deadline to register in the May 16 election is April 25. Check with the county clerk, or online, for options on options for registering.

Regarding the position of district superintendent: The 509-J search committee this month announced its top two candidates for the job. One is Ted Zehr and one is Ken Parshall.

Mr. Zehr served for six years as principal at Century High School, and also as executive director of secondary schools in the Hillsboro

district.

Mr. Parshall has been the principal at Warm Springs Elementary for the past two years. Previously he was principal at McKay High School in the Salem-Keizer district, as well as assistant superintendent there.

The current 509-J superintendent Rick Molitor is stepping down at the end of the school year in June. The school board is scheduled to meet on April 4 to discuss the hiring of the new superintendent.

U.S. v. Oregon: positive report at Council

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The tribes' "fair share" of the catch was determined to mean that the tribes' fish harvest is split 50/50 with non-tribal fishing.

Since this initial ruling, the case has stayed open as a way for the court to monitor the U.S. v. Oregon management agreement.

10-year agreement

In 1977 the court approved a five-year agreement that established an in-river harvest-sharing formula between the tribal and non-tribal fish.

This plan failed because it did not include

controls on ocean harvests, or specific measures to replace fish runs destroyed by development. It was also in 1977 that the four Columbia River Treaty Tribes established the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission.

The parties eventually came to longer-term agreements that have been acceptable to all parties.

Then in more recent years, the Columbia Basin Fish Accords of 2004 set aside \$1 billion to implement tribal fishery projects in the Columbia and tributaries. And the tribes and states reached a ten-agreement U.S. v. Oregon management

agreement.

This is one that is set to expire at the end of the year, but which could be extended another decade, Mr. Ogan said.

This was welcome news to the Council members. Ogan said the case—implementing the tribal treaty fishing rights—is the one he takes most pride in working on. "It doesn't get any more important than the treaty," he said.

The Fish and Wildlife Committee of the Confederated Tribes has been a great help in the negotiating process, Ogan said.

The Living Well with Chronic Conditions program is a six-week workshop that teaches skills for living a healthy life for those with a chronic condition that may involve pain, fatigue, or depression.

The first workshop of a new series of classes will be held Tuesday April 4 at 9 a.m. at the Diabetes Prevention Office next to the Family Resource Center. To register call 541-553-5513.