



Spilyay Tymoo

PO Box 489
Warm Springs, OR 97761

ECR WSS
Postal Patron

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

Coyote News, est. 1976

April 8, 2020 - Vol. 45, No. 8

April - Hawit'an - Spring - Wawaxam

Tribal organization decision

Tribal Council is meeting this week with Management, health and emergency advisors on the best course for the tribes over the coming weeks. Council and the Covid-19 response team met on Monday by teleconference, and were scheduled to meet again this Wednesday.

A decision as to whether the organization stay-at-home order should continue is forthcoming this week. When a decision, and details of the decision are final, each employee should plan directly with his or her supervisor for any contingency, if necessary.

Council discussion this week was also in regard to clarifying and strengthening the tribal Declaration of Emergency. Food vendor safety regulation, access by outsiders to areas of the reservation, and implementation of a potential burn ban were among concerns, said Dan Martinez, director of tribal Emergency Management.

Hyliss Dauphinais, director of the Indian Health Service Warm Springs Clinic, reported that the clinic had conducted 13 tests for Covid-19.

See **ORGANIZATION** on 8

Schools and 'Distance Learning for All'

Among the highest of Tribal Council priorities has always been the education of the young membership: The future of the tribes relies upon this, literally, said Valerie Switzler, general manager of the tribal Education Branch.

There are any number of future educational paths a young person may take, Ms. Switzler said: Training, vocational or technical school, higher education, to name only some. These are the choices that will define the future of the Confederated Tribes.

As with anything worth doing, this is always a challenge; and these days the challenge has taken on an added context: The schools are closed—meaning self-discipline and support of family, friends and community are essential for the tribal youth now more than ever.

The school district continues to provide breakfast and lunches to the students (see the article below). And at these pick-up sites the district has been making available printed home education material. This is now leading up to the adop-

Teachers connecting with families

Teachers at the Warm Springs Academy are reaching out to families to explain the new Distance Learning for All program, taking effect this Monday, April 13. If you have not had contact with your student's teacher, please contact Ellen at the Acad-

emy, 541-553-1128 to update your contact information.

The school is closed to the public, though Ms. Ames is available by phone 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Or you may email her at ames@509j.net

tion this week of 'Distance Learning for All.' By this Friday the district and Academy will have details of Distance Learning for All, taking effect on Monday, April 13.

Distance Learning for All will involve the distribution of written home education material, compiled by the teachers. There will also be an online component. The school district is currently working out aspects of Distance Learning for All online.

An issue is ensuring equity in access to the online component. The Academy serves students from about 400 separate home sites, and some these do not have access to internet; or each student in a household may not

have ready access to a computer during the online course time.

The challenges are new, obviously, given the circumstances; So the teachers and other education leaders themselves are learning, as they overcome this mighty challenge. For context and background:

Gov. Kate Brown in mid March announced the closure of all Oregon schools. The idea at the time was this would last through April. Then on March 30 state leadership said, "There is a very real potential that our students may not return to school this academic year." The state of Washington, for instance, announced the closure of its schools for the remainder of the current school

year. In the weeks following the closure of Oregon classrooms, school districts like 509-J implemented a program of 'supplemental learning,' involving the distribution of district compiled, grade-relevant take-home material at the meal pick-up sites.

Then last week the Oregon Department of Education gave new guidance to the districts. This is the 'Distance Learning for All' program, with the teachers taking the lead in the education curriculum.

In a letter last week school district superintendent Ken Parshall explained the new program to parents, guardians and students:

"The Oregon Department of Education has issued new guidance to school districts. This represents a significant shift from 'supplemental learning.' The new approach 'Distance Learning for All' includes a blended instructional framework, and an online format as part of the process."

Districts have until Monday, April 13 to submit the local district plan to the state Department of Education:

See **DISTANCE LEARNING** on 8

School meals to-go during the closure

During the school shutdown, the Jefferson County 509-J school district is offering breakfast and lunch to youth age 1 to 18 years.

