

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Helping raise awareness the Warm Springs Victims of Crime Services office hosted a Walk for Awareness. If you would like to talk with an advocate, feel free to call VOCS at 541-553-2293.



Sandra Danzuka photos



Water work continues

Warm Springs Public Utilities this week began work on the Agency domestic water system.

Utilities is working with the contractor Gelco to finish the replacement and upgrade of the pressure reducing valves.

The work is expected to be complete this week.

Utilities intends to have the reservoirs filled, so as to minimize potential water outages.

Please be aware that some users may experience outages for short



periods of time while the pressure reducing valve work progresses.

If the situation calls for it, the Water division of Utilities will issue a boil water notice in compliance with EPA requirements.

If you have any questions or concerns, please direct those to the Public Utilities Department at 541-553-3246.

'Essential Understandings' looks at Language

The Warm Springs Education Branch this year developed the document that will guide the teaching of the tribal curriculum in the public schools of the region.

The curriculum is scheduled for implementation in the school district in the fall of 2020.

Education developed the Warm Springs document with its Culture and Heritage Department, elders, and state and other tribal partners.

The document is *Essential Understandings of Oregon Native Americans—Tribal History, Shared History*. This is the introductory document that will lead to the curriculum to be taught in the public schools, in response to state and federal education laws.

Essential Understanding 7 is Language. Here is the text *Essential Understanding—Language*:

Tribal languages have en-

dured direct attack, and although some were not able to survive, many have endured.

Languages connect tribal people to place, and maintain connections to ancestors. Language remains a direct conduit to important aspects of traditional tribal life.

Language carries more than words; it carries worldviews and ways of being. Each tribe has their own district language(s), which include varied dialects.

Background

Tribal languages have been and continue to be attacked through direct governmental policies and strategies, including tactics of assimilation, boarding schools, forced religions, and settler colonialism.

While some languages are sleeping, many languages are thriving, and more continue to be revitalized in the hands of tribal members

Essential Understandings of Oregon Native Americans



who work diligently to retain one of our most important cultural connections.

Because of disease, boarding schools, forced assimilation and other destructive efforts, Oregon indigenous languages are in various states of revitalization.

The Native American Languages Act of 1990 was enacted by Congress to declare that the cultures and languages of Native Americans is unique, and the United States has the responsibility to act together with Native Americans to ensure the survival of these unique cultures and lan-

guages. It also accorded a special status to Native Americans, a status that recognizes distinct cultural and political rights, including the right to continue separate identities.

The act states, "It is the policy of the United States to preserve, protect and promote the rights of freedom of Native Americans to use, practice and develop Native American languages."

Senate Bill 690 (2001) directed the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) to establish an American Indian Languages teaching license. Each American Indian tribe may develop a written and oral test that applicants must successfully complete in order to determine their qualifications to teach the tribe's Native language.

This allows a holder of such a license to teach in a school district, public charter school, education service

district, community college or state university.

SB 690 prohibits the TSPC from requiring an applicant to hold a teacher education academic degree, complete a specific amount of education, or complete a teacher program to receive an American Indian Languages teaching license.

However, the measure requires that a holder of the new license employed by a school district, public charter, or education service district participate in a technical assistance program with an experienced teacher.

An estimated 25 to 35 Native languages have been spoken in Oregon, though only nine are spoken fluently today.

Native Americans consider the loss of languages to be an urgent program, and have taken steps to record, catalog and develop teaching curricula and training for Native languages.

Rez Fest in Nov.

The Rez Fest music festival is coming to Warm Springs in November.

A number of bands—Damage Overdose of Warm Springs, Ethnic de Generation of Arizona, and Bloodline of New Mexico, for instance—will perform.

The concert will be on November 2, starting at 5:30 p.m. at the Warm Springs Community Center Social Hall. This is a drug- and alcohol-free event.

All ages \$10 at the door.

Wellbriety Celebrating Families Parent class is Mondays and Wednesday, 1 to 4 p.m. in the Wellbriety room at Behavioral Health. For information call Sarah at 541-553-3205.

Native Helpline awarded \$2.7 million to expand services

The U.S. Department of Justice has awarded the StrongHearts Native Helpline two grants from the Office of Victims of Crime.

The total of the two grants is almost \$2.77 million. The funding will help StrongHearts to enhance domestic violence and sexual assault response services.

About StrongHearts Native Helpline

Created by and built to serve tribal communities across the U.S., the StrongHearts Native Helpline is a culturally-appropriate, anonymous, confidential and no-cost service, dedicated to serving Native American survivors of domestic violence and dating violence, along with their concerned family members and friends.

By dialing 1-844-7NATIVE (1-844-762-8483), callers can connect one-on-one with knowledgeable StrongHearts advocates who can provide immediate support and a connection to Native resources, enabling survivors to find safety and live lives free of abuse.

StrongHearts is available daily from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Pacific Time.

Callers reaching out after hours may connect with the National Domestic Violence



Hotline, 1-800-799-SAFE by selecting option 1. Also see: www.strongheartshelpline.org.

StrongHearts will use the recent \$2.7 million-plus in grants to extend the helpline's operating hours to 24 hours a day, develop advocacy training and services to assist survivors of sexual violence, as well as implement digital chat services to help increase accessibility and address caller safety.

Launch dates for the digital chat service and 24-7 operating hours will be released at a later time.

"Considering Native women are 2.5 times more likely to be raped or be a victim of sexual assault than other groups, the StrongHearts Native Helpline serves as a potential lifeline for survivors of these crimes," said Lori Jump, Assistant Director for StrongHearts.

"We also know in remote areas, some victims may not have phone service or may fear their abusive partner overhearing them in an attempt to call, so providing a digital chat service option is crucial for increasing access for everyone in our communities."

American Indians and Alaska Natives suffer from the highest rates of violence in the U.S., according to the National Institute of Justice.

In March 2017, the StrongHearts Native Helpline began providing callers culturally-based support for domestic violence and dating violence, along with a connection to Native resources.

Grounded in an understanding of Native cultures, tribal sovereignty and traditions, Native advocates are specially trained to provide callers with emotional support, crisis intervention, personalized safety planning,

and a referral to a Native and Tribal service provider if needed.

Read the Spilyay Tymoo online at www.wsnews.org

Community Wellness Center/Recreation Department Presents:

Spooky Indian Nite Out & Drummerz Jam Session

Monday
October 28, 2019

Warm Springs Community Center

Potluck dinner 5:30 pm
Pow-wow 6:30pm

CLOWN DANCE CONTEST
BRING YOUR CLOWN OUTFITS

For more information contact the CWC/REC Office at 553-3243.