Coyote News, est. 1976

May 24, 2017 - Vol. 42, No. 11

May - Xawit'an - Spring - Wawaxam

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Graduation, Honor Walk, Banquet in June

The Madras High School Class of 2017 will graduate on Saturday, June 3. The ceremony begins at 9 a.m. at the high school football field. This year about 32 tribal member youth will graduate from the high school.

The high school seniors are graduating on June 3, while the last regular day of school for other students in the district is June 15.

Some days were added to the school calendar this year because of several snow days this past winter.

At the Warm Springs Academy school will also see an early start

of the 2017-18 school year. The first seven days of classes will be August 14-17, and then August 23-25. There are a couple of days off between these first two weeks because of the total solar eclipse, August 21.

The seven extra days of learning are made possible through an Office of Indian Education grant, said Warm Springs Academy Principal Ken Parshall.

After the August 23-25 school days, there will be a week off for the students because of in-service days. Then the school year resumes after Labor Day.

Honor Walk, Banquet

The Warm Springs Academy will host the Honor Walk for Madras High School and other tribal member graduates on Friday, June 2.

Graduates are invited to visit the Academy, walk the hallways in their caps and gowns, as the Academy students, teachers and staff give tribute for their successful accomplishment.

"Part of this is to help the younger students understand, "This is where you are going," Mr. Parshall said.

"We want every student to graduate. We want the younger

students to see this is the goal, this is why we are celebrating. It's a learning opportunity."

An Honor Graduates Banquet this year will follow the Honor Walk on June 2 at the Academy. The Academy and the Education Committee are cooperating on this new approach to the Graduates Banquet

June 14 at the Warm Springs Academy will be Promotion Night for the eighth-grade students, who next year will be going to high school.

(See SCHOOL on 6)

Honoring the Elders

Honor Seniors Day in Warm Springs saw another great turnout of guests and local residents, health, safety and other service workers, enjoying the entertainment and salmon bake at the Agency Longhouse.

During this year's Honor Seniors Day, Liza Jim in appreciation presented tribal elder Neda Wesley with a shawl, special for the occasion.

Honor Seniors Day is hosted each year by the Warm Springs Seniors Program.



Grand entry at Honor Seniors Day, with Miss Warm Springs Katrina Blackwolf and students, parents and teachers from the Early Childhood Center.

School board member beginning third term

The Warm Springs Academy is a great project the tribes and school district accomplished in recent years. "It truly is becoming a community school—you see that in the many community activities and events that happen there," Laurie Danzuka says.

Ms. Danzuka is beginning her third 4-year term on the Jefferson County school district board, having won her bid last week for reelection.

Looking to the next four years, Laurie sees opportunity with the American Indian/Alaska Native curriculum project. This a program of the state Department of Education, as set out in federal legislation. The Oregon Department of Education, in consultation with the nine tribes, is in the process of submitting its plan.

The program recognizes the importance of tribal language, culture and history as part of the school curriculum. This could go a long way toward addressing a disagreement the district and some tribal education advocates have had in the past.

Laurie has three children in the 509-J district, two at the Academy and one at the high school: fourth-grader Kathleen, eighth-grader Kathryce, and high school junior



Laurie Danzuka

Rich. Laurie works as the CP Enterprise coordinator at Warm Springs Ventures.

In school board business she looks forward to working with the new superintendent, Academy Principal Ken Parshall.

He already has relationships in Warm Springs and at the k-8 Academy, Laurie says. And he has experience and connections with funding sources for innovative education programs.

Another promising project, she says, is Futures, a career and technical program at the high school, very popular with students.

Tribes see no sign yet of malware

The Confederated Tribes' Office of Information Systems takes every precaution to protect the organization from malicious software. "We're as protected as anyone could be," said Todd Stum, office director.

Computer security came to forefront earlier this month when a new strain of ransomware spread through hundreds of computer networks across the globe.

On computers that are infected with ransomware, the virus blocks access to data until a ransom is paid in bitcoin. And even then there is no assurance that paying the ransom will unlock the data.

As of Tuesday morning of this week, no computers in the tribal organization had been infected. However, Mr. Stum said, the ransomware has an incubation period of ten days.

So Thursday evening of this week will be the time when we'll know for sure, he said.

A computer viral infection like ransomware would have a devastating impact on the tribal organization, perhaps lasting a period of months.

Precautions include careful backing-up of essential data, and the effort led by OIS to avoid infection in the first place. OIS advice to anyone using a tribal computer:

Be very careful when you get an email with an attachment you did not ask for: If there is an attachment, do not click on it. Instead, delete the whole email.

If you or a co-worker are not paying attention and accidentally open one of these email attachments, you might infect not only your own workstation, but immediately everyone else's computer as well. Warm Springs Office of Information Systems is a local resource if you have questions, 541-553-3275.

Council report on storm damage

The 2016-17 winter storm caused significant damage to tribal buildings. The tribes then started an insurance claim to cover some of the costs.

The Tribal Council heard a recent report on the situation from tribal property manager Brett Whipple. The damage was fairly costly, he said, especially at Kah-Nee-Ta.

All told, the claim for the tribes could be around \$700,000, Mr. Whipple said.

While most of the cost is associated with damage at Kah-Nee-Ta, there were other tribal buildings damaged by the snow and freezing temperatures.

As an example, a structure at Peter's Pasture was destroyed by the high accumulation of snow.

Council considers CP options Tribal Council in June is funding in the development

planning to meet with Warm Springs Ventures on the funding options for CP Enterprise, the tribes' cannabis production project.

Options have included bringing in an outside source of funding, or finding a way for the tribes and Ventures to self-fund the project.

The outside funding source was brought up last month at Tribal Council, with some benefits of the arrangement such as not investing limited tribal funding in the development phase. A drawback, though, is revenue sharing, with the tribes in the long-term seeing significant revenue going to the outside party.

Council and Ventures met at Kah-Nee-Ta this month to review the two choices. Council wants to review options for self-funding. This is currently scheduled for the June 12 session.

Meanwhile, a lease for the production site has been worked out, involving the tribes, Ventures, and then CP Enterprise.

Memorial Park dedication



Courtesy Hamilton Greele

Drummers at the May 13 dedication ceremony of the Veterans Memorial Park at the Museum at Warm Springs, hosted by the Veterans Memorial Park Committee.

