



Spilyay Tymo

Coyote News, est. 1976

December 6, 2017 - Vol. 42, No. 25
December - Nch'i-An - Winter - Yiyam

PO Box 489
Warm Springs, OR 97761

ECR WSS
Postal Patron

U.S. Postage
PRSR STD
Warm Springs, OR 97761

Building removal gives new look for campus

An environmental construction company has started the first phase of the long-planned downtown project. Phase one involves the removal of a number of hazardous properties.

The eight sites include BIA buildings that contain lead paint and asbestos. Buildings include the old clubhouse, the former Victims of Crime and Spilyay buildings, and former residences on Wasco and Warm Springs streets. The Fire and Safety garages eventually will be removed, but not until there is a plan to replace them.

The buildings themselves are being removed, along with oil tanks located next to the structures. The contractor for the project is 3 Kings, based in Vancouver. The timeline for completion is early February.

The removal includes the proper disposal of the potentially hazardous material, which is being transported to a facility in Prineville.

The removal work, funded through the BIA, has been a long-standing project—dating back several years—for the tribes.

The next big step for the campus-downtown area would be the replacement of the underground pipes in the area. The piping is several decades old, some of it made



Dave McMechan/Spilyay

Buildings on Warm Springs Street were among the first to come down.



of wood and subject to recurring leaks.

Like the buildings, the underground infrastructure is property of the BIA.

Construction remodeling CPS building

Warm Springs Construction is working on a complete remodel of the Children's Protective Services building. The work is part of an overall new plan for CPS.

The new approach involves the nearby Vernon Jackson home. This building also is being remodeled, and will become a transitional housing facility for parents working to regain custody of the child.

The CPS building and transitional home will then be surrounded by privacy fencing, creating a unique and secure CPS campus, said Alyssa Macy, Chief Operations Officer. "We want a space as safe and pleasant as possible for the children and families," she said.

Next year the goal will be to seek funding for new playground equipment, and a youth garden within the campus.

The remodel at CPS has been a longtime need of the tribes. The original idea, back in 2010, was to build a new facility. Then-CPS director Becky Main set aside money for the project.

This project unfortunately never came to fruition, Ms. Macy said; so the question was how to proceed from here. The team looking at the question has been current CPS director Cecelia Collins, Health and Human Services general manager Caroline Cruz, Secretary-Treasurer Michele Stacona and the chief operations officer.

The CPS fund created by Ms. Main was not sufficient for a new facility, so the best approach was the remodel. "Tribal Council has been very supportive, and gave the final approval," Ms. Macy said.

Having Warm Springs Construction do the work is an added benefit, as the crew can continue working during the winter months, she said.

"This was a great opportunity to keep tribal members employed through the winter, when Construction might otherwise have seen seasonal layoffs," she added.

The remodeling work will take about four months. During this time a building at Kah-Nee-Ta is being used as the temporary group home.

Celebrating the return of languages to school

This year saw the return of the tribal languages as a regular elective class during the school day at the Warm Springs Academy.

The Culture and Heritage Department worked for several years to bring the languages back to school, first through Rise & Shine, then this year as an elective course.

Now, with the parent's consent any student who wishes to learn one of the tribes' traditional languages can take a class. More than 100 students are enrolled.

The school board and district superintendent Ken Parshall recognized the achievement at their meeting last week.

The tribes' language teachers are Roxanne Kelly (Numu), Pam Cardenas, Redine Johnson and Rosalynd Johnson (Kiksht), and Jefferson Greene, Suzie Slockish, Dallas Winishut and Arlita Rhoan (Ichishkeen). Teachers at Rise & Shine are Viola Govenor and Orthelia Patt.



Dave McMechan/Spilyay

Culture and Heritage teachers and staff Pam Cardenas, Merle Kirk, Redine Johnson, language program director Deanie Smith, and Jefferson Greene (back row from left); department director Val Switzler, Orthelia Patt, Arlita Rhoan, Viola Govenor and Suzie Slockish (front from left), with 509-J board members Tom Norton, Jamie Hurd and Laurie Danzuka, at last week's board meeting.

Parade, fair coming up

The Warm Springs Health and Human Services Branch, Native Aspirations and Warm Springs Recreation are putting on the Cowboy Craft Fair and Car Light Parade.

The parade is scheduled for this Thursday, December 7. Line-up will begin at 5 p.m. in front of the old elementary school, judging is at 6, and the parade begins at 7. The Craft Fair is from 5-8 p.m. at the Community Center. Dinner will be served from 5:30-6:30.

Company exploring solar options on the reservation

Tribal Council approved a proposal to research the possibility of a large-scale solar power facility on the reservation. The company conducting the feasibility study is Cypress Creek Renewables, which operates a 10-megawatt solar facility in the Bend area.

The tribes and Power and Wa-

ter Enterprises sought proposals from interested companies, and Council last month approved the Cypress Creek Renewables submission. The company is looking at five sites on the reservation with the potential for solar power.

Sites up to 500 acres in size are being considered. Plateaus above

Warm Springs, such as above the old mill area, are examples of potential solar development sites.

If completed, the facility would be one of the largest in the state, said Jim Manion, Power and Water general manager. "It's taken a lot of work to get here," he said.

If it happens, the project could

be another three to five years in development. All of the tribal land-use and environmental regulations, and public review are part of the approval process. The biggest challenge in this type of development is access to transmission, Mr. Manion said.



COUNTRY CHRISTMAS

WIN YOUR SHARE OF \$63,000*

***TOTAL CASH PRIZES IN DECEMBER**

IndianHeadCasino.com • 541-460-7777 • US-26, Warm Springs, OR 97761





See Player's Club for details. Management reserves all rights.