



Spilyay Tymoo

Coyote News, est. 1976

May 9, 2018 - Vol. 43, No. 10

May - Xawit'an - Spring - Wawaxam

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Land Buy-Back looking at second wave

There could be a second wave of offers this year through the Warm Springs Land Buy Back program. Response time for the first offers closed in late April.

A second wave of offers could increase the number of successful transactions, said Randy Scott, Warm Springs Land Buy Back coordinator.

There has been no final order

approving the second wave of Warm Springs offers, but there is a preliminary recommendation to conduct a second round, Mr. Scott said.

For the first wave of offers, the program approved the expenditure of close to \$600,000 for the purchase of fractionated interests in allotments, encompassing about 1,035 acres on reservation land.

Land interests acquired through

the program go to the Confederated Tribes.

The amount spent on acquiring interests during the first wave was low compared to the total of roughly \$4 million that is allocated through the program.

Funds left unspent revert to the program, and are not accessible again to the tribes or members who own fractional allotment interests.

For this reason the hope is to have a greater response.

The Buy-Back Program implements the land consolidation component of the Cobell Settlement. The settlement provided \$1.9 billion to purchase fractional interests in trust or restricted land from willing sellers at fair market value.

Coronation Saturday for Miss W.S.

Miss Warm Springs Thyreicia Simtustus has been invited and hopes to attend powwows and other tribal events in 2018, representing the Confederated Tribes.

There is a need for funding for her travel expenses, though, as there is no tribal budget for Miss Warm Springs.

Thyreicia goes to Central Oregon Community College, and also works part time; so her time for fundraising is limited.

To raise the travel money, Thyreicia's family and friends decided to host a Coronation and Banquet, set for this Saturday evening, May 12 at the Museum at Warm Springs.

This apparently will be the first Miss Warm Springs Coronation and Banquet, said Aurolyn Stwyer, who met this week with Thyreicia and Tribal Council.

They requested a donation of salmon from Natural Resources for the Coronation, and Tribal Council approved the request.

The Coronation will begin at 6 p.m. this Saturday at the museum, and will include dinner and auctions. Donations for the Coronation and Banquet are \$20 per person, \$10 for senior citizens and children under 10.

2018 Lil' Miss Pageant

There is much to like about the Lil' Miss Warm Springs Pageant. "It's great seeing all the supporters, the family and friends who show their support," said Norene Sampson, Recreation fitness coordinator, who also helps with Lil' Miss Warm Springs.

A lot goes into making the pageant happen. There are meetings every week leading up to the evening.

See PAGEANT on page 5

At the Pageant, Senior Lil' Miss Warm Springs 2017-18 Coreena Stwyer crowns the new 2018-2019 Senior Miss Warm Springs Jessica Bruised Head.



Jayson Smith/Spilyay

Renewable energy idea for reservation

Warm Springs Power and Water Enterprises has been researching the possibility of developing a solar farm on the reservation.

Power and Water has worked with an experienced partner, Cypress Creek Renewables, on some of the preliminary research, keeping Tribal Council updated from time to time.

Tribal leaders met this week with Cypress Creek for a tour of the solar farms east of Bend.

The site visit was to give the tribes an idea of the potential for

developing a similar solar farm, or farms on the reservation. This could be a promising renewable-energy project for the tribes, reducing reliance on fossil fuels, said Councilwoman Carina Miller.

Areas on the reservation that have been mentioned for their potential include: The flat above the former mill site, and the plateau above Greeley Heights, as two examples.

A project could involve several hundred acres. The Cypress Creek Renewables farms in

Bend—called the Neff Solar Farms—total approximately 70 acres each in size.

A project on the reservation could be of similar dimension. Any potential site would go through the rigorous environmental, cultural resource and community review of the Confederated Tribes, said Jim Manion, Power and Water general manager.

The solar farms at Bend generate about 14 megawatts of energy, enough power for about 6,000 homes.

A project on the reservation would require a development partner. An incentive for the company would be an energy tax credit.

As the tribes pay no such tax, there would be no economic incentive for the tribes alone to pursue a project alone. With a private industry partner, though, such a project could make financial sense.

The tribes would benefit by serving as landlord.

Clean-up at longhouse

The cleaning and abatement project at the Agency Longhouse is partly finished. The contractor has said the work should be done by the middle of this month, said Secretary-Treasurer Michele Stacona.

She gave an update on the longhouse on Monday at Tribal Council.

The first part of the work—abatement of the asbestos and lead paint—was finished, allowing the company to begin work on the second phase.

Phase two is the abatement of methamphetamine contamination. Earlier this year, areas of the longhouse—restrooms and the kitchen area, for instance—tested positive for meth contamination.

This can pose a serious health hazard, especially to children, elders and people with respiratory issues, for example.

Last month Tribal Council allocated a total of \$300,000 for meth abatement of public buildings on the reservation.

The abatement budget for just the longhouse was \$192,000, though the work could exceed this amount, said Alyssa Macy, chief operations officer.

There are other building spaces around the reservation that also require some meth abatement work.

The funds allocated for the abatement work came from a tribal capital projects fund.

Vets Parade and Expo

Miss Warm Springs Thyreicia Simtustus leads the Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Parade. Hosts of the Parade and Expo were the Eugene 'Cougar' Greene Sr. American Legion Post and Auxiliary No. 48, and the Confederated Tribes. At the conclusion of the parade were lunch at the Community Center, and the veterans expo. (See page 8 for more.)

Jayson Smith/Spilyay





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