



# Spilyay Tymoo

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## Record breaking graduating class

The Madras High School Class of 2019 saw 132 students graduate. Forty-six of the students, roughly 35 percent, are Native American.

One-hundred percent of students at the high school who were eligible to graduate completed their requirements.

The school district Bridges Career and Technical program, directed by Jessica Swagger, helped more than 30 Native students meet the graduation requirements.

The Confederated Tribes and Education will host the Graduates Banquet later this month. The tentative date and place were June 10 at the Agency Longhouse. The water situation may require a rescheduling.

See pages 6 and 7 of this publication for more on the Madras High School Class of 2019.

The Jefferson County School District 509-J board will hold its regular Monday meeting on June 10 at 7 p.m.

The Jefferson County School District last day of school for non-seniors is next Tuesday, June 11.



2019 Graduation Day at Madras High School, Saturday, June 1.

Jayson Smith photos/Spilyay



## Water response

The team working on the water system repair this week is developing the best response to address the situation, as quickly as possible.

Regarding the best repair response, tribal Management, Utilities and trust partners—including Indian Health Service and the BIA—were planning to meet with Tribal Council on Tuesday (after the print time for this publication).

Meanwhile the boil water notice remains in effect until further notice. The notice is for the entirety of the Warm Springs Agency area, including Kah-Nee-Ta, Wolfe Point, Sunnyside, Upper Dry Creek, Miller Heights, Campus area, West Hills, Tenino Valley, Tenino Apartments, Elliott Heights, Senior Housing, Trailer Courts and Greeley Heights.

Warm Springs has issued a reservation wide burn ban. With dry fuel conditions and lack of water for fire suppression, it is critical precautions are taken to help protect the people, property and resources of the Reservation.

A burn ban means that all outside agricultural and residential burning is strictly prohibited. This includes weed burning, burn barrels, and burn bins. All hot work at all facilities is banned: All operations involving open flames or that produce heat and/or sparks.

All fireworks are prohibited. Outdoor camp fires are not allowed. Only cooking in a propane or charcoal barbecue or camp cooking stove is allowed. All ceremonial and traditional fires are exempt from this burn ban. For further information on the Burn Ban status, contact the Warm Springs Fire Management Prevention team, 541-553-1146.

Indian Head Casino is open, though the Cottonwood Restaurant was temporarily closed.

Regarding the casino itself, Belinda Chavez, Indian Head marketing director, said, "With support from local utilities, loyal vendors and sanitary service professionals, we can remain open and operational, with access to safe, clean water throughout the casino."

The cause of the problem is a break in a 14-inch water main. The break is in a section of pipeline that runs under Shitike Creek. This affects about 1,100 service connections.

The Tribal Council last week approved an emergency disaster declaration. The declaration allows the tribe to apply for Federal Emergency Management Agency disaster funds to help with repairs and any impacts in the community.

The boil water notice says to boil water for three minutes before consumption. Drinking water is also available at the tribal Emergency Response office, 1161 Wasco St., a building in the former elementary school. Dan Martinez, Emergency Response director, estimated earlier this week the department had distributed up to 20,000 gallons of bottled water.

## Kah-Nee-Ta discussion at Tribal Council

Everyone wants to see Kah-Nee-Ta back in operation. Beyond that point, though, the issue are complicated, and the opinions many and diverse.

There are a full-time and a part-time maintenance crew at the resort, closed now since last September. And there are two security officer positions.

That is the extent of personnel specifically dedicated to Kah-

Nee-Ta; while the Secretary-Treasurer and Chief Operations Officer dedicate as much time as possible to issues related to the resort, while handling many other obligations.

At Tribal Council last week, Management presented offers from outside entities that have expressed interest in partnering with the tribes in the management and operation of Kah-Nee-Ta. Council is now studying the information,

and weighing the options.

An idea that many have expressed is the opening of just the Village area. Initial questions would be what hours, days of the week, services, etc.

Hiring of staff would have to start almost from scratch, as basic documents such as former job descriptions at the resort are difficult to locate.

Clearly, though, cost of reopen-

ing even just the Village would be fairly extensive, said Allysia Macy, Chief Operations Officer. It is possible a supplemental budget would be needed, meaning a timeline of at least several weeks.

There are costs associated with keeping Kah-Nee-Ta closed. Most significant is the power bill.

— Dave McMechan

## Academy Promotion Day

The Warm Springs Academy Eighth-Grade Promotion Day is set for next Monday, June 10 from 11:15 a.m. to 12:10 p.m.

The Promotion ceremony will be at the Madras High School Performing Arts Center.

There currently are 60 enrolled eighth-graders at the Academy.

### Early Childhood Education

Graduation days at Warm Springs Early Childhood Education are going to happen soon, but the dates have yet to be determined.

The water situation is a factor: The Early Childhood Center was open this week to staff, but not to the students, because of the water.

The ECE Graduation Days

had been scheduled for June 13-14. The new dates will be announced soon.

### COCC

The Central Oregon Community College 2018-19 commencement ceremony is coming up on Saturday, June 15 at the Mazama field at the COCC Bend campus.

The ceremony is from 10 to 11:30 a.m., reception to follow. Student check-in is at 8:45 a.m. at the Mazama gym.

No tickets are needed for students and guests.

All students who have met requirements for a two-year Associate Degree, or a one-year Certificate of Completion are eligible to participate in commencement, if they have earned or will earn that certificate or degree in the past fall, winter or spring, or the coming summer.



At the Lil' Miss Warm Springs Pageant in May, Jessica Bruised Head crowns Senior Lil' Miss Warm Springs Shantelle Henry.



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