The grab-and-go meals are provided with breakfast and lunch available together at the following locations and times, Monday through Friday. The meals are free to kids. Youth should be present to pick up the meals:

In Warm Springs the meals are available between 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. at the Warm Springs Academy: Go to the curb next to the bus drop-off area by the sports fields.

The other Warm Springs locations for weekday meal pick-ups are by necessity more limited as to time availability. Pick up:

• West Hills at Poosh and West Hills Drive, 9:30 to 9:45 a.m.



Warm Springs Academy lead chef Beverly Gallimore and Principal Bambi VanDyke distribute the breakfasts and lunches by the Academy bus drop-off.

• Tenino Apartments at Elk Loop and Kalama Lane, 10 to 10:15 a.m.

• Trailer Court: Little Oitz and

Kuckup Street, 10:30 to 10:45 a.m.

• Upper Dry Creek at Tommie Street at the North End, 9:30 to 9:45 a.m.

• Sunnyside at Crestview Drive and Sunnyside Drive, 10 to 10:15 a.m.

See **PICKUP SITES** on 8

Cannabis project progress

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has approved the tribal plan for the cultivation of an outdoor hemp crop on the reservation. Warm Springs Ventures made the announcement last week.

The hemp project, as approved earlier by Tribal Council, is to carry out the tribal cannabis referendum of December 2015.

The USDA approval allows the enterprise to move forward with operations, with the goal to get a crop planted for the 2020 grow season.

The hemp project is continuing to work on the necessary steps to make this happen. The Ventures-CP Enterprise team is doing what they can while working with challenges presented by Covid-19 restrictions.

Regarding facemasks

Warm Springs Tribal Community Health and Emergency Management encourage everyone to wear a mask when going out in public.

Wearing a facemask in public settings, such as at the grocery store, may prevent the spread of Covid-19. By keeping your mouth and nose covered you may prevent spreading the virus. This is important because some people who are carrying the virus show no symptoms.

Avoid touching your face or the mask while you are wearing it; and you still need to stay 6 feet away from people when wearing a mask: A mask is no substitute for social distancing.

There are many ways to

make a mask. See, for instance, Surgeon General Jerome Adams' Youtube video for an easy way to make one: [youtube.com/watch?v=tPx1yqvJgf4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tPx1yqvJgf4)

You can also sew one. Please make one for you, your family and others.

Tribal community Health and Emergency Management are taking donations of cloth facemasks to give to the community. There is a donation bin at the entrance of the clinic.

You may drop off donated masks between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Donated facemasks are requested to be washed, dried and placed in a sealed bag such as a Ziploc.

See **FACEMASKS** on 5

Vital census count for tribes

A great example of why the Confederated Tribes need a strong membership showing in the 2020 U.S. Census is happening now, as we contend with the present national health crisis: The federal CARES—Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security—Act is \$2 trillion legislation that includes several billion dollars specifically to tribes across the U.S.

The supplemental funding could help tribes address some costs of the Covid-19 response. The impact on tribal essential services, and each tribes' demographics would play a large part in how the billions are allocated among the 573 federally recognized tribes.

The community profile gathered during the census would help guide this determination. This is just one

of a myriad of examples of the vital need for membership census participation: Until the next census in 2030, the 2020 count will determine the allocation of federal funding for Medicare and Medicaid, housing, public safety, transportation, water and other essential services.

Easy to complete

The easiest way to complete the 2020 Census during the Covid-19 pandemic is to do it online. Got to: my2020census.gov/login

If you don't have your 12-digit census identification, just click on the option below the 'Login' button that says: "If you do not have a Census ID, click here."

If you don't have the ability to do the census online, you can do

the questionnaire by phone.

The 2020 Census will ask a few simple questions about you and everyone who was living with you on April 1 of this year. You will need their birth dates. Call 844-330-2020 and follow the prompts.

You may be on hold for a while. Please be patient. When you get to talk to a person, let them know you get your mail at a post office box, and you do not have a census ID.

You can call in your 2020 census information everyday from 4 a.m. to 11 p.m. Pacific Time.

The Confederated Tribes' Complete Count Committee encourages you to *Be Counted Warm Springs*.

See **WE COUNT** on 8