



# Spilyay Tymoo

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## Covid-19 community update

Tribal Council on Monday agreed to extend the current organization shutdown through May. The Council action followed the recommendation of the tribes' Covid-19 Response Team.

The recommendation and Council action were deemed necessary in light of the positive Covid-19 test results of residents of the reservation. The positive results happened in late April to early May.

After the first positive tests came in, Indian Health Services and Community Health partners responded with extensive contact tracing of individuals, and further testing. Everyone was cooperative during the process, including staying at home and following up with nurses, said Katie Russell, Community Health director.

As of earlier this week, the clinic and partners had conducted about 200 tests of local residents. Eleven of these had come back positive, Hyllis Dauphinais, clinic chief executive officer, said Monday, speaking by teleconference with Tribal Council, Management and the Response Team.

Four tests were still pending as of Tuesday of this week.

After the Response Team update, Tribal Council—for the health and safety of the membership—extended the shutdown for non-essential service tribal employees. Current administrative leave policies continue, Council agreed.

Council took other precautions upon the recommendations of the Response Team. These include the following Council orders:

All citizens on the reservation are to wear a face covering mask while in public and in public places, where social distancing of six feet or greater cannot be maintained.

Following a test result of negative or positive, all citizens of the reservation and employees working within the boundaries are to self-isolate and quarantine as directed by healthcare professionals. Essential employees and first-responders who have tested with a negative result will have additional guidance about returning to work.

Businesses within the tribal jurisdiction, and tribal enterprises should have public spaces clearly marked with special distancing of six feet on the floors, or other means of a visual spacing.

See **COMMUNITY UPDATE** on 5

**STAY HOME  
STAY SAFE  
SAVE LIVES**



From the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board

## Our reservation front line workers

Monitoring the Covid-19 situation on the reservation, the Warm Springs Health and Wellness Center has by now tested about 200 residents.

Thankfully, many of the test samples came back negative; while eleven have come back positive, as of earlier this week.

The state lab where the samples are evaluated is taking between 24 and 48 hours for results, said Hyllis Dauphinais, Health and Wellness Center chief executive officer.

In a statement Mr. Dauphinais would like to add:

Today and every day since we stood up our incident command and our Tribal Partners Response Team, I have worked together with an amazing team of committed community members in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

This team has been tasked with providing recommendations to the Tribal Council.

I would like to recognize the members of the current Tribal Partners Response Team.

The tribal Health and Human Services general manager Caroline Cruz continues to work on grant funds and other federal Cares Act funding for the tribe to ensure we



Sue Matters/KWSO

A safety and parking logistics planning meeting at the clinic among Yvonne Iverson, Amy Whistler and Dr. Locker (from left).



Louie Pitt/CTWS Governmental Affairs

A gesture of thanks at the Warm Springs Health & Wellness Center.

can pay for our Covid-19 response. Ms. Cruz does this while also addressing the ongoing needs of the community while we are in the 'Stay at Home and Save Lives' order.

Emergency Response director and partner Incident Commander Dan Martinez continues to actively reach out to the state and local partners for supplies to support our operations. Amazingly, he does this with such ease and fluidity.

Our Public Safety general manager and partner Carmen

Smith provides daily briefs about the status of our Police Department's response to our community needs and the safety of our community. His officers have joined our morning Incident Command briefing to review our traffic flow plan.

Our tribal Governmental Affairs director Louie Pitt continues to interpret the information he receives to ensure a consistent and clear message reaches the community around the Covid-19 response.

See **RESPONSE TEAM** on 3

## Meeting the Distance Learning challenge

In a broad sense there are three key components to student learning: The educators, the students themselves, and the families. "All three roles are important," Ken Parshall, 509-J school district superintendent, was saying recently.

"And the role of the family is greatly magnified during this time," Mr. Parshall was saying. A student now more than ever needs the family to help create a learning routine.

The school experience—class attendance and participation, testing, school sports and clubs, etc.—in normal times provides the learning structure for students. The hope is that this will return in the fall.

In the meantime, for the rest of this school year, educators and families must make every effort to help students keep up with assigned course work. Otherwise this coming



Dave McMechan/Spilyay

Warm Springs Academy education assistants Urban Brunoe and Daydra St. John, and Academy principal Bambi VanDyke at the distribution site with students and families Tuesday morning.

fall term could be especially difficult.

During the present term, through June 4, "We need to en-

gage the students so they meet the essential standards," Mr. Parshall said. All three components—the students, educators and families—

work together on this. And it can be especially challenging for the family:

See **DISTANCE LEARNING** on 8

## Ballots arrive for the Oregon May Primary vote

Ballots are out for the May 19 Oregon Primary.

There are local, state and federal candidates on the ballot, partisan and non-partisan. Examples of more localized races:

Carina Miller is running in the Democratic primary for Oregon State Senate District 30. Incumbent Lynn Findley is running in

the Republican primary for Oregon State Senate District 30.

A position is open on the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners. The candidates for county commission position no. 3 are Kenneth Bicart, Wayne Fording and Kim Schmith.

Mr. Bicart lists previous employment as farm owner, and

Kah-Nee-Ta equipment operator, among other positions.

Mr. Fording is the owner of Madras Paint & Glass, and is a former county commissioner.

Ms. Schmith is the business owner and Oregon Medical Board licensed operator of Madras Acupuncture.

The Jefferson County District

Attorney position is on the ballot; and there is a question about a Jefferson County transient room tax increase. Important voting notices from the county clerk: Postage stamps are no longer required to return you ballot by mail. Postage is pre-paid by the state of Oregon. Please mail on or before May 13; or use a drop-box.

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